



Hong Kong Green Strategy Alliance

香港綠色策略聯盟

Unit G, 7/F, Century Centre, No. 33-35 Au Pui Wan Street, Fotan, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong.

23 November 2016

The Hon C Y Leung, GBM, GBS, JP
The Chief Executive
Hong Kong SAR Government

Dear

Suggestions to prominent environmental issues
for the 2017 Policy Address Consultation

The Hong Kong Green Strategy Alliance (HKGSA) would like to share our views and comments regarding the prominent environmental issues for the 2017 Policy Address. Our detailed submission is attached as Appendix A.

HKGSA is a non-profit making organization founded in 2012 by a group of professionals and stakeholders who are visionary and wish to undertake the responsibility on the issues of environmental protection and sustainable development. Through active participation, discussions and exchange of views in green issues, projects and technologies etc., members of HKGSA offer our professional opinions and solutions to tackle green issues in Hong Kong and neighbouring region.

Should you need any further information, please feel free to contact me at 9032 3816 (drwklo@gmail.com) or our Honorary Secretary Ir Kenny Wong at 2788 5647 / 9482 3227 (irkennywong@gmail.com).

Yours sincerely,

Ir Dr. Hon LO Wai Kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Chairman, Hong Kong Green Strategy Alliance

c.c. Mr WONG Kam-sing, JP, Secretary for the Environment

Encl.

Recommendations from the Hong Kong Green Strategy Alliance to 2017 Policy Address

The Hong Kong Green Strategy Alliance (HKGSA) proposes the following for the Government's consideration:

Solid Waste

- (1) HKGSA strongly supports the implementation of a series of holistic approaches through social mobilization, policy and legislation and recycling infrastructures to tackle the imminent waste problem in Hong Kong as stated in the Hong Kong Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022, which is a good start. HKGSA suggests the Government to timely report the status of each approach mentioned in the blueprint to the general public.
- (2) The waste statistic data showed that the MSW disposal rate per capita has increased from 1.27kg/capita in 2011 to 1.35kg/capita in 2014. However, the figure in 2015 is not yet available in end of 2016. HKGSA suggests the Government to update the figure as soon as possible so that the waste reduction rate could be closely monitored. In case the rate is far from satisfactory, the relevant measures have to be revisited before it is too late to revise.

To meet the ultimate target of 0.8kg/capita in 2022 as proposed in the abovementioned blueprint seems to be very challenging. As such, one of the high priority areas is the early implementation of the quantity-based waste charging. HKGSA opines that charging is an effective tool to accelerate behavioral change. HKGSA's views are as follows:

(i) Charging Mechanism

As recommended by the Council for sustainable Development (SDC) to implement quantity-based municipal solid waste (MSW) charging, HKGSA is supportive of the Government to mandate proper wrapping of MSW using pre-paid designated garbage bags for the disposal of domestic waste, provide for an alternative, interim charging mechanism for MSW during the transitional period, and enable the charging of an MSW gate fee at landfills and transfer stations for commercial and industrial waste. Similarly, HKGSA is supportive of the establishment of a platform for stakeholders to be engaged in the development of MSW charging on an on-going basis to review how to implement MSW charging for various

buildings. If there is any trial of MSW charging in various types of premises, the results should be shared with the public in a way that suitable methodologies in various types of operation could be worked out and the waste generators are allowed to adapt to the charging mechanism sooner. Since both the legislation and engagement processes would take time, the Government is urged to look for ways to speed up the related process so that the MSW charging could be put in place soonest possible.

It is noted that the Government intends to submit the bill on MSW charging to the Legislative Council for vetting in 2016/17. HKGSA urges the Government to submit the bill as soon as possible, and try to cut short the preparation time between the approval of the bill and the implementation date of MSW charging, such that this important policy can be implemented at the shortest possible time. In addition, the Government is suggested to prepare enforcement actions to address concerns of fly-tipping once MSW charging is implemented since the fly-tipping problem could be serious at the beginning of law implementation

(ii) Recycling

HKGSA is pleased to note that the \$1B Recycling Fund has been finally set up in order to allow recyclers in need to develop into a cost effective scale with potential technology enhancement to divert waste from landfills, improve overall recycling yield and increase the value of recycled products. HKGSA is pleased to know that around fifty projects at the funding amount of around \$54M were approved in the first year of the Fund with an aim to foster sustainable development of the Recycling Industry. The government should regard this Recycling Fund as the initial step of a long term commitment and should replenish the fund on an as-needed basis. It is expected the cultivation of local recycling industry could also provide job opportunities and nourish our environmental industry.

