We have stepped up efforts to reduce waste at source. To minimise the negative effects of plastic bags on the environment, the law on Restrictions on Using Plastic Bags came into effect in 2019. We have also begun planning to establish a centralised food waste processing facility, facilitated the expansion and upgrade of the Macao Central Incineration Centre, commenced optimisation of the Macao Peninsula Sewage Treatment Plant, and commenced a trial operation for regional transfer of scrapped vehicles to mainland China.

## Kou Hoi In Elected New President of the Legislative Assemby



During the second session of the sixth Legislative Assembly, from 16 October 2018 to 15 October 2019, a total of 52 plenary meetings and 220 committee meetings were held, with 25 laws, one resolution and 19 simple-majority resolutions passed during the plenary meetings.

During the session, the then president of the Legislative Assembly Mr Ho Iat Seng renounced his roles as member and president of the Legislative Assembly at the plenary meeting on 5 July 2019, in order to run for the election of the fifth-term Chief Executive of the MSAR. A special election was held by the Legislative Assembly on 17 July 2019, in which the members elected Kou Hoi In as the president of the Legislative Assembly. During the plenary meetings held on 30 July and 7 August 2019, Chan Hong and Ho Ion Sang were also elected as the first secretary and second secretary of the Executive Board, respectively. The by-election of the vacant member of the Legislative Assembly was held on 24 November. Elected member Wang Sai Man was sworn in and inaugurated on 16 December.

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## **Fulfilment of legislative function**

In regard to public administration and the judicial area, the Legislative Assembly passed: Law No. 14/2018 on Public Security Police Force, thereby refining the nature, duties and authority of the department to better fulfil the internal security requirements of Macao; Law No. 16/2018 on Adjustment of the Minimum Salary Point of Pension and Gratuity, to demonstrate care for low-income civil servants and their dependents; Law No. 18/2018 on Amendments to General Rules for the Public Administrators of Macao, to clarify the civil service system code, thereby facilitating current department administrative operations and management; and Law No. 4/2019 on Amendments to Law No. 9/1999, the Judicial Organisation Framework Law, thereby optimising the system for trials in court, and modifying the judicial composition and personnel system.

In regard to economic development and transportation, the Legislative Assembly passed: Law No. 12/2019, the Law on Commercial Registrationof Vessels, thereby updating and enhancing the system for registering the legal status of vessels, to maintain the safety of both maritime activities and exchange of vessels; Law No. 6/2019, the Legal System Governing Financial Leasing Business and Law No. 7/2019 on the Tax Benefit System for Financial Leasing, thereby delineating relatively relaxed regulatory requirements and tax incentives in order to strengthen the competitiveness of Macao in the financial leasing industry, and foster the development of the financial service industry; Law No. 15/2019 Law on Implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for International Trade in Rough Diamonds, in order to keep in line with the standards of international trade of rough diamonds, thereby promoting economic development oriented to high-end industries; and Law No. 18/2019, the Light Rapid Transit (LRT) Law, to specifically regulate the LRT system, thereby meeting the needs of the future operation and management of the LRT.

Regarding housing and environment, the Legislative Assembly passed: Law No. 2/2019 Tax Concession Scheme for Building Redevelopment and Law No. 8/2019 Urban Renewal Temporary Housing and Replacement Housing Legal System, encouraging eligible owners of aged properties to opt for redevelopment with reduced reconstruction costs and eased burdens, while helping to meet the housing needs of real estate owners affected by urban renewal by providing an additional option to renting or buying a residential property; Law No. 17/2019 on the Public Housing Legal System, in order to refine the allocation and leasing systems of public housing so that resources are fairly distributed; and Law No. 9/2019 on Amendments to Law No. 8/2014 on the Prevention and Control of Environmental Noise, and Law No. 16/2019 on Restrictions on the Provision of Plastic – the former adequately relaxes the restrictions on making noise in public areas, according to the practical needs of urban development, and the latter achieves plastic waste reduction at retail level through economic means.

