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## **7<sup>th</sup> Belt and Road Summit opens this month in hybrid format** ***Government and business leaders gather to discuss future development and collaboration/investment opportunities***

**18 August 2022** – Jointly organised by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), the seventh Belt and Road Summit will take place on 31 August and 1 September (Wednesday and Thursday).

Activities on the first day will be held both physically and online at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre while the second day will be entirely online. As part of celebrations to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, this year's Belt and Road Summit will run under the theme **“Heralding a New Chapter: Collaborate and Innovate”**.

The latest summit will see government and business leaders from around the globe gather to explore how the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) can be leveraged through the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) development and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) to forge multilateral collaboration, drive post-pandemic economic recovery and boost investment and business opportunities, while highlighting the unique advantages of Hong Kong and facilitating investment and business cooperation in different arenas.

### **Multilateral collaboration to drive synergies**

This year's summit will be held in a hybrid format, providing a platform for businesses around the world to share their insights and explore collaboration opportunities. Business representatives from across the globe can participate virtually at the same time and continue to identify business opportunities even if they are not able to join the event in person, while those at the venue can enjoy a lively and interactive exchange with speakers. The summit will feature various sessions and events, including the **Opening Session**, the **Policy Dialogue**, **Business Plenaries**, **Thematic Breakout Sessions** and **Project Pitching Sessions**. For the first time, the event will feature the **Global Business Connectivity Forum** to highlight how the summit can contribute to multilateral collaboration, and achieve synergies by strengthening connections between projects and corporates.

The event will bring together some 80 government officials and business elites from Belt and Road countries and regions, as well as project owners and operators, investors and service providers from all over the world, to explore BRI opportunities. In addition to learning about investment opportunities in different Belt and Road regions and sectors through inspiring sharing by renowned speakers, participants will also be able to discover potential projects and connect with potential partners for investment and collaboration.

### **Government and business leaders gather to discuss future cooperation**

HKTDC Chairman **Dr Peter K N Lam** and HKSAR Chief Executive **John Lee** will host the Opening Session, which will feature an online keynote address by World Trade Organization Deputy Director-General **Zhang Xiangchen**.

Titled “**Driving Growth through Partnership and Collaboration**”, the Policy Dialogue Session, chaired by HKSAR Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development **Algernon Yau**, will analyse how economies under the BRI can strengthen cooperation and boost economic growth through infrastructure development and trade in the post-pandemic era. Panellists include government officials from Belt and Road countries and regions.

Two **Business Plenaries** will take place on the first day, namely “**Collaborate for a Bright New Era**” in the morning and “**Capturing Synergies between Belt and Road and Greater Bay Area**” in the afternoon. The morning session will open with special remarks by HKSAR Financial Secretary **Paul Chan**. Chair of Hang Lung Properties Limited **Ronnie Chan** will host the session and other speakers include **Rod Eddington**, Chairman of Infrastructure Partnerships Australia, Chairman of JP Morgan’s Asia Pacific Advisory Council, and Non-Executive Chairman of Lion; **John Key**, the 38<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of New Zealand; **Liu Liange**, Chairman of the Bank of China; **Aswin Techajareonvikul**, Chief Executive Officer and President of Berli Jucker Public Company Limited; and **YK Pang**, Deputy Managing Director & Chairman of Hong Kong, Jardine Matheson Holdings Limited. The session will examine how the RCEP will inject new impetus into the region and how Belt and Road countries can strengthen connections in order to capitalise on new opportunities.

“**Capturing Synergies between Belt and Road and Greater Bay Area**”, hosted by the Permanent Honorary President of the Chinese Manufacturers’ Association of Hong Kong, **David YK Wong**, will be held in the afternoon of the first day. Among the guest speakers are **Ding Yanzhang**, Chairman of the Power Construction Corporation of China; **Rex Auyeung**, Chairman of the MTR Corporation Limited; **KC Chan**, Chairman of WeLab Bank; **Huang Zhaohui**, Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Management Committee, Executive Director of the Board of China International Capital Corporation Limited; and **Michael Kwok**, Chairman of East Asia Region of Arup Group. They will discuss how the BRI can bring opportunities for the GBA and how enterprises should capitalise on their strengths to get a head start in the fast-changing business world.