HKGSA is of the view the inadequate recycling and collection systems in Hong Kong may create a sense of distrust that the recycled materials would be finally disposed of in landfills. For instance, it is found that the ratio of the recycling bins in terms of their size and quantity mismatches with the large amount of people living in high rise buildings. Similarly, the ratio of rubbish bins to recycling bins is always found much higher in

street level, which does not help to build trust for the Government's efforts to increase waste recycling. All of these issues may explain why the waste disposal rate per capita was consistently high over the past years. The Government is urged to look for ways to reverse the mindsets/mistrust of people for improving our comparatively lower recycling rate. The Government is also requested to look into possibility to reduce the number of rubbish bins in the street level together with proper public education so as to cultivate our wasteless culture.

HKGSA is also pleased to know that the comprehensive phase of Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) for plastic shopping bags was fully implemented in April 2015 with some significant reduction of plastic shopping bags consumption. Furthermore, HGKSA is pleased to note that the LegCo Bills for the PRS on glass beverage containers and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) were approved and a new WEEE treatment facility would be commissioned in 2017. HKGSA suggests the Government to closely monitor the effectiveness of the implementation of PRS, and to enhance the enforcement, educate the public more and refine the regulation if necessary. Following the wide coverage in a TV program about the enforcement against illegal import of hazardous electronic waste earlier this year, the Government is suggested to take tighter control to avoid illegal import of WEEE and brief the public on the updated progress on the management of WEEE.

- (3) HKGSA welcomes the operation of two Community Green Stations (CGSs) in Shatin and Eastern and the construction of three other CGSs in Yuen Long, Kwun Tong and Shum Sui Po respectively. According to EPD's website, the status of eight districts is "planning in progress" whereas the remaining districts is either "views being followed up" or "site search in progress". , The pace should be accelerated, and the Government needs to provide sufficient land and berthing facilities to facilitate recyclers' operation. HKGSA suggests the Government to do more publicity to promote the objectives of CGS's operated by non-profit-making organisations to enhance environmental education and help collect different types of recyclables in the local community. The Government should closely monitor the performance of these CGSs.

- (4) On waste treatment facilities, using thermal (Waste to Energy) technologies which can substantially reduce the volume of waste is necessary for HK. HKGSA is supportive of the Government's adoption of the mass burn moving grate technology, which is proven and has been widely used around the world, as the first waste burning incineration plant. However, HKGSA suggests that other emerging but less-proven technologies may be considered in the future when they have become more mature. To educate the public to accept the “Waste to Energy” concept, the Government should continue to demonstrate the successful application of transforming waste to energy through T-Park in Tuen Mun.
- (5) HKGSA strongly supports the implementation of different approaches to tackle the food waste problem in Hong Kong as stated in “A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014 – 2022”. Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign was formally launched in May 2013 with the target of avoiding about 5 to 10% of food waste by 2017/18. HKGSA suggests the Government to keep the public informed of the progress against the target. If the target cannot be met, the Government should do more to meet the target. Apart from the incineration facilities and extension of landfills, the organic waste treatment facility (OWTF) is also an integral part of the waste treatment strategy but again seriously delayed in implementation. Nevertheless HKGSA is pleased to note that the construction work of Siu Ho Wan OWT facility is in good progress and it should be completed in 2017. The Government should accelerate the development of organic waste treatment plants in Sha Ling, Shek Kong and other places in Hong Kong. The technologies to be adopted at Siu Ho Wan and Sha Ling should be reviewed according to the market trends and Hong Kong’s actual conditions after more experiences are gained. Regarding the other OWTFs as proposed in the plan, HKGSA suggests the Government to conduct the site search and EIA study soonest possible with a view to identifying suitable locations or developing further organic waste treatment facilities, both centralized and decentralized ones, based on geographic location, quality and quantity of organic waste, financial set-up (government-owned, privately-operated, voluntary, or even quasi-), etc. The Government should also expand the Food Waste Recycling Programme for Housing Estates by devoting more funding to ECF so that more residential estates can conduct on-site collection and treatment of food waste. HKGSA also supports the recently launched “Food Wise Eateries Scheme” which further engages the Food and Beverage Sector to joint hands with the community in reducing food waste.