Regarding regulation of industry and responsible gaming, the Legislative Assembly passed: Law No. 3/2019 on the Legal System Governing Light Vehicle Rental, to regulate taxi services, thereby safeguarding the legitimate interests of passengers and drivers; Law No. 5/2019 on the Social Qualification System for Social Workers, to govern the professional accreditation, licensing and disciplinary system of social workers, thereby enhancing the public acceptance and recognition of social workers; and Law No. 17/2018 on Amendments to Law No. 10/2012. Regulations on Entering, Working and Gaming in Casinos, thereby forbidding related workers to enter a casino and gamble during off-duty hours, in order to minimise any negative influence the development of gaming industry might bring to its practitioners.

Regarding labour and social security, in view of the economic development of Macao, the Legislative Assembly passed Law No. 11/2019 on Amendments to Law No. 7/2015 on the Minimum Wage for Cleaning and Security Employees in the Property Management Services, in order to increase the minimum wage of these employees; and Law No. 14/2019 on Consolidation of Financial Resources of the Social Security Fund, in order to ensure sustainability of social security, thereby establishing a regular fund allocation mechanism.

Regarding online security, the Legislative Assembly passed Law No. 13/2019, the Cyber Security Law, to rule cyber security work by law, thereby preventing and reducing the adverse impact of cyber attacks on society.

In order to implement the Basic Law, the Legislative Assembly passed: Law No. 13/2018 on Amendments to Law No. 3/2004, the Chief Executive Election Law, in order to introduce representatives from members of the city's municipal organs into the Chief Executive Election Committee, whilst making corresponding adjustments to the seat allocation of Sector 4 of the Election Committee; and Law No. 1/2019 on Amendments to Law No. 5/1999, the Law on Use and Protection of the National Flag, National Emblem and National Anthem, thereby ensuring that the related national law can be properly implemented in the Macao SAR.

Lastly, regarding the fulfilment of international duties, the Legislative Assembly passed Law No. 15/2018 on Abolishment of the Legal System of Offshore Services and Law No. 10/2019 on Amendments to Law No. 17/2009 on Prohibiting the Illegal Production, Trafficking and Consumption of Narcotics and Psychoactive drugs. The former promotes tax transparency and tax fairness by repealing the issuance of offshore business licences, the related system as well as tax incentives for offshore organisations; the latter expands the scope of drug regulation to cover 21 additional substances, thereby keeping up with international anti-drug efforts.

All these laws were proposed by the Government.

## **Fulfilment of supervisory function**

In accordance with the authority conferred by the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region, the Legislative Assembly performed its supervisory duties regarding the government budget and public finances. This involved passing Law No. 19/2018 on the 2019 Government Budget, deliberating the Government's Reports on Budget Implementation for 2017 and the Commissioner of Audit's Report 2017, and listening to and discussing the 2019 Policy Addresses delivered by the Chief Executive.

During the legislative session, legislators raised 673 written and 87 oral questions, and called for 10 plenary meetings regarding the oral questions. The legislators gave 296 pre-agenda speeches, covering housing policy, public transport, health and medicine, economy and culture, technological education, public administration and social security.

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

applicability of related laws, and compiled 13 reports. Lastly, during the session, the legislators visited the Traditional Chinese Medicine Science and Technology Industrial Park of Cooperation Between Guangdong and Macao (GMTCM Park) in Hengqin, and the LRT Depot Operations Command Centre, to better understand the implementation of related government policies and carry out closer monitoring.

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, residents were personally received by legislators over 30 persontimes through the roster system for receiving public visitors. The Legislative Assembly also received 116 submissions and recommendations via in-person visits, telephone and email. The Legislative Assembly received 12 petitions from citizens and groups, and handled these appropriately.

## CCAC focuses on combating and preventing corruption, while CA upgrades its audit systems



In 2019, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) fulfilled its duties in accordance with the law, and upheld the principles of emphasising both combating and preventing corruption. Regarding anti-corruption, the CCAC cracked down on corruption in the public and private sectors with determination and pragmatism. As for complaints to the ombudsman, the CCAC stringently monitored the operations of public departments, and the issues of great concern to society, and investigated and made recommendations on administrative infractions or misconduct. The CCAC also actively participated in the review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, enhanced the professional ability of staff by participating in international and