

二零二三年二月十五日
審議中華人民共和國香港特別行政區
根據《經濟、社會與文化權利的國際公約》
提交的第四次報告

政制及內地事務局常任秘書長傅小慧女士
開場致辭

主席先生、各位尊敬的委員：

香港自一九九七年起成為中華人民共和國的特別行政區（香港特區）。我們一直貫徹落實「一國兩制」方針，事實證明，這是確保香港長遠的繁榮穩定，符合國家根本利益的最佳制度安排。

2. 縱然過去社會上出現動盪，但在實施《香港國安法》及經完善的選舉制度的雙重保障下，香港特區重回「一國兩制」的正確軌道，市民的日常生活回復平靜穩定。在《中華人民共和國憲法》、《香港特別行政區基本法》及國際公約適用於香港的有關規定的保證下，香港市民可繼續享有合法的權利和自由。

3. 穩定促進繁榮。香港繼續是國際的融資平台，二零二二年首次公開募股集資額超過130億美元。我們的金融市場依然蓬勃。在去年發布的《全球金融中心指數》報告中，香港作為國際金融中心的地位再次獲得肯定。

4. 政府也非常重視改善民生。

5. 在勞工方面，我們致力推廣就業、維護勞工參加及組織工會的權利、改善僱員福利，以及保障外籍家庭傭工的僱傭權益。此外，我們正展開優化法定最低工資水平檢討機制的研究。在我們毋須供款的社會保障制度下，我們近年大幅改善了現金援助，以照顧有需要的人士。

6. 解決住屋需求是我們施政的重中之重。我們已採取一系列策略，全力提量、提速、提效、提質，推高公營房屋供應量，縮短公共租住房屋輪候時間。

7. 面對人口老化和慢性疾病日益普遍的情況，我們在不同方面取得了進展，包括推廣基層醫療、改善公營醫院服務、增加醫護人手，以及提升精神健康水平。

8. 西九文化區已成為國際矚目的文化新地標。我們致力培育多元人才，及推動藝術和創意產業，使香港成為中外文化藝術交流中心。

9. 香港特區政府會善用國家在「十四五」規劃、粵港澳大灣區建設及「一帶一路」倡議中給予香港的強大支持，全力把握這些機遇，並在「一國兩制」的成功實踐下向前邁進。謝謝。

**Consideration of the fourth report
of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China
under the International Covenant
on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
15 February 2023**

**Opening statement by Ms FOO Siu-wai, Gracie
Permanent Secretary
for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished Members,

Hong Kong has been a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China since 1997. We have been implementing "One Country, Two Systems" policy which has proven to be the best institutional arrangement to ensure Hong Kong's long term prosperity and stability and to serve the fundamental interests of our nation.

2. Despite past turbulence in our society, Hong Kong is back to the right track of "One Country, Two Systems" with the double safeguards of the implementation of the Hong Kong National Security Law and an improved electoral system. People returned to their day-to-day life in peace and stability resumed. Hong Kong people can continue to enjoy the legitimate rights and freedoms guaranteed under the Constitution of the People's Republic of China, the Basic

Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and the relevant provisions of international covenants as applied to Hong Kong.

3. And with stability comes prosperity. Hong Kong remains a global fundraising platform, raising over USD13 billion through initial public offering in 2022. Our financial market remains thriving. In the Global Financial Centres Index published last year, the status of Hong Kong as a global financial centre has been reaffirmed.

4. The Government also attaches great importance to improving people's livelihood.

5. On the labour front, we are committed to promoting employment; upholding the workers' right to join and form trade unions; improving employees' benefits and protecting the employment rights and benefits of foreign domestic helpers. Besides, we initiated a study on the enhancement of the review mechanism of the Statutory Minimum Wage. Under our non-contributory social security system, we have significantly improved cash assistance in recent years to assist those in need.

6. Addressing housing needs tops our agenda. We have adopted a series of strategies to increase public housing supply by

enhancing quantity, speed, efficiency and quality, thereby shortening the waiting time for Public Rental Housing.

7. Against the background of an ageing population and the increasing prevalence of chronic diseases, we have been making progress in various areas including promoting primary healthcare; improving public hospital services; increasing healthcare manpower; and enhancing mental health.

8. The West Kowloon Cultural District has become a new cultural landmark earning worldwide acclaim. We are committed to nurturing diversified talent, and fostering the arts and creative industries, in order to develop Hong Kong into an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange.

9. Leveraging on the motherland's strong support for Hong Kong in the National 14th Five-Year Plan, the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and the Belt and Road Initiative, the HKSAR Government is working at full steam to seize these opportunities and to forge ahead under the successful "One Country, Two Systems" policy. Thank you.