

17 September 2026

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**Statement of Support to Hong Kong's First Five-Year Plan
for Economic and Social Development (2026–2030) and 2026 Policy Address
from Business Environment Council Limited
商界環保協會有限公司**

Over the last 34 years, Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司 ("BEC") has played a leading role in advocating the business case for environmental excellence, given the importance of sustainable development to Hong Kong. Our members are committed to actively engaging with the HKSAR Government ("the Government") to help develop a supporting policy framework as well as impactful implementation in respect of environmental protection and sustainability.

Views expressed in this submission are those of BEC, in line with BEC's Mission and Vision as well as policy position on relevant issues, but may not necessarily be the same as the views of each individual member. BEC is an independent charitable membership organisation comprising over 300 member companies from Hong Kong's major holding companies to small and medium-sized enterprises, startups and NGOs.

Background

BEC fully supports Hong Kong's First Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development (2026–2030) ("the Five-Year Plan") and the 2026 Policy Address ("the Policy Address"). We congratulate the Government on this historic milestone. The Five-Year Plan provides a forward-looking, strategic blueprint for Hong Kong to align with the National 15th Five-Year Plan, integrate into and serve the overall national development, and advance from stability to prosperity. The Policy Address serves as the annual action agenda for implementing the Five-Year Plan, setting out concrete policy priorities, projects and indicators.

BEC notes that the two documents are consistent and mutually reinforcing. The Policy Address operationalises the Five-Year Plan and adds further detail, timelines and indicators. Certain targets are updated or made more ambitious in the Policy Address, such as the faster expansion of Electric Vehicle ("EV") fast chargers, the first green shipping corridor, and detailed measures on Sustainable Aviation Fuel ("SAF"), green and low-carbon hydrogen, circular economy and biodiversity. These are directionally consistent with the Five-Year Plan and strengthen its implementation.

Specifically, BEC appreciates the Government's ambition in the following policy areas that BEC has been driving with the business community.

Key Areas of Alignment with BEC's Advocacy

1. International Financial Centre

BEC welcomes the strong emphasis on green and sustainable finance. The Five-Year Plan promotes "Finance+ Green Development", an international carbon market, and sustainable finance disclosure. The Policy Address advances this through full adoption of ISSB Standards by large publicly accountable entities by 2028, the HKEX Green Equity Designation Scheme, the HKMA's work on the Hong Kong Taxonomy, and Core Climate's cross-boundary carbon trading. These measures align with BEC's call to position Hong Kong as a leading hub for green and transition finance.

2. International Maritime Centre

BEC strongly supports the green maritime measures. The Five-Year Plan targets a green maritime fuel bunkering and trading centres, five Green Energy Corridors by 2030, and 7% green fuel use by Hong Kong-registered vessels, and 30% carbon reduction at Kwai Tsing by 2030. The Policy Address confirms the first Green Energy Corridor with a Mainland city, planning for Tsing Yi South storage, a carbon-emission calculation framework, and a green shipping corridor. These align with BEC's call for a multi-fuel bunkering strategy and green maritime value chains.

3. Sustainable Aviation Fuel for International Aviation Hub

BEC strongly welcomes the Five-Year Plan's support for an internationally competitive SAF value chain. It establishes a Hong Kong SAF value chain in the GBA, with the Dongguan production base operating by 2030 and a Hong Kong blending facility. The 1–3% SAF consumption target for HKIA departures in 2030 is a significant step forward. This aligns with BEC's recommendation to position SAF as an economic and competitiveness enabler for Hong Kong's aviation hub, supporting a GBA production, Hong Kong blending, trading and application model. BEC strongly agrees with the announcement in the Policy Address on studying the establishment of a mandatory consumption ratio mechanism and the development of a green energy certification system. Via the [Hong Kong Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition](#) Programme, BEC stands ready to support the Government in achieving the ambition.

4. International Trade Centre

BEC welcomes the focus on high value-added supply chain services, digital trade, and the GoGlobal Task Force. The Policy Address adds an ESG services sector to the Cross-sectoral Professional Services Platform, helping Mainland enterprises meet international sustainability requirements. This aligns with BEC's view that green capability is becoming a condition of trade and hub competitiveness.

