



香港貨運物流業協會有限公司
HONGKONG ASSOCIATION OF FREIGHT FORWARDING AND LOGISTICS LTD.



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ATTN: SHIPPING & LOGISTICS EDITORS

HAFFA Hails Positive Industry Impact of Policy Address Initiatives

The Hong Kong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics today hailed the positive impact the new initiatives contained in the Chief Executive's policy address will have on the industry.

HAFFA believes the separation of the current Transport and Housing Bureau into two distinct entities, one of which will focus on transport infrastructure and consolidating the city's role as an aviation and maritime cargo hub, will result in strengthened leadership and vision as well as promote the logistics industry and consolidate and enhance Hong Kong's position as an international shipping centre.

Given that the blueprint for the freight and logistics industry has hitherto contained room for improvement, HAFFA is hopeful the new transport bureau will formulate effective policies in the future to cope with issues such as manpower challenges, rising costs, a shortage of talent, and a continual shortage of land supply for the logistics industry. As an example of potential positive measures, the Association believes the introduction of a unified recognition of professional logistics qualifications in the Greater Bay Area will attract talent to join the industry.

HAFFA also voiced its support for the Hong Kong International Aviation Academy in cultivating technical professionals in the aviation logistics industry in Hong Kong, Zhuhai and the Greater Bay Area, which will help improve the overall service level of the cargo logistics industry.

The promotion of "Smart Port" and the acceleration of logistics information interconnectivity in the Greater Bay Area is also welcomed by the Association, which believes that only by sharing big data with stakeholders through such channels can new value-added services be activated. Improved distribution efficiency and reduced logistics costs will more effectively meet customer service requirements.

HAFFA has long supported and encouraged the use of technology to increase productivity in the industry, confident that it is the most effective way to harness the rapid growth of cross-border e-commerce in the region. However, because SMEs are often hesitant to expand in this area, given the technical challenges and high costs involved, HAFFA hopes the government, in consultation with the industry, can formulate optimal solutions in areas such as warehouse logistics software and hardware applications, robotics and artificial intelligence. Creating standard technology application packages, and promoting them widely, will encourage a greater number of logistics SMEs to strengthen their technological abilities.

In the area of consolidating and enhancing the status of Hong Kong as international aviation hub, while the COVID-19 epidemic has greatly increased the demand for air transportation, many neighboring airports and municipal governments have provided subsidies or incentives to encourage additional charter flights to increase their market share. HAFFA does not wish to see Hong Kong disadvantaged by high costs, with customers switching to Mainland chartered flights. The Association hopes the Hong Kong government will provide subsidies, incentives or other support for charter flights in the city, and fully supports the administration in maintaining the SAR's strengths to enable it to seize opportunities such as vaccine delivery.



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The Association expressed its gratitude to the government for completing a number of major cross-border infrastructure projects to further Hong Kong's integration into the "one-hour living circle" of the Greater Bay Area. HAFFA expressed its hope that, in the future, the transport bureau will formulate policies to support freight logistics companies to accelerate their integration into the Greater Bay Area, such as optimizing use of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge by increasing its traffic to benefit the Hong Kong-Shenzhen-Zhuhai-Macao logistics market, focusing on connecting the Mainland with Hong Kong and Macau, and the timely establishment of an efficient and interconnected Greater Bay Area rapid transit network. Other areas include strengthening the efficiency of import and export quarantine and customs clearance in the Greater Bay Area, providing Hong Kong e-commerce logistics enterprises with tax incentives, national treatment, operation in the Greater Bay Area Free Trade Zone, and distribution of goods, so as to enjoy the low-cost advantage of the Mainland, and maximize the value of goods in order to connect with the international e-commerce market. All measures will serve to help consolidate and enhance Hong Kong's status as an international maritime center and aviation cargo hub.

Established in 1966, now with over 320 corporate members, HAFFA is responsible for setting industry standards as well as providing educational courses which enhance the professional standards of freight forwarders and logistics services providers.

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Issued on behalf of the Hongkong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics Limited by PR Plus Limited. For further information, please email nikki@prplus.com.hk.