Spanning different countries and regions, the BRI creates new room for the development of various professional sectors. Catering the needs of these sectors, the summit, in conjunction with a number of organisations including the Department of Justice, Hong Kong Monetary Authority Infrastructure Financing Facilitation Office, Insurance Authority, Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, China International Contractors Association, Bank of China (Hong Kong) Ltd, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Standard Chartered Bank and Dun & Bradstreet, will hold several Thematic Breakout Sessions. They will cover a wide range of topics such as international dispute resolution, insurance service, infrastructure development in the GBA, digitalisation, green finance, fundraising and financing, digital technology, global connectivity, cross-border trade opportunities, as well as start-up and youth development.

### Online project pitching and business matching

The 2021 summit brought together more than 260 investment projects from the Belt and Road, spanning 42 countries and regions. It also facilitated more than 770 one-to-one project-matching sessions for project owners, investors and professional service providers. In view of the previous success, the HKTDC will extend the hybrid project and business matching sessions this year from

two to seven days (31 August to 6 September). New features will also be introduced, such as a video display at the summit to increase project exposure and provide investors and professional service companies with a better understanding of project details.

The matching sessions include one-to-one business matching meetings and project pitching sessions. Business matching meetings will connect participants based on their investment preferences and business expertise to facilitate one-to-one discussions on collaboration opportunities. More than 260 investment projects are expected this year. Project pitching sessions will provide a platform for project owners from different countries to present their projects, giving investors and service intermediaries a comprehensive understanding of the investment opportunities in different sectors. Pitching sessions will focus on four main areas: (1) energy, natural resources and public utilities, (2) innovation and technology, (3) urban development, and (4) transport and logistics infrastructure.

The summit will also feature online and offline exhibitions. Gathering more than 60 exhibitors, the exhibitions will be divided into the "Global Investment Zone", "Hong Kong Zone" and "GBA Tech Zone". The "Global Investment Zone" will showcase large-scale investment projects and opportunities from different countries to attract international investors and partners; the "Hong Kong Zone" will demonstrate the excellent services and business advantages offered by the city's enterprises; while the "GBA Tech Zone" will feature high-end innovative technologies, artificial intelligence, digital technologies and solutions offered by exhibitors from the region.

China International Capital Corporation Ltd serves as the Strategic Partner of the seventh Belt and Road Summit; Bank of China (Hong Kong) Ltd as the Regional Banking Partner; and China Mobile International Limited and China Unicom Global Limited as Platinum Sponsors.

## The seventh Belt and Road Summit

<b>Date</b>	31 August 2022 (Wednesday) Hybrid 1 September 2022 (Thursday) Online
<b>Venue</b>	Hall 5FG, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
<b>Remarks</b>	All video and audio recordings of the summit are for media purposes only
<b>Media registration</b>	Please email <a href="mailto:ayiu@yuantung.com.hk">ayiu@yuantung.com.hk</a> or <a href="mailto:tleung@yuantung.com.hk">tleung@yuantung.com.hk</a> for registration
<b>Websites</b>	Belt and Road Summit: <a href="https://www.beltandroadsummit.hk/conference/bnr/en">https://www.beltandroadsummit.hk/conference/bnr/en</a>
	Programme: <a href="https://www.beltandroadsummit.hk/conference/bnr/en/programme">https://www.beltandroadsummit.hk/conference/bnr/en/programme</a>
	Speaker list: <a href="https://www.beltandroadsummit.hk/conference/bnr/en/speaker">https://www.beltandroadsummit.hk/conference/bnr/en/speaker</a>

Members of the media wishing to interview speakers can email interview requests to [ayiu@yuantung.com.hk](mailto:ayiu@yuantung.com.hk) or [tleung@yuantung.com.hk](mailto:tleung@yuantung.com.hk) on or before 26 August 2022.

Photo download: <https://bit.ly/3dHdikJ>



The seventh Belt and Road Summit will be held on 31 August and 1 September (Wednesday and Thursday) in a hybrid format. Under the theme “Heralding a New Chapter: Collaborate and Innovate”, the summit will explore how the Belt and Road Initiative can promote economic recovery in the post-pandemic era through multilateral cooperation such as the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. The picture shows the physical forum of the Belt and Road Summit in 2019

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## About HKTDC

The Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) is a statutory body established in 1966 to promote, assist and develop Hong Kong's trade. With 50 offices globally, including 13 in Mainland China, the HKTDC promotes Hong Kong as a two-way global Investment and business hub. The

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