

會員週年大會及理事選舉 AGM and directors' election

議會第三十一屆會員週年大會將於二零一八年十一月二十九日假香港洲際酒店召開。會上將選出四名新理事，以接替於大會結束後任滿的梁天龍先生、羅啟邦先生、馬煜文先生、吳熹安先生。馬、吳兩先生由於屆時將連續擔任理事八年，所以必須卸任一年才可再擔任理事。

理事選舉提名期已於九月十二日結束，候選人名單將於十月十二日公佈。關於理事選舉的規則及詳情，請參閱第二百零五號指引，以及隨通告C1744附上的《二零一八年理事選舉資料》單張。

The TIC is to hold its 31st Annual General Meeting (AGM)

on 29 November 2018 at the Hotel InterContinental Hong Kong. Four new directors will be elected at the meeting to fill the vacancies left by Mr David Leung, Mr Roy Lo, Mr Martin Ma and Mr Ng Hi On, who will retire after the AGM. Since Mr Ma and Mr Ng will then have served on the Board for eight consecutive years, they have to step down for one year before being eligible to serve as directors again.

The nomination period for the director's election closed on 12 September, and the list of candidates will be announced on 12 October. For rules and details of the election, please refer to Directive No. 205 and the leaflet "Information on Directors' Election 2018" attached with Circular C1744.

政府向資訊科技先導計劃再注資 Pilot Scheme briefing and matching activity



業配對」活動，由科技園的十家合作夥伴公司負責介紹資訊科技產品及技術，以便會員物色服務供應商。

The HK\$10 million funding provided by the Government in 2016 for the establishment of the Pilot Information Technology Development Matching Fund Scheme for Travel Agents (Pilot Scheme) was exhausted late last year, having benefited over 100 SME travel agents. Urged by the TIC, the Government has decided to allocate HK\$30 million in the fiscal year of 2018/2019 to the Pilot Scheme, with various enhancement measures introduced, in order that more SME agents can be subsidised to strengthen their competitiveness through information technology.

Each approved project continues to be subsidised a maximum of 50% of its total cost or HK\$100,000, whichever is lower; but each eligible member may be subsidised for two approved projects, instead of one, if either one is about the adoption of the e-levy system or cyber security of the member's IT system. Besides, members may use the subsidy to purchase, rent or subscribe to equipment, hardware, software and technological services or solutions that form an essential part of the project (see Circular C1736).

The TIC held a briefing on 5 July 2018 to update members on the enhancement measures of the Pilot Scheme, and organised a business matching activity with the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP) on 31 July to pair up travel agents with IT companies, with 10 HKSTP partner companies introducing their IT products and technologies to help members find service providers.

「旅行社資訊科技發展配對基金先導計劃」(先導計劃)於二零一六年獲政府撥款港幣一千萬元成立，所有撥款已於去年底用罄，受惠的中小型旅行社超過一百家。在議會的爭取下，政府於二零一八至一九財政年度再向先導計劃撥款港幣三千萬元，並推行多項優化措施，使更多中小型旅行社可獲資助，透過資訊科技來加強競爭力。

每個項目的資助上限仍然是項目總核准開支的百分之五十或港幣十萬元，以較低者為準；但每家合資格會員最多可獲資助的項目則由一個增至兩個，其中之一必須用於電子印花徵費系統或資訊科技系統保安。此外，會員可把資助用來購買、租用或訂購項目必要組成部分的設備、硬件、軟件、科技服務或方案(見通告C1736)。

議會在二零一八年七月五日舉辦簡佈會，向會員介紹先導計劃的多項優化措施。此外，議會與香港科技園公司合作，在七月三十一日為會員舉辦「旅行社和資訊科技公司商

旅遊知識講座 Travel knowledge talks

繼介紹美國、德國、捷克、澳門、西澳洲、台灣的講座之後，議會再於二零一八年六月二十八日和九月二十日，與駐港旅遊局代表協會合辦了三場講座，介紹西班牙自助遊的最新景點及發展項目，以及澳洲和法國的旅遊資訊，協助前線旅遊從業員瞭解當地旅遊的最新資訊，從而加深他們對當地旅遊產品的知識。

After the talks about the United States, Germany, the

海關主講的簡介會 Customs officers speak at briefing

為了使會員更瞭解《商品說明條例》的「不良營商手法」條文，議會於二零一八年七月六日舉辦簡介會，邀請了香港海關的代表主講，共有五十多名會員出席。海關代表除了講解最常見的不良營商手法外，還建議會員在行程單張上加上免責聲明，使消費者清楚瞭解所選購的旅遊產品。

在簡介會上，海關代表還簡介了七月十六日起生效的《實體貨幣及不記名可轉讓票據跨境流動條例》。據他們解釋，新條例旨在加強防止清洗黑錢和恐怖分子融資的活動，而不是管制貨幣。海關代表呼籲旅行社職員提醒訪港旅客，如管有總值超過港幣十二萬元的貨幣及不記名可轉讓票據，必須申報或披露，否則即屬違法。

To help members better understand the "Unfair Trade Practices" sections of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, the TIC invited representatives from the Customs and Excise

Czech Republic, Macao, Western Australia and Taiwan, the TIC hosted three talks with the Association of National Tourist Office Representatives in Hong Kong (ANTOR (HK)) on 28 June and 20 September 2018 about Spain's latest local attractions and developments for independent travellers and travel information of Australia and France, so as to help front-line trade practitioners stay abreast of the latest travel developments and enhance their product knowledge.

Department to speak at a briefing held on 6 July 2018, with over 50 members present. Apart from talking about the most common unfair trade practices at the briefing, the customs officers also advised members to include disclaimers in their tour brochures so that customers can fully understand the travel products they have purchased.

At the briefing, the customs officers also explained the Cross-boundary Movement of Physical Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments Ordinance, which became effective on 16 July. The objective of the Ordinance, according to the officers, is to strengthen the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing, rather than currency control. They called on agency staff to remind travellers visiting Hong Kong to declare or disclose whether they are in possession of currency and bearer negotiable instruments of a total value more than HK\$120,000, to avoid committing an offence.

收回印花徵費成本的規定(第235號指引) Rules for recovering the cost of levy payments (Directive No. 235)

鑒於會員可向顧客收回印花徵費的成本，理事會於二零一八年六月十二日的會議上，通過了決議，規定會員如向顧客收回印花徵費的部份或全部成本，——

1. 有關收費項目的金額不得大於相關印花徵費的金額；
2. 收據上列出的有關收費項目，不得標明是「印花徵費」或其他含義相似的詞語，但可以標明是「印花徵費的成本」、「印花成本」、「徵費成本」或其他類似的詞語；以及
3. 必須在顧客繳付外遊費前使其知悉將收回印花徵費的成本。

此指引現已生效。

As members may recover the cost of levy payments from customers, the Board of Directors resolved at its meeting held on 12 June 2018 that if members choose to recover partially or wholly the cost of levy payments from customers, –

1. such a fee item must not be of an amount that exceeds the amount of the levy concerned;
2. such a fee item must not be specified on the receipt as "levy" or other expressions with a similar meaning, but may be specified as "cost of levy" or other similar expressions; and
3. they must let the customers know before the outbound fares are paid that the cost of levy payments will be recovered.

This Directive is in effect now.