

Welcome Message

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Chief Executive

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region



It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 2017 VPET International Conference, organised by the Hong Kong Education Bureau and Vocational Training Council.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. I am pleased to note that the VPET International Conference is one of the events chosen to celebrate this milestone, and for good reason. Education is of critical importance to Hong Kong. It demonstrates the Government's commitment to the people, and the future, of Hong Kong.

Indeed, the Task Force on Promotion of Vocational Education, set up by the Government, proposed 27 recommendations to promote vocational education and training in the community. We have, I am pleased to note, been actively implementing the recommendations of the Task Force.

Vocational and educational training is now vocational and professional education and training. It covers programmes up to degree level, with a high percentage of the curriculum consisting of specialised content in vocational skills and professional knowledge. We have, as well, extended the Pilot Training and Support Scheme, benefiting 4000 students. We will be regularising the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors, beginning with the 2018/19 academic year, and increasing the number of subsidised places to about 3000 per cohort. We are now also fully subsidising applied learning courses for senior secondary school students.

My thanks to the organisers and to the speakers and guests, each of whom is contributing to the success of the year's VPET International Conference.

I wish you all a rewarding conference and a memorable stay in Hong Kong.