- (6) To cultivate behavioral changes, the government should devote more funding to support specific environmental education / awareness programmes, both on community level and specific C&I and education sectors to promote “more vegetable and less meat” approach along with healthy diets with less salt and sugar to further suppress food waste generation while at the same time it is beneficial to the public health.

Air Quality

- (7) HKGSA strongly supports the implementation of a series of holistic approaches through the air quality management system and measures to tackle local air pollution problems arising from roadside, ships and power plants as outlined in the Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong published in 2013. HKGSA welcomes the progress of each approach. HKGSA also understands that the Government had commenced the review of AQOs in mid-2016 and planned to report on the findings and recommendations to the Advisory Council on the Environment and the Environmental Affairs Panel of the LegCo by mid-2018. As such, HKGSA is of the view that the review results need to be appropriate and pragmatic so as to allow reasonable time frame through implementation of practical air quality improvement measures on balance of economic and social implications..
- (8) In order to combat the worsening haze problem, the Central Government has enacted The Action Plan for Air Pollution Prevention and Control in 2013. The Plan proposes to improve overall air quality across the nation through five years through the implementation of a series of mitigation measures, reduce heavy pollution by a large margin and make obvious improvement in air quality in Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Province, the Yangtze River Delta and the Pearl River Delta. By 2017, the level of PM_{2.5} in cities above prefecture level will drop by at least 10% against 2012 level and the days with good air quality will increase year on year. According to Clean Air Action Plan in China (大氣十條), the level of PM_{2.5} in Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Province, the Yangtze River Delta and the Pearl River Delta will cut by 25%, 20% and 15% respectively and the annual concentration of PM_{2.5} in Beijing cannot exceed 60µg /m³. With the concerted efforts made by China and Hong Kong, HKGSA is pleased to note that the air quality in the Pearl River Delta is improving. Through the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme, Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong Province are encouraged to adopt cleaner production technologies, thereby reducing their

impacts to the environment. The Government is suggested to provide more platforms for stakeholders to share their successful experience to further enable the technology transfer.

- (9) HKGSA supports the Government to take more innovative approaches to integrate multi-features serving functions into a single object with the collaboration of the newly established Innovation and Technology Bureau. For example, a solar-powered street lamp post in China was said to incorporate ambient PM2.5 on-line analyzer, WiFi system and Charger for EVs; Mobile App's are widely adopted for displaying on-line ambient pollutants levels recorded at various air quality monitoring stations and emission levels from stationary sources. To combat air pollution, the Government can consider taking advanced technologies into account when we aim to increase the transparency for the interested stakeholders.
- (10) HKGSA is pleased to learn that the emissions from the diesel powered non-road mobile machineries (NRMMs) such as generators, excavators, etc., being used by construction sites are now controlled through the relevant regulation. Under the Regulation, NRMMs, except those exempted, are required to comply with the prescribed emission standards. The Government is suggested to review the mechanism to ensure that approved or exempted NRMMs with proper labels are not polluting. The Government may also consider allowing retrofit of effective after-treatment device to the sub-standard NRMMs to meet the new emission standard, so as to allow extension of the service life of the NRMMs while improving the emission quality of this type of equipment.
- (11) HKGSA is of the view that smart low emission transport and avoidance of congestion are important to provide a healthy and clean Hong Kong. Through the trial run of the road pricing system at a specific district, the result could be referred to if the Government wants to formulate ways to avoid traffic congestion to improve road side air quality.
- (12) The Government should provide economic incentive to commercial vehicle owners to install energy efficient / emission reduction devices, e.g. automatic engine idle stop system, hybrid electric / pure electric drive system, etc., by setting up a permanent Green Transport Fund, instead of the current Pilot Green Transport Fund. To promote the wide use of EVs, the first registration tax for EVs should continue to be waived after the current fiscal year ends in March 2017.

