

Immediate release

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ACCA Annual Conference concludes successfully Rejuvenating Hong Kong's confidence for new horizons

ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) Hong Kong successfully concluded its Annual Conference 2024 last Saturday (29 June) under the theme 'Confidence in Action: Rejuvenating Hong Kong for New Horizons'. The event featured **Agnes Chan, Chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce (HKGCC)**, as the Guest of Honour, as well as **Joe Ngai, Senior Partner and Chairman - Greater China, McKinsey & Company** as the keynote speaker, who shared their unique insights with ACCA members.

This year's ACCA Annual Conference focused on discussing global economic opportunities, Hong Kong's distinctive role in the regional business ecosystem, the value of Hong Kong's professional services, and other pertinent topics. Financial and accounting experts were invited to analyse Hong Kong's leading advantages as an international financial centre across various fields, bolster confidence, and explore emerging opportunities to contribute to Hong Kong's high-quality economic development.

Agnes Chan, Chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce (HKGCC), said in her opening address, 'Amid the complex and volatile global political and economic landscape, Hong Kong's post-pandemic economic recovery faces challenges with dampened consumer spending and business confidence. However, with the solid foundation of "One Country, Two Systems", Hong Kong enjoys the unique advantages of strong support from the Motherland and close connections with the world. In the new era of globalisation, Hong Kong needs to actively integrate into the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, seize opportunities from the Belt and Road initiative, develop new industries, explore new markets, embrace new mindsets, and strengthen economic and trade ties with the Mainland to jointly build a vibrant world-class city cluster. The HKSAR Government is promoting the mega-event economy and exploring emerging markets in Southeast Asia and the Middle East, injecting new impetus into Hong Kong. Meanwhile, Hong Kong should fully leverage its positioning of "eight centres" and enhance its innovation and technology capabilities, thereby contributing to the high-quality development of the Greater Bay Area and the country. As a bridge between the Mainland and the world, Hong Kong should actively participate in the development of the Belt and Road initiative and support the nation in building a higher-level open economy to create a new landscape of high-quality development.'

Joe Ngai, Senior Partner and Chairman - Greater China, McKinsey & Company, said in his keynote speech, 'As we stand at the crossroads of tradition and innovation, we need to leverage and improve our historic strengths while understanding that many of these strengths will no longer be sufficient for Hong Kong's prosperity in the future. With geopolitical shifts and macroeconomic changes, our role as a leader in professional financial services has become even more pivotal. The future is ours to lose, as mainland China's continued growth and the Greater Bay Area integration continue to provide significant opportunities. Our focus must be on scaling the significant recent investments made in technology, innovation, arts and culture, academia and physical connectivity. The key is to ensure that these investments don't fragment into "footnotes", but scale-up to become the future drivers of our economy. Hopefully, we can then add "inspiring" and "exciting" to our narrative of Hong Kong.'

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Dr Danny Po, Chairman of ACCA Hong Kong, said in his welcome address, 'The theme of this year's ACCA Annual Conference is "Confidence in Action: Rejuvenating Hong Kong for New Horizons". Confidence is of paramount importance to the prosperous development of society. Our aim is to gather more people to bolster this confidence. This year, over a hundred guests and members have convened to brainstorm, explore emerging opportunities, consolidate Hong Kong's competitiveness, provide impetus for economic development, and promote high-quality and sustainable growth. ACCA will continue to uphold its global mission – "Accounting for a Better World" - to walk alongside the community, unite the industry, support our members, drive positive change, and shape a sustainable future.'

The ACCA Annual Conference also featured other panel discussions, where experts from various industries shared their insightful perspectives on:

Hong Kong's unique value in regional business ecosystems

- Professor Andrew Chi-fai Chan, President, Greater Bay Area Business School (Moderator)
- Dr Au King-lun, Executive Director, Financial Services Development Council
- Nick Chan, Director, AALCO Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre
- Dr Patrick Lau, Deputy Executive Director, Hong Kong Trade Development Council
- Professor Dennis Lo, SBS, JP, Associate Dean (Research), Chairman, Department of Chemical Pathology, Li Ka Shing Professor of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong's unique value in professional services excellence

- Bryan Wong, Head of Charities (Ageing and Elderly Care), The Hong Kong Jockey Club (Moderator)
- Dr Andrew Lo, Head A&S Family Advisory North Asia, Global Wealth Management, UBS AG and Head of Family Office Advisory, Greater China, UBS
- Christopher To, Chairman, The Hong Kong Institute of Directors
- Andrew Tsui, Chairman, Hong Kong & Southern China, Korn Ferry
- Dr Danny Po, Chairman of ACCA Hong Kong

The Annual Conference is a flagship event for ACCA, particularly significant this year as the organisation celebrates its 120th anniversary and has surpassed 250,000 members globally. ACCA's landmark achievements were further heightened by its latest recognition as the 'Professional Body of the Year' and its shortlisting for the 'ESG/Sustainability Initiative of the Year' at the 'International Accounting Awards 2024'.

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Photo captions:



Agnes Chan, Chairperson of the HKGCC, officiating guest at this year's ACCA Annual Conference, stated in her opening address that Hong Kong should actively participate in the 'Belt and Road' initiative as a bridge linking the Mainland and the rest of the world. She also urged Hong Kong to promote the country's efforts to build an even more open economic system, thereby creating a new landscape of high-quality development.



Joe Ngai, Senior Partner and Chairman - Greater China, McKinsey & Company, keynote speaker of the ACCA Annual Conference, pointed out that the future is ours to lose, as mainland China's continued growth and the Greater Bay Area integration continue to provide significant opportunities.



Dr Danny Po, Chairman of ACCA Hong Kong, emphasised the importance of confidence to the prosperous development of society. He added that ACCA will continue to walk alongside the community, unite the industry, support its members, drive positive change, and shape a sustainable future.'

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About ACCA

We are ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants), a globally recognised professional accountancy body providing qualifications and advancing standards in accountancy worldwide.

Founded in 1904 to widen access to the accountancy profession, we've long championed inclusion and today proudly support a diverse community of over **247,000** members and **526,000** future members in **180** countries.

ACCA now has over **29,000** members and **148,000** future members in China, with **11** offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Chengdu, Shenyang, Qingdao, Wuhan, Changsha, Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR.

Our forward-looking qualifications, continuous learning and insights are respected and valued by employers in every sector. They equip individuals with the business and finance expertise and ethical judgment to create, protect, and report the sustainable value delivered by organisations and economies.

Guided by [our purpose and values](#), our vision is to develop the accountancy profession the world needs. Partnering with policymakers, standard setters, the donor community, educators and other accountancy bodies, we're strengthening and building a profession that drives a sustainable future for all.

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