

show that residents are concerned about their retirement protection, and are becoming aware of the importance of early planning and accumulating retirement reserves.

The Non-mandatory Central Provident Fund System Review Report was released on 29 October, and noted that the Government had appropriated a total of more than 28.6 billion patacas from 2010 to the end of 2020. An account owner can be allocated funds and income, up to a total of 86,910 patacas, which lays the foundation for constructing the system.

In the three years since the implementation of the contributory system, the participation, the amount of pension funds and the returns on investment have all continued to grow, indicating that the system was operating smoothly and had delivered results. Conditions have already been met for moving towards mandatory implementation of the system.

However, the emergence of COVID-19 impacted Macao's economy. The MSAR Government was recommended to set 2021 to 2023 as a three-year observation period and, depending on the economic recovery, set up two plans – one with a five-year, the other with a seven-year preparation period – and implement the Mandatory Central Provident Fund System in 2026 or 2028.

Responding to Social Needs in a Timely Manner through Executive–Legislature Communications and Interactions



During the fourth session of the sixth Legislative Assembly, from 16 October 2020 to 15 October 2021, a total of 35 plenary meetings and 142 committee meetings were held, with 22 laws, one resolution and 32 simple-majority resolutions passed during the plenary meetings.

Fulfilment of Legislative Function:

Regarding public security:

- Law No. 25/2020 on Amendments to Law No. 1/2001 on the Unitary Police Service of the MSAR, and Law No. 26/2020 on Amendments to Law No. 9/2002 on the Fundamental Internal Security Law of the MSAR were passed, to modify the roles and functions of the Unitary Police Service regarding civil protection, and to reform the structure and constitution of Macao's internal security system; and
- Law No. 16/2021 on the legal system regarding MSAR's border control, stay and residence permits was also passed, to regulate all immigration-related issues in an integrated way, reinforce border control and measures, and enhance the image of a safe tourism city.

Regarding public administration:

- Law No. 2/2021 on Amendments to Law No. 14/2009 on the Rank and Grade System for Civil Servants was passed, thereby streamlining ranks and grades as well as examination arrangements, to drive an increase in work efficiency of all civil servants;
- Law No. 7/2021 on Amendments to Law No. 7/2006 on Code of Practice for Prison Guard Service was also passed, thereby forming three new ranks and adding a police service officer training program run by the Academy of Macao Public Security Forces, to enhance prison guards' career prospects;
- Law No. 13/2021 on the public security forces and public security department personnel code of practice was passed, to build a sensible ranking system, modify the promotion ladder, and refine the disciplinary and incentive systems, for more effective management of public security forces; and
- Law No. 5/2021 on Amendments to Decree-Law No. 122/84/M dated 15 December, on public works expenditure and goods and services procurement systems, was passed, to refine the Government's procurement work, including by revision of threshold amounts throughout the procurement procedures; and an official announcement was made on the Chinese version of the decree-law.

Regarding social and livelihood-related services:

- Law No. 6/2021 on the public wet market management system was passed, thereby empowering the Municipal Affairs Bureau with the authority to manage public wet markets, introducing stall allocations via public bids, and specifying the duties of licensees;
- Law No. 9/2021 on the consumer rights protection law was passed, thereby enhancing consumer rights protection and curbing improper business practices;
- Law No. 14/2021 on the legal system for urban construction was passed, to support the latest trends in the development of civil engineering, and in particular specify the duties of related entities and the authority of all departments in charge of civil engineering projects, as well as simplifying the approval of public works; and

- Law No. 15/2021 on the legal system for building and venue fire safety was passed, to formulate the system of qualifications regarding fire safety, introduce “duty of self-protection” and fill in gaps in the technical requirements regarding fire safety.

Regarding tax issues:

- Law No. 24/2020 on Amendment of Stamp Duty Regulations and Stamp Duty Payment Schedule was passed, thereby scrapping fiscal stamps and outdated tax types, taxing stamp duty on ceding right-of-use of real estate venues, encouraging the use of arbitration to solve lease-related conflicts with tax concessions, and reinforcing monitoring efforts and law enforcement by the taxation authority; and
- Law No. 1/2021 on the system for taxation of enterprises engaging in technological innovation was passed, to attract more foreign technological innovation enterprises to come to Macao through various tax concession policies, to better drive the implementation of the administrative approach of “promoting technological innovation for construction of a smart city”.

Regarding tourism:

- Law No. 8/2021- Law on the Operation of Hotel Premises – was passed, clearly specifying that Macao Government Tourist Office is responsible for the licensing and operations of restaurants, casual catering venues, bars, dance halls and food plaza stalls inside hotel premises, and approving the establishment of common rooms with beds for lease inside inexpensive accommodation premises, with a view to meeting the demand for diverse tourist accommodation. Moreover, the law introduced new measures supporting one-stop permit applications and temporary operating permits.

