The Government today (February 22) announced the appointment of Mr Peter Lam Kin-ngok as the Chairman of the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) for three years from April 1, 2013, to March 31, 2016. Mr Lam will succeed Mr James Tien Pei-chun who will retire from the Board after six years of dedicated service.

Announcing the appointment, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Gregory So, said Mr Lam was one of the veteran members of the HKTB and was the most suitable person for the job with his wide commercial experience, strong leadership and active participation in public service.

"The tourism industry is a major pillar of Hong Kong's economy. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Mr Tien for his invaluable contribution in steering the Board in the past six years. During his chairmanship, the Board has garnered the full support of the tourism sector in promoting Hong Kong's tourism appeal to the world. The HKTB has also launched a number of widely popular mega events, including the New Year's Eve Countdown and the Hong Kong Wine and Dine Festival, which received very positive feedback from local and foreign media and visitors alike. Even amidst the uncertain global economy and competition from neighbouring destinations, Mr Tien has brought Hong Kong's tourism to new heights and strengthened Hong Kong's position as a premier tourist destination with his clear vision, sharp commercial sense, and strong leadership and competence," Mr So said.

Also announced today was the appointment of Mr Ignatius Chan Tze-ching (a bank consultant) and Ms Shi Nan-sun (the executive director of a film production company) for two years from April 1, 2013, to March 31, 2015.

Mr So said, "We welcome Mr Chan and Ms Shi to join the Board. We would also like to thank Dr Patrick Fung Yuk-bun, the outgoing member, for his past contribution to the Board. His professional advice has been highly instrumental in the financial and corporate governance of the HKTB."

Appointments to the HKTB are made by the Financial Secretary under section 9 of the Hong Kong Tourism Board Ordinance, under authority delegated by the Chief Executive.

Ends/Friday, February 22, 2013 Issued at HKT 14:30