



**Groundbreaking Ceremony of the
Aviation and Maritime Education Centre (AMEC)
14 March 2023 (Tuesday)**

**Welcome Speech by
Mr. Tony TAI, JP
Chairman of VTC**

Secretary CHOI (Dr CHOI Yuk-lin, Secretary for Education), Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning. A very warm welcome to all of you to the Groundbreaking Ceremony of the Aviation and Maritime Education Centre (AMEC) of the VTC. May I take this opportunity to thank Secretary for Education, Dr CHOI Yuk-lin, for taking time out of her busy schedule to grace this occasion.

Today's ceremony marks an important milestone in VTC's strategic development and signifies our commitment to cultivating high-calibre talents for Hong Kong and beyond. Over the years, the VTC has spared no efforts in creating value for our students and society, aligning vocational and professional education and training (VPET) to the ever-changing needs of industries. Building on our niches and strengths, we have groomed generations of skilled talents with professional knowledge and applied skills for a wide range of industries including the aviation and maritime industries. In response to the Government's policy objective to strengthen Hong Kong's leading status as a major aviation hub in the region and an international maritime centre, the VTC, with the support of the Government, has embarked on a visionary plan to establish the Aviation and Maritime Education Centre to provide state-of-the-art facilities to support the manpower development in these two sectors.

The National 14th Five-Year Plan has set out a clear positioning for Hong Kong's development as an international metropolis. Leveraging the support from the Motherland while connecting with the world, Hong Kong is also set to soar with increased exchanges and collaboration with other Mainland cities, particularly those in the Greater Bay Area, to create synergy and build a world-class aviation and maritime cluster in the region. The new developments coupled with various aviation and maritime infrastructure projects coming on stream such as the Three-Runway System, the SkyPier Terminal and the HKIA



Logistics Park in Dongguan will definitely create even more opportunities for our young people and practitioners pursuing a career in the aviation and maritime industries.

The seven-storey Aviation and Maritime Education Centre, which is expected to be completed in 2025, will provide purpose-built facilities for nurturing aircraft maintenance and marine engineering professionals. The Centre, equipped with simulated aviation and maritime operation facilities such as flight and engine simulator rooms and maritime engineering laboratories, will provide quality and authentic aviation and maritime related training experiences for students. It will also serve as a platform to promote knowledge and skills exchange in the aviation and maritime arena, bringing together local and international experts to share insights, injecting new impetus for industry growth.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government and our industry partners for their generous support that makes the establishment of AMEC possible. My heartfelt thanks also go to the VTC's Estates Committee chaired by Mr Paul CHONG for its contribution to the planning of this project. I wish the AMEC project every success and look forward to its opening to support the VPET talent development in Hong Kong and beyond.

Thank you.