

The Government strives to expedite the development of Macao as a world tourism and leisure centre. After the completion of the study and compilation of the Macao Tourism Industry Development Master Plan, the current situation, advantages, challenges and potential arising from the development of the tourism industry have been explored in detail. Corresponding targets, strategies and action plans have been formulated to guide the sustainable development of Macao's tourism industry.

The Government continued implementing the Community Tourism Plan and the Macao Tourism Awareness Campaign, as well as organising and co-organising a wide array of events and activities. It also finished assessing the effectiveness of several major events, including the Light Festival, International Film Festival & Awards and Chinese New Year Parade, thereby providing a scientific basis for formulating future promotion strategies and optimising events and products.

Regarding industry management, the Government has initiated to optimise tourism-related regulations. The regulations on travel agencies and tour guides are currently going through legislation procedures, while the bill on the amendment to hotel licensing and operation laws has already been completed. The Government maintains regular inspection and monitoring on premises licensed and regulated by the Tourist Office. Law-abiding and quality service awareness among operators in the industry has been improved following the promulgation of various guidelines and recommendations.

The departments responsible for tourism, culture and sport worked closely with each other to promote tourism products. Through cooperation between overseas marketing agencies and the tourism industry, Macao tour packages for seasonal cultural, sport and festive events were introduced, to maximise synergy between these packages.

With Macao recognised as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy, the Government has integrated elements of gastronomy into cultural exchanges, showcasing Macao's distinctive character as a multi-cultural city. Having become a member of the Creative Cities Network, the Macao SAR may engage in cultural exchange and experience sharing with other member cities through an international platform, thereby facilitating the sustainable development of local culture and tourism industries.

In tandem with the development of the Greater Bay Area, the Government actively maintained close liaison with tourism departments of mainland China and Hong Kong. The Exchange Seminar on Holistic Tourism and Tourist Police between mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao and the annual work meeting 2017 of the Joint Working Committee on Tourism to Support Macao's Aspirations to Build a World Centre of Tourism and Leisure were held, for in-depth discussion on building Macao as a world tourism and leisure centre.

Legislative Assembly passes 20 laws covering administration and people's livelihoods

During the fourth session of the fifth Legislative Assembly, from 16 October 2016 to 15 October 2017, a total of 50 plenary meetings and 135 committee meetings were held, passing 20 laws, three resolutions and 13 simple-majority resolutions.



Regarding fulfilment of legislative function:

Concerning public administration and revision of laws, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 4/2017 on Amendments to the Rank and Grade System for Civil Servants, marking the beginning of phase one of the public administration reform;
- Law No. 1/2017 on Amendments to Law No. 1/2001 Unitary Police Service of the Macao SAR and Law No. 9/2002 Internal Security Law of the Macao SAR, for consolidation of functions and optimisation of resource allocation;
- Law No. 7/2016 on Amendments to Decree-Law No. 66/99/M General Regulations for Private Notaries dated 1 November, in preparation for the re-launch of the related training programmes;
- Law No. 8/2016 Adjustment to Amount of Housing Allowance, for alleviating the housing burden on civil servants;
- Law No. 9/2016 on Amendments to Law No. 3/2001 Electoral System for the Legislative Assembly of the Macao SAR, for upholding the basic principle of fair, just, open and clean elections, and to combat unlawful practices in elections; and
- Law No. 11/2017 Confirmation of Non-enforcement of Certain Laws and Decrees Promulgated between 1976 and 1987, for further clarifying the applicability of the law, thereby ensuring a more consistent legal system in Macao.

