Policy Address for the Fiscal Year 2015 of the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR) of the People's Republic of China

Highlights

Coordinate planning to ensure stable development Converge collective wisdom to open new chapters

This year marks the beginning of the fourth-term Macao SAR Government. It also marks the advent of an adjustment period for Macao's economy against the backdrop of a complex and volatile external environment. We must strengthen our vigilance against crisis, and have a clear picture of current and future situations, to achieve stable progress. We will maintain a pragmatic attitude, to consolidate and build on our initial success in various areas; have the courage to bear responsibility for our actions; be open-minded to accept public opinion; and actively make continuous improvements to our work. We will adopt the concept of reform to learn from our experiences, resolve problems and join hands with the people of Macao, in order to make a good start, maintain stable progress and open a new chapter for Macao's development.

Ensuring stable development

Coordinated planning

- Form the Committee for the Establishment of a World Tourism and Leisure Centre and formulate a five-year development plan; and
- Expedite the formulation of population policy.

Economic diversification

- Support convention and exhibition, cultural and creative, and Chinese medicine industries; cultivate Macao's environmental protection industry;
- Establish a system of statistical benchmarks for nascent industries;
- Set international standards for Chinese medicine, and promote synergy and innovation between the industry and the academic and research community;



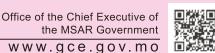
- Establish the Cultural Industry Incentive Scheme; and
- Commence research on repositioning Macao's manufacturing sector.

Gaming industry

- Conduct a general review and analysis of the development of Macao's gaming industry since it was liberalised;
- Strive to change the gaming industry's pace of development, without changing momentum, to achieve adjustment through stable development; and
- Implement the arrangements for gaming operators and corporations to provide accommodation and transportation for their non-resident employees.

Tourism

 Pay close attention to tourism carrying capacity, and submit a report to the Central People's Government on optimising and making adjustments to the "Individual Visit Scheme"; and



 Adopt a balanced development model to ensure local residents' quality of life.

Small and medium sized enterprises

- Raise the maximum credit guarantee loan amount of the SME Credit Guarantee Scheme to 7 million patacas;
- Continue to support the Scheme to Support Operations of Long-established and Unique Small or Medium-sized Restaurants;
- o Increase profit tax allowance to 600,000 patacas;



- Prioritise purchasing locally designed and made products in the public sector, and encourage gaming operators to prioritise using products designed and made in Macao;
- Plan establishing an import, export and re-export credit insurance scheme; and
- Extend coverage of subsidies under the Building Maintenance Fund Scheme to industrial buildings.

Public finance

- Establish the SAR Investment Development Fund:
- Establish a long-term mechanism for allocation of fiscal surpluses; and
- Establish a fund allocation mechanism that links fiscal surplus with the Social Security Fund.



Regional cooperation

- Comply with the general requirements regarding the State Council's approval of commencing work on specifying the SAR's jurisdiction over its customary waters;
- Complete the cross-boundary pleasure boat sailing arrangements in cooperation with Zhongshan;
- Extend the structure of the multiple cooperative services platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, expanding coverage to more areas; and
- Enhance trade and cultural exchanges with ASEAN countries.

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Caring about people's needs

Livelihood

• Continue implementing the following relief measures of the Macao SAR Budget of fiscal year 2015:

Relief measures readjusted for 2015	
The disadvantaged	Minimum Subsistence Index $-3,920$ patacas per singleton household (to be further adjusted this July according to mechanism);
	The daily food aid budget under the Short-term Food Assistance increased to 38 patacas; and
	Disability Gratuity – ↑7,500 patacas/year (ordinary) and
	15,000 patacas/year (special).
The elderly	Old age allowance — 7,500 patacas/year; and
	Pension – 73,350 patacas/year.
Students	Launch Learning Subsidy Scheme for Students Studying Outside Macao;
	Non-tertiary education: Textbook Allowance –
	1,000 patacas per school year (secondary school student);
	1 2,600 patacas per school year (primary school student);
	2,000 patacas per school year (kindergarten pupil);
	Students from families with financial difficulties -
	Meal Allowance:
	13,200 patacas (for all students);
	Stationery Allowance:
	1 2,100 patacas per school year (kindergarten pupil or primary school student);
	1 2,700 patacas per school year (secondary school student).

Housing

- Implement the construction of 28,000 public housing units in Area A, pay close attention to the progress of works, and complete land reclamation on time;
- Adjust five pieces of reserved land, on which more than 4,000 public housing units can be built:
- Amend the Home-Ownership Scheme Housing Law, and enhance administrative efficiency;
- Conduct a public consultation on review of the public housing scheme;
- Perfect the existing exit mechanism for well-off public housing tenants;
- Consider introducing new public housing categories;
- Complete the amendment to the Legal Regime of Urban Construction; and
- Complete drafting of the Strata Title Buildings Management Commercial Operation Law.

