

## Leung in CPPCC role can boost cooperation in 'Greater Bay Area'

Soon after his election as a delegate to the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) on March 13, Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying was elected a vice-chairman of the CPPCC by a landslide vote from its National Committee members at the closing meeting of its annual session.

President Xi Jinping (习近平) then rose from his seat to walk towards Leung to shake his hand and to speak with him briefly.

At a press briefing later, Leung said, "The president encouraged me to contribute more to Hong Kong and the country". Leung is the first person in Hong Kong to be a state leader at the level of CPPCC vice-chairman while still serving as Hong Kong's chief executive. Leung told the press he was honoured to have the opportunity to continue serving this city and the country. He promised to help Hong Kong, especially its young people, to seize opportunities provided by the nation's fast pace of development.

How will Leung as CPPCC vice-chairman be contributing more to Hong Kong's future development? As chief executive, he has promoted Hong Kong as a "super-connector" and a bridge between China and the global community.

With his extensive knowledge and connections with the mainland, in his new CPPCC role and later as ex-chief executive, he will be able to contribute in whatever role is agreed with the Hong Kong SAR government under the leadership of Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, and/or the central government.

After he leaves office on June 30, the central government may appoint him to a post in line with his experience and capability, such as on the "One Belt, One Road" programme in which Hong Kong as a financial centre and services hub is expected to play an important role.

During his annual work report at the start of the National People's Congress, Premier Li Keqiang (李克强) announced Beijing will press ahead with the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area, based on a study called "The Action Plan for the Bay Area of the Pearl River Estuary" – compiled by authorities in Hong Kong, Macau, Shenzhen, Dongguan, Guangzhou, Zhuhai and Zhongshan in 2011.

As the plan is still in the conceptual stage, Leung, in his new position as CPPCC vice-chairman, with state leader status, could perform a useful role as a facilitator to enhance early implementation of this important cluster project, for the benefit of all the parties concerned.

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## 梁振英任政協副主席 可增強大灣區內合作

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行政長官梁振英獲增補為全國政協委員後，繼於 3 月 13 日在全國政協閉幕會議上獲全體政協委員以大比數投票通過增補為全國政協副主席。

國家主席習近平隨即從座位上起來，上前和梁握手，並談了幾句話。

在其後的記者會上，梁說習主席「勉勵他為國家及香港作更多貢獻」。梁是首位香港人在出任行政長官期間晉身為全國政協副主席的國家領導人級別。梁在記者會上表示非常榮幸能夠有機會繼續服務國家及香港。他承諾會為香港，尤其是年輕一代，把握國家快速發展所帶來的機遇。

梁振英作為全國政協副主席究竟可以為香港的未來發展作怎樣更大的貢獻？作為行政長官，他已經致力促進香港作為中國與全球社會的“超級聯繫人”和橋樑。

以他豐富的經驗和人脈，作為新任全國政協副主席與其後的卸任行政長官，他可以在林鄭月娥領導的香港特區政府贊同，以及／或者中央政府同意的角色上發揮作用。

他在 6 月 30 日卸任後，中央政府可按他的經驗和能力委任職務，例如與“一帶一路”有關者，香港作為金融中心與服務樞紐應可在這方面扮演重要角色。

國務院總理李克強在全國人民代表大會上作他的年度政府工作報告時宣布，北京將會以香港、澳門、深圳、東莞、廣州、珠海和中山當局於 2011 年編製的《環珠江口宜居灣區重點行動計劃》為基礎，進行粵港澳大灣區發展。

這個計劃目前仍在構思階段，梁振英以他的全國政協副主席身份，位列國家領導人，任重道遠，可以在這個重要的城市群計劃推行早期加強協調，為各方謀取利益。

土瓜灣張有興