

FOREWORD

Hong Kong is home to seven million people. The well-being of our population is dependent on sustained and healthy growth of this city, socially and economically, in a process which will not cause undue harm to the environment. Striking a balance among these considerations require careful thoughts, and, in this world of rapid changes, clear foresight. The HK2030 Study has looked into our past and present, and set out directions for our spatial development to meet our challenges of the future. It echoes the Chief Executive's progressive view on development by selecting and focusing on the things that need to be done quickly to anchor our position as a world city of Asia.

Ten years have passed on since the historic moment of reunification with our motherland. As part of the fastest developing country in the world, Hong Kong needs to be bold in unleashing the potential amassed in Mainland's development process, and at the same time vigilant in maintaining the strengths we have amalgamated in the past.

As with any strategic planning studies, the HK2030 study is meant to provide broad concepts and planning directions that allow us to get prepared for possible development needs that may arise henceforth. As the future is unlikely to unfold exactly as we predict, we need to ensure that our strategy is robust and amenable to alterations as we go along. The HK2030 Study must remain as a living process, to be constantly renewed through monitoring and community engagement to keep up with ever changing needs and aspirations.

October 2007