Land reserve

- Regarding the 48 pieces of land previously announced, 22 of which have entered the final stage of revocation of land grant, and the revocation will soon be gazetted;
- Conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of the development plans of Areas B, C, D and E; and

• Implement urban renewal concept and facilitate redevelopment of old districts.

Transport

- Control growth in vehicle numbers, and reduce repeat road excavations;
- Commence research on deploying electric vehicles;
- Encourage the use of environmentally friendly vehicles, and replace highly-polluting vehicles;
- o Optimise bus operational models;
- Solve engineering problems of the LRT Taipa line, and finalise the routing and budget of the Macao peninsula line;
- Amend the relevant system regarding reserved parking spaces in buildings that are under construction;
- Adjust and control the number and routes of casino shuttle buses;
- Strengthen supervision and law enforcement regarding taxi operations, and issue more licences for special need taxis;
- Expedite completion of Outer Harbour Ferry Terminal enhancement work;
- Proceed with construction of Pac On Ferry Terminal, Taipa; and
- Commence rationalisation process for developing the fourth cross-harbour route.

Local employee protection

- Make amendments to the Labour Relations Law, and improvements to the Law on Employment of Non-Resident Workers;
- Consider introducing paternity leave for men:
- Progressively introduce a comprehensive minimum wage system;
- Firmly prohibit import of foreign workers for gaming dealer posts;
- o Provide education advancement or continuing education opportunities for local gaming industry employees who have not yet completed their tertiary education; and
- Establish a licensing system for gaming industry employees.

Social services

- Expedite completion of the ten-year action plan for elderly services development;
- Expedite construction of homes for the elderly, and allocate more resources for projects in cooperation with NGOs;
- Focus on formulating the ten-year development plan for rehabilitation services;
- Increase quotas for residential services, and establish more integrated services centres; and
- Launch a new social services subsidy scheme.





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Medical and health services

- Various facilities of the Islands District Medical Complex have either commenced tender process, awarded tender contracts or entered final design stage, and construction will be commenced in phases;
- Conde S. Januario Hospital's frontline medical staff hostel, Carmo Health Centre, and the infectious disease rehabilitation centre in Coloane Peak will be completed or commence operation this year;
- Provide training to general medicine practitioners and medical specialists;
- Launch the new Elderly Health Support Hotline, and consider providing elderly healthcare services in health centres:
- Review the Tobacco Control Law and propose a smoking ban for all indoor public areas; and
- Commence the third Macao Residents Physical Fitness Assessment.



Education, youth and talent

- Launch the first ever elite cultivation project;
- Establish a young entrepreneur incubation centre;
- Support youth participation in cooperative development of regional economy; and
- Foster local talents in sports.



Improving the environment

Environmental protection

- Commence public consultation on the System for Environmental Impact Assessments;
- Amend laws and regulations on vehicle exhaust emissions and quality of vehicle fuels;
- Introduce natural-gas buses;
- Improve urban air quality; and
- Implement an inert construction and demolition materials and scrap vehicles reuse project in Guangdong.

Security and safety

- Prevent and combat crimes;
- Reserve anti-viral medicines and other materials for protection against seasonal influenza;

- Extend the scope of food inspection to ensure food safety;
- Improve the sewers and drainage systems in all districts; and
- Complete 4G licensing to raise network speed.



New chapters

Public administration

- Implement comprehensive research on the functional restructuring, transfer and merger of the entire public administration organisational structure;
- Consider establishing a municipal organisation that is not an organ of political power;
- Set regulations for consultative bodies, specifying that each tenure should be two to three years; members representing the community may be re-elected or re-appointed once or twice; one should not hold a position for more than six years; and each person may hold positions in not more than three consultative bodies at the same time; and
- Perfect the system for appraising performance of department heads.

Civil servants

- Comprehensively review the entry and position allocation mechanism under the centralised recruitment system;
- Amend the Civil Servant Ranking System;
- Commence research on a civil servant salary adjustment system based on ranking;
 and
- Launch subsidy measures as appropriate, to benefit junior civil servants.



Legal development

- Intensify the legislation of fundamental laws, especially the laws related to livelihood affairs;
- o Refine the Legal System for Public Works Contracts; and
- Complete the amendment to the Budget Framework Law and commence the related consultation process.

Anti-corruption and auditing

• Fully leverage the functions of the CCAC and the Commission of Audit.

Political development

• Extensively listen to opinions from all walks of life and forge consensus, with the aim of promoting democratic development of the SAR.