# Development of Port Community System

## **Background**

## Maritime Advantages

• Hong Kong's strategic location and "One Country, Two Systems" framework have made it a leading international maritime centre, **ranked fourth globally** 

## Support from Central Government

• Both the "14th Five-Year Plan" and the "Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Plan" support Hong Kong's status as international maritime centre

## Challenges & Opportunities

• To maintain its position as a regional transhipment hub, Hong Kong must enhance its competitiveness in the face of external changes and port competition

## Smart Port Development

- Action Plan on Maritime and Port Development Straregy promulgated in December 2023: Develop a digitalised port community system that facilitates the flow and sharing of data
- 2024 Policy Address: Complete installation of the system by 2025 to bolster the competitiveness of the port



## The Importance of Developing Port Community System



Lack of a Unified
System for exchanging
cargo delivery
information

Other port cities have gradually developed PCS
(such as Singapore, Rotterdam, Hamburg)

Hong Kong needs to develop PCS to enhance port competitiveness



## The Proposed Port Community System

#### A Unified Information Platform

- Establishing a unified
   information system for
   stakeholders involved in the cargo
   delivery process
- Facilitating information interconnectivity
- Offering reliable real-time cargo tracking services



(1) One-stop round-the-clock real-time cargo tracking and transportation information

## Input

- Master Bill of Lading number and
- House Bill of Lading number

Artificial intelligence

Big data

Blockchain

Vessel name, vessel location, and departure and arrival times (worldwide)

Container release status at terminals (worldwide)

Reefer container temperature (initially only limited to HK container terminals)

# Input

 Customs declaration number Customs clearance status (initially limited to Mainland customs)

\*Only authorised users can access the relevant information



(2) Integration of sea, land and air transportation information



Enter the bill of lading number → vessel's location, departure and arrival time (including barge arranged by shipping companies) will be provided



Land



Enter the air waybill number → track the cargo's boarding, departure and arrival time by air in real time



Generate a QR code to facilitate identification of cargo by land transport stakeholders

Truck driver activates location tracking → share the truck's real-time location with other parties

Warehouse staff scans the QR code for confirmation  $\rightarrow$  all parties are informed of the goods' arrival at the warehouse



# (3) Interface with existing systems

- PCS can interface with existing cargo tracking systems
- Supports data upload and download through Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)
- Facilitate information flow and sharing with minimal disruption to the existing work flows of enterprises

Freight forwarder's system

PCS

SME's system

OnePort's system

Other existing systems

## (4) Analysis and alert function

• Sending notifications to users in specific situations:

Delays in vessel schedules

Deviations in the temperature of reefer containers from the standard range

Delay in the pick-up of containers from the terminal

 The alert function can be further expanded or modified in response to industry feedback

(5) Value-added electronic services (on voluntary basis)



# **Project Benefits**

#### Government-led, Credible and Reliable

• PCS is overseen by the Transport and Logistics Bureau, with its development and management supported by the Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre (LSCM)

## Simple Design and Easy to Use

• System design is user-centric with both website and mobile application versions, to facilitate use at any time

## Basic Functions Free of Charge

• Basic functions, including cargo tracking, shipping information, and reminder features, will be provided free of charge to help enterprises enhance efficiency

#### Value-Added Services

• Value-added services (provided at a fee) provide innovative services and problem-solving solutions for enterprises

### Smart Port to Enhance Competitiveness

• PCS drives digitalisation of the port and enhances its competitiveness, providing Hong Kong with new opportunities



# Timeline for the Proposed Port Community System

## 2025

Completion of installation of the proposed PCS

## 2026 to 2029

Phased rollout
Expanding infrastructure capacity in a steady
and orderly manner
Supporting more users gradually



