## 主席報告

## **Chairman's report**



本底高鐵香港段與港珠澳大橋相繼通車,業者 在大好機遇前全都為之雀躍。可是自六月中開始,反修例示威活動爆發,持續至今已超過五個月, 旅遊行業首當其衝,香港陷入前所未有的危機。以下 我會集中談談比較重要的事情,而其他具體事務則由 總幹事在她的報告中簡述。

《旅遊業條例》自從去年底成為法例後,旅遊業監管 局的籌備工作如火如荼:政府除了成立籌備小組外, 更與議會保持緊密聯繫,共同商議過渡安排。此外, ndustry members were all thrilled by the opportunities brought by the commissioning of the High Speed Rail (Hong Kong Section) and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge late last year, were it not for the eruption of anti-extradition bill protests in mid-June this year, which have lasted for over five months so far and have plunged Hong Kong, together with the travel industry, into unprecedented crisis. In the following, I will focus on some important issues and let the Executive Director recapitulate other specific matters in her report.

After the Travel Industry Ordinance became law towards the end of last year, the preparation for the establishment of the Travel Industry Authority (TIA) has been moving full steam ahead: apart from having a preparatory team in place, the Government has also kept in close contact with the TIC for transitional arrangements, and will announce members of the TIA in early December. Of the nine TIA members who carry on travel agent business, three of them are directors of the TIC, which shows the prominent status of the TIC in the industry.

When the TIC is no longer responsible for regulation, it will have to transform itself into a trade organisation, thus ushering the industry into a new era. To be prepared for the challenges ahead, the TIC organised the International Tourism Conference jointly with the Government and the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) in December last year and has committed itself to developing the Tourism Platform for Belt and Road (B&R) and



- ◇ 星光大道經優化後於今年一月三十一日重開。議會在一月十一及二十九日舉辦了三場簡介會,向業界介紹該景點的新設施及交通安排。
- ♦ The Avenue of Stars was reopened on 31 January 2019 after revitalisation. The TIC held three briefings on 11 and 29 January 2019 to introduce traders to the new facilities and traffic arrangements at the scenic spot.



- ◇ 議會去年獲「中小企業發展支援基金」撥款資助,推行項目以協助中小型外遊旅行社應付新挑戰。該項目 今年已經完成,內容包括調查研究、兩場研討會、四個工作坊及項目資訊平台。
- ♦ The TIC was granted subsidy last year from the SME Development Fund to carry out a project to help outbound SME travel agents to tackle new challenges. The project was completed this year, with deliverables including a survey study, two seminars, four workshops and an information e-platform.

政府將於今年十二月初公佈旅監局的成員,在九名經營旅行社業務的成員之中,有三名為議會理事,突顯了議會在行業中的特殊地位。

議會將來不再負責監管工作,那就意味著需要轉型為業界商會,使行業跨進新時代。為了迎接未來挑戰,議會不僅在去年十二月與政府及香港旅遊發展局合辦香港國際旅遊論壇,還致力於開發一帶一路及大灣區旅遊平台。此外,政府今年再度向議會撥款,藉以推動業界開發更多以大灣區及一帶一路為主題的旅遊產品,組織交流考察活動,以及為旅遊從業員提供培訓資助。

為了做好轉型的準備,議會早在去年就已委託顧問公司,就未來的新角色和新職能展開研究。顧問公司除了約見屬會代表外,更在今年五、六月的多場諮詢會上,就初步方案諮詢了議會委員會、屬會、屬會人及兩位表會員人。今年八月,我和總幹事以及兩位總理,逐一與八個屬會的執委會及代表會面,就已絕後,理事會的職能、架構、理事會的組成等事宜交換意見,致力於行業發展及加強會員服務。按照原來計劃,顧問公司本來今年內就可完成報告,但示威活動爆發,議會不得不轉而為業界急謀各種支援措施。

Greater Bay Area (GBA). This year, the Government allocated additional funding to the TIC in order for the trade to develop more GBA and B&R tourism products, organise exchange activities and provide training subsidies for trade practitioners.

To be well-prepared for the transformation, the TIC commissioned a consulting firm as early as last year to conduct research for its new roles and new functions in the future. After meeting representatives of the Association Members, the consulting firm sought the views of the TIC's committees, Association Members, member agents and many others in several engagement sessions held in May and June this year. In August this year, I and the Executive Director, together with the two General Managers, exchanged views with each of the Association Members' executive committees and representatives on such issues as the functions and structure of the future TIC and the composition of its Board of Directors. And preliminary consensus was reached, namely that the future TIC, in cooperation with its Association Members, will focus on industry development and member services. The consulting firm would complete its report within this year according to the original plan, but after the eruption of protests, the TIC could not but promptly redirect its attention to hammering out various support measures for the trade.