- (13) Encouragement to replace the fossil fuel based vehicle with electric vehicle (EV) is a right track to improve the road side air quality as well as reducing carbon emission. Although there are about 6,000 EVs in Hong Kong, most of them are private EVs but not commercial vehicles. The Government should implement more initiatives to facilitate the switching of public / commercial vehicles to electric vehicles such as the issuance of electric taxi / public mini-bus / bus licence.
- (14) To further promote wider use of EVs, the Government should boost the installation of more charging stations and further promote the use of EVs by providing economic incentives, such as free / discounted parking for EVs. The Government should also facilitate local development of critical EV components and drive systems, such as setting up specific themes in local R&D centres. The Government is suggested to review the feasibility of setting up public-private partnership to accelerate the pace of installing more EV chargers in both new and existing buildings. HKGSA also welcomes the international competition which helps find innovative and practical ideas for reusing EVs' batteries as their second life since retired EV batteries still have 70% to 80% of electricity storage capacity and their potential for second-life applications is immense.
- (15) HKGSA would like to take this opportunity to commend the event of the world's first fully-electric racing series, the FIA Formula E Championship which, the first of this kind, was successfully held in Hong Kong to attract tourists in October of 2016. HKGSA suggests the Government to consider expanding the racing track and releasing part of the viewing area along the track route for the public to view free of charge in a way that people can really immerse themselves in all of the energy and excitement of Formula E from the event and enjoy electrifying entertainment as part of the program to promote the wide use of EVs in Hong Kong.
- (16) Diesel commercial vehicles ("DCVs") are one of the major sources of roadside air pollution in Hong Kong. To improve roadside air quality and better protect public health, the Government initiated an incentive scheme with the regulation to phase out some 82,000 pre-Euro IV DCVs by the end of 2019. While HKGSA is pleased to note that about 90% of the eligible pre-Euro DCVs had been phased out under the scheme, we suggest the Government to follow up on eligible vehicle owners who had not submitted applications so that we could ensure complete removal of all these polluting DCVs from the streets.

(17) HKGSA welcomes the regulation to mandate the use of low sulphur fuel for marine vessels berthing at Hong Kong. As for the on-shore power supply (OPS), HKGSA is supportive of the Government's recommendation to keep a close monitoring on developments internationally on installation of OPS-capable systems in cruises for the time being. The Government is suggested to continue to work with port cities in the PRD region in establishing a regional agreement on the wide use of low sulphur fuel for marine vessels.

(18) For the future fuel mix, HKGSA supports the increase in use of natural gas for local power generation to improve regional air quality and at the same time to reduce greenhouse gas emission to meet the 2020 fuel mix target under which, the gas portion would be increased to 50% of total electricity generation in 2020 and thereafter. HKGSA supports diversifying the sources of natural gas supply by constructing a local liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal with options including the floating type (i.e. floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU)) without being overly dependent on a single source of gas supply to improve fuel security and to enhance bargaining power in the international market for gas supplies. HKGSA is pleased to note the EIA study for FSRU is in good progress.

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

(19) Under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change as the global aspiration (COP21) in end 2015, 195 nations set path to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and drive efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C. Regarding China's Commitment to Combat Climate Change, China has an interim carbon reduction target for 2020 and aims to increase the share of non-fossil fuels to 15% in primary energy consumption by 2020 in its 13th 5-year Plan. In the above context, HKSGA welcomes the launching of the Government's Climate Change Report 2015, which is a timely document for the public before the COP21. The report helps communicate the risks that arise from climate change and provide strategic actions for the Government and business sectors. It also serves as a reminder that every individual has a role to play in combating climate change. HKGSA welcomes that the Government has set up a cross-departmental ministerial-level structure and engaged the key stakeholders with an aim to develop new carbon intensity reduction and associated targets for 2030.