Regarding people's livelihoods, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 10/2016 on Amendments to Law No. 17/2009 Prohibition of Illegal Production, Trafficking and Consumption of Narcotics and Psychoactive Drugs, for stepping up prevention of and penalties for drug-related crimes;
- Law No. 8/2017 on Amendments to Penal Code, for effectively addressing public aspiration for social stability;
- Law No. 7/2017 on the Non-mandatory Central Provident Fund System, for enhancing protection of resident's post-retirement quality of life;
- Law No. 9/2017 on Amendments to Law No. 5/2011 Smoking Prevention and Control System, a step towards compliance with WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, thereby creating a healthy environment for every resident;
- Law No. 10/2017 on Tertiary Education System, for pressing ahead with implementing the principles of "Letting Macao thrive through education and building Macao with talent" in support of better development of tertiary education;
- Law No. 12/2017 Strata Title Buildings Management Commercial Operation Law and Law No. 14/2017 Legal System for Management of the Common Parts of Condominiums, for improving quality of property management and facilitating property owners' management of common parts of a building, respectively; and
- Law No. 13/2017 on Amendments to Real Estate Tenancy Legal System under the Civil Code, for fostering healthy development of the rental market.

Regarding the fulfilment of international duties, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 2/2017 on Enforcement of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), for continued enforcement of CITES in the Macao SAR;
- Law No. 3/2017 on Amendments to Law No. 2/2006 Prevention and Suppression of the Crime of Money Laundering, and Law No. 3/2006 Prevention and Suppression of the Crimes of Terrorism, and Law No. 6/2017 Control of Cross-border Physical Transportation of Cash and Bearer Negotiable Instruments, for ensuring that Macao will remain economically competitive while complying with international standards; and
- Law No. 5/2017 Tax Information Exchange of Financial Account, for implementing a new information exchange protocol.

All these laws were proposed by the Government, except for Law No. 13/2017.

Regarding fulfilment of supervisory function:

In accordance with the authority conferred by the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region, the Legislative Assembly carried out budget and public finance supervision

by passing Law No. 15/2017 on Budget Framework Law and Law No. 11/2016 on the 2017 Government Budget, deliberating the Government's Reports on Budget Implementation for 2015, and listening to and discussing the 2017 Policy Address delivered by the Chief Executive.

During the legislative session, legislators raised 591 written and 57 oral questions, and called for 10 plenary meetings regarding the oral questions. Legislators gave 313 pre-agenda speeches, covering housing policy, public transport, health and medicine, economy and culture, environmental protection, public administration, social security and talent cultivation. Moreover, the Follow-up Committee for Land and Public Concession Affairs, the Follow-up Committee for Public Finance Affairs and the Follow-up Committee for Public Administration Affairs strived for progress with important issues regarding public administration and the implementation of related laws, and compiled six reports.

Other responsibilities of the Legislative Assembly include listening to and fully reflecting different views, suggestions and criticism from the public, and making prompt responses regarding public aspirations.

During the session, legislators continued to strengthen the roster system for receiving public visitors, and 285 residents were personally received by legislators through this service. The Legislative Assembly also received 124 submissions and recommendations via telephone and email. The Legislative Assembly received four petitions from citizens and groups, and handled these appropriately.

CCAC Promotes Clean Elections While CA Enhances Communication with Audit Industry

In 2017, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) focused on preventing and combating vote-buying and promoting clean elections, to ensure a clean, fair and impartial sixth Legislative Assembly election of the Macao Special Administrative Region. As usual, the CCAC investigated corruption and related fraudulent activities in the public and private sectors, handled complaints to the ombudsman, protected residents' legitimate rights and interests, implemented community education work and continued with regional and international exchanges and cooperation.

In 2017, the CCAC received 1,264 complaints and reports, including 545 anti-corruption cases and 719 complaints to the Ombudsman. At the end of the year, 983 cases were closed, including 537 criminal cases concluded and transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office or closed, and 446 complaints to the Ombudsman concluded and closed. The CCAC also received 1,430 enquiries of various kinds during the year, of which 793 involved criminal offences, while 637 were complaints to the Ombudsman.

Regarding promotion and education, in 2017 the CCAC commenced a series of activities about clean elections, holding 28 sessions of the itinerant theatre tour entitled "More about Clean Elections" at 18 schools. It also recruited 83 students from Form 3 to Form 6 as members of the "Volunteer Team for Clean Elections 2017". After receiving training, the volunteers participated in and assisted with the CCAC's community activities to promote clean elections. The CCAC also opened a WeChat account, to disseminate messages about clean elections through social media.