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Office of the Chief Executive Tamar, Hong Kong Chief Executive Mrs Carrie Lam

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Chief Executive:

## Three directional recommendations of HKCMA on 2021 Policy Address

This year's Policy Address is going to be announced. To members of the construction material industry who have to endure great sufferings of the epidemic and new social situation, the support from the government is most important. Hence, Hong Kong Construction Materials Association (HKCMA) would like to submit the following three recommendations on the upcoming Policy Address and hope that positive responses would be made to support our long-term development and be in line with future construction projects in Hong Kong.

1. Identifying suitable site for construction materials plants

Concrete is extensively used in building and infrastructure construction in Hong Kong and reliable concrete supply is very important. As fresh concrete will harden with time, and excessive transportation distance may affect the quality of concrete, the locations of concrete batching plants entail a geographical consideration so that concrete could be delivered timely to construction sites in various regions, and it is necessary to set up concrete batching plants in each major region to support the construction works within the region. HKCMA supports the government to identify a suitable site in Tseung Kwan O Area 137 to set up a concrete batching plant, preferably a waterfront site to allow transporting raw materials for concrete production by waterborne transport to avoid increasing pressure on road traffic and minimise the impacts on residents from production and transportation of concrete.

2. Maintaining sustainable local construction materials supply chain

HKCMA urges the government to identify suitable quarry sites in order to increase local aggregate supply and minimize excessive reliance imported from



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the Mainland. Currently the local aggregate supply mainly comes from Lam Tei Quarry in Tuen Mun, which meets less than 10% of the local demand, the remaining demand rely on the import from the Guangdong Province. However, Lam Tei Quarry will cease operation shortly in 2023 for other development. Under the impact of the epidemic and power rationing measures implemented by the Mainland government, a number of Mainland quarries ceased operating, which resulted in rise in cost and even lack of supply, and caused delay on several construction works in Hong Kong. HKCMA urges the government to develop quarry site in Lung Kwu Tan as soon as possible to support the mega project Lantau Tomorrow Vision. We also support carrying out feasibility studies on increasing aggregate through rock cavern development and West New Territories (WENT) Landfill Extensions project.

3. Increasing overseas import of construction materials

In order to meet the needs of the construction industry and future development projects in Hong Kong, such as building an artificial island, HKCMA suggests increasing overseas import of construction materials, including cement, marine sand and aggregate. It is of greatest necessity for Hong Kong customs to simplify customs clearance procedures and formalities so as to increases supply of construction materials through multi-pronged approach.

Construction materials industry has already fostered a consensus on the above-mentioned issues. We hope that the government will seriously consider our recommendations and roll out practical measures that beneficial to the public.

Ambrose LINN Chief Executive Hong Kong Construction Materials Association

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