

Speech by:

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WTO Regional Workshop on Intellectual Property and its Role in the
Generation and Diffusion of Green Technologies

Session VIII: The Ecosystem of Knowledge Transfer in
Green Technologies

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Professor Chai, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

I am most delighted to join you at this round table today. The theme of this WTO Regional Workshop is Intellectual Property and its Role in the Generation and Diffusion of Green Technologies. First of all, I must confess that I am not an expert to talk about Intellectual Property (IP). But the two letters I and P are very relevant to what I am going to share with you today. The first IP I would like to talk about is on how the government's Investment (i.e. the letter I) and Policies (i.e. the letter P) can help to promote the generation of green technologies.

The "I" - Investment

2. Waste management is one of the key environmental challenges in Hong Kong. Over the years, we invested a huge amount of money to get our wastes, from ordinary household waste to industrial hazardous waste, handled in an environmentally sound manner.

2. Every year, we spend nearly 1.5 billion in the treatment and disposal of waste. This annual cost goes solely to the operation of our world-class waste disposal facilities, not to mention the cost for waste collection or recycling. In the years to come, Hong Kong will invest further even bigger amount for a new generation of waste infrastructure, including 18 billion for the development of a state-of-art waste-

been offering concession in First Registration Tax (FRT) to encourage the use of environment-friendly vehicles in Hong Kong. In particular, we have waived the First Registration Tax on Electric Vehicles. We also provide tax incentiv

caps in the legal document.

(iii) air pollution do not respect boundary. Hong Kong has been working closely with its regional partners, including Guangdong and Macao, to combat air pollution. The three sides have established a joint Air Quality Monitoring Network to provide comprehensive air quality information to the public.

Waste Policies/Legislations

7. On waste management side, we are taking forward the following policies and legislations to achieve our waste reduction target as set out in the Waste Management Blueprint:

(i) Charging - we have completed a public engagement process to design the municipal solid waste (MSW) charging system in Hong Kong.

quality management, energy efficiency and combating climate change. In the interest of time, I would not go into details of these other areas one by one.

The 2nd “I” & “P”- the annual Eco Expo Asia

12. Now, I would like to make use of the opportunity to briefly talk about the 2nd IP International Platform relating to our effort in promotion and diffusion of green technologies. This is the annual Eco Expo we have been co-organising with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) in Hong Kong since 2009. Our main objective is to support capturing of business opportunities in the Mainland and International markets.

13. The 2014 Expo was just held in Hong Kong last month. There were more than 300 exhibitors from more than 20 countries/ regions joining the Expo, with 12 countries/provinces/cities setting up their own pavilions to showcase new environmental technologies and practices.

14. To help the promotion and diffusion of green technologies into Mainland China, we have taken the opportunity of the Expo to invite over 30 Mainland delegations with nearly 200 delegates visiting the Expo. The Mainland delegates have also introduced the Mainland China green policies and business opportunities at the Expo.

nearby region. Lastly, I hope all of you enjoy your stay in Hong Kong, and I am happy to take questions at the end of this session. Thank you.