5. International Innovation and Technology Centre and High-calibre Talent

The Five-Year Plan and Policy Address both prioritise green technology, new energy, hydrogen, AI, and research commercialisation. The Policy Address emphasises efforts through the Green Tech Fund, hydrogen trial projects, the Green Hydrogen Standard Certification Scheme, the Sandy Ridge Data Facility Cluster, and AI+ initiatives. BEC supports these measures and sees them as central to industrialising new energy systems and strengthening Hong Kong's green technology ecosystem.

6. Sustainable Northern Metropolis

BEC welcomes the Northern Metropolis measures in both documents, including the University Town, San Tin Technopole, the Loop Hong Kong Park, and the emphasis on a liveable, smart and green metropolis. The Policy Address adds further detail on the nine New Development Areas, green-blue networks, the Sam Po Shue Wetland Conservation Park, and cross-boundary ecological cooperation. BEC encourages the Government to embed nature-based solutions, biodiversity net gain and climate-resilient infrastructure from the outset.

7. Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area and Belt and Road

BEC supports the GBA and Belt and Road green cooperation measures. The Five-Year Plan promotes the “Beautiful Bay Area”, blue carbon restoration, “Zero Waste Bay Area”, carbon market cooperation and green Belt and Road development. The Policy Address adds the Green Technology Bridgehead Programme, the Belt and Road Green Development Co-operation platform, hydrogen standards cooperation, and Core Climate’s expansion with Belt and Road partners. These are consistent and mutually reinforcing.

8. Green Liveable City and Social Well-being

BEC welcomes the measures on EV popularisation, zero-carbon energy, biodiversity, and air and water quality. The Policy Address confirms the first ChaoJi charging demonstration station, expanded fast chargers, and the target to increase zero-carbon energy in the electricity fuel mix to 60–70% by 2035. These align with the Five-Year Plan’s binding environmental indicators and BEC’s recommendations on circular green transport, clear energy and ecological protection.

9. Circular Economy and Resource Recovery

BEC welcomes the Five-Year Plan’s “Zero Landfill” goal, waste-to-energy, producer responsibility schemes, and high value-added recovery industries. The Policy Address advances this through I-PARK1 full operation, I-PARK2, expanded smart recycling bins, food waste recycling, and “Zero Waste Bay Area” cooperation. These align with BEC’s call for an upstream-enabled circular economy, life-cycle design, and resource recovery as an economic opportunity. BEC stands ready to support public-private partnerships and GBA circular value chains.

10. Smart City Management and Climate Resilience

BEC supports the holistic approach to resilient development including the “AI City Brain” integrated city management system, enhanced climate adaptation, flood control, slope safety and emergency response. These measures are consistent with the Five-Year Plan’s security governance chapter and help build a more resilient city for business and the community.

What BEC Will Continue to Drive

BEC would continue mobilising the business community to work with the Government to achieve goals set in the Five-Year Plan and the Policy Address. This includes ongoing advocacy efforts for but not limited to the following:

- A dedicated energy governance structure to coordinate long-term energy planning and decarbonisation;
- Clear sectoral decarbonisation pathways and interim targets for aviation, maritime, buildings, transport and industry;

- A just transition and green workforce strategy, including green-skills training and reskilling;
- Wider adoption of nature-based solutions and biodiversity net gain for major development projects;
- Green public procurement and demand-side incentives to accelerate green energy and technology adoption;
- Stronger integration of climate adaptation and public health, including heat-health resilience;
- Continued development of green finance, carbon markets and transition finance for SMEs and hard-to-abate sectors.

Conclusion

BEC believes the Five-Year Plan and the Policy Address provide a strong and coherent foundation for Hong Kong's green, resilient and competitive future. We look forward to working closely with the Government, our members, and regional and international partners to turn the vision into tangible outcomes.

BEC stands ready to support the Government in developing implementation roadmaps, facilitating public-private partnerships, strengthening GBA and Belt and Road green cooperation, and engaging the business sector in climate adaptation, biodiversity protection and green technology adoption.

BEC congratulates the Government on this important milestone and remains committed to working together to ensure that Hong Kong's First Five-Year Plan and the 2026 Policy Address deliver lasting economic, environmental and social benefits for all.

For queries related to this support statement, please contact our Chief Executive Officer, Mr Simon Ng at simonng@bec.org.hk.

Yours faithfully,



Kevin O'Brien
Chairman
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