- (20) The Government published the Energy Saving Plan for Hong Kong's Built Environment 2015~2025+. HKGSA welcomes that to achieve the new energy intensity reduction target, the Government has taken key actions to drive energy saving through a combination of economic, regulatory, educational and social means. HKGSA is supportive of all the actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and to accelerate adoption of green building technologies in the private sector.
- (21) In many overseas countries, the installation of photovoltaic panels on roof top of residential and commercial buildings is an effective way to generate renewable energy as the cost of PV panels has been substantially reduced. Hong Kong Government should carry out a review on the current constraints limiting wider adoption of PV systems in buildings, the practices in overseas countries and formulate improvement and incentive programmes to encourage installation as part of the climate change combat strategy.
- (22) Carbon trading system, under the right circumstances, can be an effective market tool to facilitate and accelerate the investment in low carbon technology as part of the climate change combat plan. Since 2013, seven pilot carbon trading programmes have been established in various parts of China mainland to test the different components of the carbon trading platform with an aim to roll out a nationwide programme in 2017. HKGSA welcomes the Government's effort in kicking start a study for carbon trading in Hong Kong. HKGSA recommends that the study should take into account the uniqueness of Hong Kong and thoroughly access the different policy instruments available (or already in place) as well as their effectiveness in achieving real carbon reduction for Hong Kong. We hope the Government could, based on the study findings, to formulate a policy strategy as soon as possible to promote GHG emission reduction in Hong Kong and identify opportunities for Hong Kong companies to participate in this new initiative.
- (23) On the review of the 5th Technical Memorandum (TM) for allocation of emission allowances for the two power companies in Hong Kong (aiming to reduce emission allowances in 2021 and after), HKSGA welcomes that the electricity demand is forecasted to reduce in 2021 as compared to that of 2020 when setting the Fifth TM in 2015. The lower load forecast mainly reflects the potential outcome of the "Energy Saving Plan for Hong Kong's Built Environment 2015-2025+" released by the Government. As a result, the emission allowances

could be further tightened.

- (24) Hong Kong, as a developed city, should continue to increase the portion of renewable energy (RE) in fuel mix. HKGSA supports the commercial scale as well as distributed development of RE to enrich the knowledge of relevant professionals in this aspect on the condition that it would not have a significant impact on tariff. If some organizations wish to achieve carbon neutrality, they should have an option to pay higher price than normal tariff to purchase such green power.
- (25) The Government should also encourage more local RE installations, by providing incentive to the community for wider adaptation of renewable energy measures.
- (26) The Government should implement energy efficiency installations in ALL government buildings, and encourage commercial buildings to adopt energy efficiency installations, through their own resources or through energy saving performance contracting arrangement. The Government may consider setting up an Environmental Installations Loan Guarantee Fund to support Hong Kong's enterprises for the installation of energy efficient / cleaner production devices.
- (27) HKGSA supports the Government's proposal on strengthening the regulation of edible fats and oils and the recycling of "waste cooking oils" through legislative amendments. It seems that only one franchised oil company in Kowloon side sells t5 per cent biodiesel blend product for customers seeking to meet their greenhouse gas emission reduction and sustainability goals. HKGSA suggests the Government to review with the oil companies and see whether they could sell the biodiesel in the whole territory of Hong Kong so as to promote the wide use of biodiesel in Hong Kong.
- (28) HKGSA understands that the Government is now negotiating with the two power companies to see how the future regulatory framework could be improved upon the expiry of the current Scheme of Control Agreement. HKGSA supports the principle that the review outcome should be in the best interest of Hong Kong, enabling the Government to achieve its energy policy objective to ensure safety, reliability, affordability and environmental protection in electricity market.

Biodiversity

(29) HKGSA welcomes the release of the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan in a social system where humans and nature could exist. This provides key actions to address environmental problems through the integrated approach of environment, economy and society, with which all the stakeholders learn more on how to conserve flora and fauna, marine and endangered species based on principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity while taking into account local needs and priorities. To increase the environmental awareness on protecting our natural resources, HKGSA suggests the Government to work closely with the NGOs to train more eco-leaders and promote the related green knowledge through eco-tours. Apart from this, HKGSA suggests the Government to develop more eco-heritage routes with education panels en-route on Hong Kong, which more people in Hong Kong and tourists could enjoy.

Fresh Water Supply

(30) Fresh water is crucial to humans. It is not only used for drinking, but also for washing and many other important activities. It is expected that fresh water would become scarce in the future partly due to climate change. Considering the recent lead water issue in Hong Kong and over reliance on imported water, HKGSA suggests the Government to elevate the current hierarchy of total water management strategy to a Water Policy as a driver to ensure the safety, reliability and security of water supply in Hong Kong. With this in mind, we suggest the Government to:-

- Review the water tariff structure - Hong Kong's water system is heavily subsidised by the government. As a result, waste bills in Hong Kong are among the lowest while our citizens are the higher water consumers in the developed cities. HKGSA suggests the Government to strike a balance between affordability and sustainability so that more people would care about the use of precious water.
- Step up the promotion of water conservation - the Government can consider introducing incentives (e.g. provision of free water saving devices for the public) to reduce water consumption. The Government should also take a lead to set water saving targets for their premises and share the relevant experience with the public. Smart use of water through the advanced technologies should be encouraged.