Although the protests erupted in mid-June, the impact on the inbound industry had already begun to be felt in July, and after tourists were attacked in the airport in August, the number of tour groups from the mainland plummeted by about 90%

示威活動於六月中爆發,對入境業的影響已於七月浮現,而在八月香港機場有旅客受襲之後,內地入境團的數目比去年同期暴跌九成,香港整體入境旅客的人數也大幅下挫四成。議會不僅聯同多個業界商會譴責襲擊旅客的暴力行為,也不時向海外及內地媒體解釋香港旅遊業的最新情況。至於外遊業,情況同樣未容樂觀,在中美貿易糾紛及反修例風波的影響下,外遊印花費已連續下降了五個月。

議會不僅推出直接措施幫助會員,例如退回會費、豁免內地入境團登記費六個月,還不停與各方協調磋商,包括政府以及旅發局、僱員再培訓局等公共機構與組織,務求對業界的各方面都有所幫助。政府除了寬免旅行代理商牌費外,更在十月二十三日公佈撥出約港幣一億元,推行「旅行社鼓勵計劃」,旨在按旅行社接待入境及出境過夜旅客的人數,向旅行社提供現金鼓勵;每家合資格的旅行社最多可獲港幣六萬元。此外,經議會主動接觸李嘉誠基金會後,對方反應非常積極,相信很快就有好消息公佈。

面對當前境況,議會將全力協助會員,與會員共度時 艱。可是,要解決困局,停止暴力為必要條件。我 year on year and the total number of visitor arrivals was also drastically down by 40%. The TIC, together with many industry organisations, censured such a violent act against tourists and has from time to time explained the latest situation of the industry to overseas and mainland media organisations. As for the outbound industry, the situation was also not optimistic as the amount of outbound levy collected had been on the decline for five months in a row, given the trade disputes between China and the United States and the anti-extradition bill incident.

Not only were direct measures launched by the TIC for members such as refunding the membership subscription fees and waiving the registration fees for tour confirmation agreements for mainland inbound tours for six months, the TIC has also incessantly negotiated with various parties, including the Government and public bodies and organisations such as the HKTB and the Employees Retraining Board, in order that different sectors of the industry will be benefitted. On top of the waiver of the fees of the travel agent's licence, the Government announced on 23 October 2019 the allocation of about HK\$100 million for the Travel Agents Incentive Scheme, aimed at providing cash incentives for travel agents based on the number of inbound and outbound overnight travellers they serve, with a maximum of HK\$60,000 for each eligible travel agent. After being approached by the TIC, the Li Ka Shing Foundation is very enthusiastic and it is believed that good news is forthcoming.



- ◇ 今年九月十九日,議會接待了江門市文化廣電旅遊體育局及江門市旅遊行業協會的代表。
- ♦ The TIC received the representatives of the Jiangmen Culture, Radio, Television, Tourism and Sports Bureau, and the Jiangmen Tourism Industry Association on 19 September 2019.



- ◇ 約五十名香港及澳門的導遊,參加了今年六月二十五至二十七日在廣州舉行的「粵港澳大灣區導遊交流促進活動」。
- ♦ About 50 tourist guides from Hong Kong and Macao participated in the Exchange and Promotion Activity for Tourist Guides in the Greater Bay Area from 25 to 27 June 2019 in Guangzhou.

們希望香港各方克制,香港是我們的家,旅遊業今日 的成就是多年來大家努力共同付出的成果。我們面對 過不少挑戰,亦已一一克服,希望大家同心合力,使 旅遊業得以早日復甦。我謹代表議會,在此衷心感謝 商務及經濟發展局、旅遊事務署及政府多個部門、旅 發局、香港機場管理局等,對業界的援助與支持。此 外,我也十分感謝議會理事會、各委員會及辦事處、 各地旅遊組織、航空公司、酒店、旅遊景點等,對議 會的支持與鼓勵。

運蘭

*主席* **黃進達** ሥ

二零一九年十一月二十日

Faced with the current situation, the TIC will try its utmost to help members and weather the crisis with them. To solve the crisis, however, the necessary condition is to cease violence. It is hoped that every one in Hong Kong will exercise restraint, for Hong Kong is our home and the tourism industry's brilliant success today is the outcome of many years of hard work by all of us. We confronted not a few challenges, and conquered them one by one. It is hoped that we will be united in making the industry bounce back as early as possible. On behalf of the TIC, I would like to express our deep gratitude to the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, the Tourism Commission and many government departments, the HKTB, the Airport Authority Hong Kong, etc for their assistance and support for the industry. I would also like to thank the TIC's Board of Directors, committees and Executive Office, tourism organisations, airlines, hotels, attractions, etc, for their support and encouragement to the TIC.

Why.

Jason Wong JP

Chairman

20 November 2019