

Commission on Strategic Development
Executive Committee

Questionnaire

Issue 1, 2, 3: China Relations

Our 3 main assets for China: 1. international standard of management and rule of law, 2. clean and efficient government, 3. effective human service, finance service and trading infrastructures.

To maintain international leadership position of Hong Kong

1. We should attract talents to come to Hong Kong (introduce new population policy of attracting young talents who are well-connected in China to come and settle in Hong Kong). Israel took more than 1 million population (new migrants from Russia) within 2 years. The new migrants actually created new jobs and opportunity for economic growth for Israel. The current proposal of taking in 1000 new talents is a good start. We should aim at a system that can intake 50,000 population a year in order to inject younger population to balance our diamond shape population pyramid (which is obviously unstable). There is support for a meritocratic immigration policy as it is well known that talents will bring job opportunities and enable our population to move towards a knowledge economy. The existing family reunion migration policy as the sole source of immigration is systematically retarding our move towards high productivity and knowledge economy.
2. We should negotiate easy access of Hong Kong professionals, talents and companies to work and set up subsidiaries in the mainland. CEPA is a very good move and similar measures can be introduced. Tax concessions and medical / education support for families from Hong Kong to work in China so as to extend our contributions to the economic development of China.
3. Larger scale Putonghua education and student exchange programs with key universities in China to familiarize young persons to be willing and competent to work in the mainland. Gradually change Chinese education into Putonghua, say in 10 years. Singapore started universal putonghua education almost 20 years ago. It is crucial for our population to be proficient in the language in order to work closely together.
4. Transportation, railway, motorway, shipping networks to enhance easy access of

mainlander to Hong Kong. Like Shanghai which has a large population to support tourists and shoppers to visit and spend money, Hong Kong should plan ahead with the long term goal of a barrier full access of mainlanders to come to Hong Kong in a long run.

5. International hub: Through fellowships and attachment programs, the East-West Center in Hawaii served as a bridge to expose Asian young scholars to the US way of life, state-of-the-art research and system. Scholarships and Fellowships were offered generously to up and becoming Asian scholars to study/attach in the US as well as for bright US scholars to stay and study Asia. The National Singapore University is also offering Fellowships to young academics from the region for academic exchange and attachment in Singapore. The Singapore government funds international and regional professional networks to establish their offices and hold conferences in Singapore. The Society for the Promotion of Hospice Care had an experience of trying to promote the Asian Pacific Hospice Network to use Hong Kong as the permanent secretariat. The Singapore government sent a high level government official to the preparatory meeting and promised funding to fund staff of the secretariat in Singapore. The HKSARG should (i) develop mechanisms to provide incentives to encourage international organization, especially non-profit ones, to set up their regional offices in Hong Kong, (ii) negotiate with mainland on including Hong Kong experts into State Council representatives to international organizations such as UN, UNDP, WHO, WTO, World Bank, ADB, etc., (iii) civil servants exchange, to send AOs to work in State organizations and to provide internship to up and becoming administrative leaders to work in Hong Kong for a year or two.
6. Establish more formal and informal exchange and collaboration at all levels of government departments, policy bureau, professional and commercial organizations between Hong Kong and the mainland.
7. Persuade State Council to appoint more Hong Kong economic and professional leaders / experts into Political Consultative Committees and as People's Representatives in provincial and municipal levels. In a long run, should some form of election of People's Representatives to the People's Assembly be put in place? The current appointment system may not be the most effective mechanism of promoting patriotic mission and passion among the population.
8. Volunteers time of our policy bureau Under-Secretaries to contribute to the Hong Kong and Macau Office in Beijing. Offer AOs in the HKSARG to form teams with officials in State Bureau on development and strategic planning.
9. Health Hub: Make it easy for people in Middle-East, China and Asia to come in on a hospital treatment visa. We have excellent experts in the private health care

networks that can attract tourists to come in for medical treatment. Increasing numbers of people from Middle-East are coming to Hong Kong as it is hard for them to go to the US for medical treatment after 911. Some rich people in China, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia are going to Stanford and John's Hopkins for medical care. If Hong Kong can offer a one-day visa service for people who have proven financial means to come in for three to six months medical treatment visa, Hong Kong's private health care can become an important revenue generating service industry. Hospital and health service management can be exported to the region. More land for development of private hospitals will create jobs and high growth opportunities. Effective health service audit is essential to ensure value for money for a long term viability of the industry.

10. Tertiary Education Hub: The tertiary education of Australia brings in a quarter of the national income from Asia Students. Encourage universities in Hong Kong to expand their student intake at the community college, under-graduate and post-graduate levels. Allow spouse and children of graduate students to come into Hong Kong as well. Grant visa to students to come and take TOFLE, GRE, accounting and other recognized assessment examinations in Hong Kong. Not only will it be an important revenue generating measure, it will also bring connections and allow young talents to stay behind to contribute to the economy of Hong Kong. Find land to enable universities and community colleges to expand, especially to encourage universities to establish new campuses in new towns such as Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai so as to enable university towns to establish in newly developed areas.
11. Primary and Secondary Educational Hub: International schools and private schools are in great demand. A large number of parents send their children to boarding schools in the UK and Canada. Policies can be established to encourage schools to set up boarding facilities that can provide a comprehensive education with total person development. That will make significant contributions especially to train graduates who are competent in both English and Putonghua.

Issue 4, 5 and 6

12. Shenzhen is the city with the youngest and most educated population in the whole of China. New measures can be introduced to provide special identity and access of population based on an independent point system of merits (income, education, business volume etc.) to freely come in and out of Hong Kong. Inexpensive short to medium term hotel and hostel accommodations will be necessary to make Hong Kong an affordable place to stay.
13. Set up special offices in the mainland to foster exchanges and joint planning,

especially in the formulation economic development strategies and associated policies on immigration, tax, customs and duty.

14. Make it easier for professionals and business people from major cities to travel to and stay in Hong Kong on trade/business visa if they have proven financial ability to support themselves.
15. Open borders and improve transportation support of the whole south China system.
16. Internship program for government officials at the State, Provincial and municipal levels in Hong Kong and vice versa.
17. Preserve a clean environment: Many of my friends working in international corporations found the deterioration in the environmental qualities, especially air qualities, very disappointing. Many said they are considering moving their business centers out of Hong Kong if the environmental qualities do not improve. It takes administrative determination and political will power to change the situation.

Issue 7

18. Encourage universities to implement a minimum requirement in volunteer service to demonstrate leadership and capacity to care. For example, a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer service, preferably part of these hours are service in under privileged areas outside of Hong Kong. Students will naturally develop an enthusiasm to develop their patriotic relationship.

Issue 10, 11

19. Encourage universities to consider international experience in their admission.
20. Establish organizations to promote research and public education in Chinese culture and regional collaboration.
21. Encourage primary, secondary and tertiary education to set up award schemes for volunteering in China.