- Consider other water source - HKGSA welcomes the approval of the EIA study on Desalination Plant at Tseung Kwan O using reverse osmosis under location conditions for producing potable water complying with World Health Organisation guidelines for drinking water quality. We look forward to the early completion this plant.
- Cut the significant amount of lost water due to leakage - HKGSA supports the Government to continue to implement comprehensive pressure management to optimize water mains pressure so as to reduce leakage, and to enhance leakage detection and monitoring by adoption of new technology.
- Collect more of our rainfall and recycle waste water for planting and other purposes – HKGSA suggests the Government to conduct a trial on establishing a comprehensive water collection and recycling system in a new developed area to collect more experience.

Water Quality at Victoria Harbour

(31) Given that cleaning up Victoria Harbour important for public health, long-term leisure and amenity value of the coastal areas, the Government has been taking steps to protect this unique marine environment. The implementation of Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) Stage 1 in 2001 and Stage 2A in 2015 has greatly improved water quality in Victoria Harbour, which is well evidenced in the annual Cross Harbour Race since its resumption in 2011. The Government has completed a review of the implementation of HATS Stage 2B which is to provide for an underground biological treatment facility. The review results show that the existing facilities are adequate to handle the waste water in compliance with the Water Quality Objectives. HKGSA supports the Government's view that the implementation of HATS Stage 2B would be kept under review taking into account the water quality situation and the latest technological development in biological treatment.

Review and Development of Water Quality Objectives (WQO)

(32) Since the water quality situation is directly associated with the WQO which have been adopted for decades, HKGSA understands that review and development of WQO include two stages of public engagement. The first stage on the review

methodology has been completed in 2010. The second engagement on any proposed changes has not yet been kicked off. HKGSA suggests the Government to speed up the process.

Sustainable Development/Environmental Industry

(33) Given the Central Government's widely publicized determination to achieve improvement in environmental quality for the whole nation, there is a great demand for environmental services/ products/ technologies. Similar situation also exists in the developing countries such as ASEAN. Hence, the development of a vibrant local environmental industry is definitely contributory to job creation and the economy. In order to facilitate the development of environmental industry, the Government should :

- set up an advisory body to recommend, plan and monitor the environmental industry development;
- establish platform to facilitate the transfer of advanced environmental technologies;
- develop a centre for the independent verification of environmental technologies
- facilitate the build up of brand names for environmental services/products
- Set up a new professional system to cater for those scientists in the environmental sector to acquire appropriate professional recognitions/status. This can help transform Hong Kong into a centre of excellence in providing professional environmental services, and attract more talents who graduate from both local and overseas universities to the environmental sector.

(34) It is the Government's tendering practice to utilize proven technology. However many of the innovative technologies developed by Hong Kong owned enterprises may not have the chance to be widely used, and thus would be difficult to meet the Government's tender requirement. Innovation is essential for advancing the economy and our Octopus card has been a good example. HKGSA recommends the Government to consider adopting innovative environmental technologies/applications as the criteria in evaluating the tender submissions, so that more locally developed innovative technologies/applications can be considered as an incentive measure.

(35) We are pleased to note that many Hong Kong owned enterprises and overseas renowned companies actively took part in the Eco-Expo Asia 2016 to showcase their successful technologies and experiences. HKGSA suggests the senior officials of the Government should spend time to visit them, not only to show the support, but to keep abreast of the advanced technologies being applied in the environmental industry.

(36) HKGSA understands that the number of items on the Government procurement list with green specifications is expanded to 150 items of over 20 product and service categories. The public can refer to these green specifications for the purchase. The Government should further improve its green procurement policy, and should consider including Carbon Footprint covering Life Cycle Analysis as one of the criteria. HKGSA recommends the Government engineering contracts should use certain percentage of environmental/green materials so as to create sufficient market potential to facilitate the healthy development of local environmental industry.

(37) The Belt and Road Initiative is an important strategy for China's external and internal development, involving over sixty countries and emerging economies. There are numerous infrastructure projects in progress, including railway, highway and harbours, etc. Hong Kong engineering industry can provide the consulting service and be involved in the construction, operation management, meeting the needs of high-end service industry and promoting the green development and green lifestyle at the same time. The Government is suggested to work closely with the engineering and environmental industry in adopting the standards of the advanced jurisdictions and then refer our expertise to the involved countries.

~END~

November 2016