Regarding education and public hygiene:

- Law No. 4/2021 on Amendments to Decree-Law No. 67/99/M dated 1 November, approving the Education and Youth Development Bureau code of practice for teachers, was passed to review the evaluation, workloads, and rights and responsibilities of teachers, thereby raising the professional status of public school teachers and ensuring the sustained development of non-tertiary education in Macao; and
- Law No. 11/2021 – Law on Pharmaceutical Activities in the Field of Traditional Chinese Medicine and the Registration of Traditional Chinese Medicines – was passed to align with the country’s Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area measures that are beneficial to Macao and the Chinese medicine and the MSAR’s policy on developing the pharmaceutical industry, including by filling in gaps in the legal framework regarding registration of over-the-counter traditional Chinese medicines, the establishment of a pharmaceutical production system aligned with mainland China and international standards, as well as an all-encompassing regulatory system aligned with the management of modern traditional Chinese medicine.

To fulfil international duties:

- Law No. 22/2020, and Law No. 10/2021 on Amendments to Law 17/2009 on Prohibiting the Illegal Production, Trafficking and Consumption of Narcotics and Psychoactive

Drugs, respectively, were passed via urgent procedures, thereby recognising 20 new internationally restricted substances, to prevent and combat drug-related crimes in accordance with neighbouring regions and international society.

Lastly, Law No. 12/2021 on Amendments to Law No. 5/1999 on the Use and Protection of the National Flag, National Emblem and National Anthem was passed, to practically execute a resolution passed during the 22nd Session of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress that amended the Law of the People's Republic of China on the National Flag and the Law of the People's Republic of China on the National Emblem, in order to fulfil the constitutional duty of safeguarding the dignity of the national emblem and logo.

All the above 19 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, including by:

- Passing Law No. 23/2020 on Amendments to the 2019 Government Budget, to revise the Government Budget for the fiscal year;
- Passing Law No. 27/2020 on the 2021 Government Budget (the budget was later revised via Law No. 3/2021, Law No. 17/2021 and Law No. 18/2021, reflecting the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and providing the local community with a series of financial support measures); and
- Deliberating on the Government's Reports on Budget Implementation for 2019 and the Commissioner of Audit's Report 2019 proposed by the Government, and listening to and discussing the 2021 Policy Address delivered by the Chief Executive.

To promote Executive-Legislative communications and interactions, Chief Executive Question and Answer sessions were held in April and August. The former saw direct dialogues between legislators and the Chief Executive regarding public administration topics concerning housing, employment, human resources, social development and planning, development of the financial services industry, economic recovery; the latter adopted written interactions due to the pandemic, to continue performing the active function of the Legislative Assembly in expressing issues concerning social needs and livelihoods.

To better listen to and collect opinions from legislators, the Government held briefing sessions on the study of the New Urban Zone Area A and on Wai Long Public Housing project; and held a briefing on the scoring system under the Home-Ownership Scheme Housing Law, and on adverse weather forecasting in Macao.

To gain a deeper understanding of the current status of various public work projects, upon invitations made during legislative sessions, legislators visited the construction site of the fourth Macao-Taipa cross-harbour bridge, Mong Ha public housing and Mong Ha Stadium in New Urban Zone Area A, and conducted onsite inspections of the senior housing in Mong Ha community, as well as the demonstration units of the Home-Ownership Scheme housing site and temporary

housing in New Urban Zone Area A.

During the legislative sessions, legislators gave 316 pre-agenda speeches in plenary meetings, on topics such as housing policy, public transportation, medicine and hygiene, culture and education, employment protection, environmental protection, regional cooperation and the marine economy.

In addition, legislators issued 702 written questions and 89 oral questions, and the Legislative Assembly initiated 10 plenary meetings to address the oral questions.

Consequently, follow-up work was conducted by 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, which were proactive regarding major issues and the applicability of relevant laws in public administration. Eight reports were produced, as follows:

- Follow-up on the use of Macao Foundation funds and status of consolidation of autonomous fund subsidies related to education;
- Follow-up on the interim report on the implementation of the MSAR budget 2020 and Q2 PIDDA budget implementation report;
- Follow-up on the 2020 fiscal year Q3 PIDDA budget implementation report;
- Follow-up on the 2020 fiscal year Q4 PIDDA budget implementation report;
- Follow-up on the 2021 fiscal year Q1 PIDDA budget implementation report;
- Follow-up on the contract concessions of gaming operations;
- Follow-up on the procedures regarding skilled immigration and investment immigration as stipulated by the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute; and
- Follow-up on the effectiveness of drainage infrastructure during rainstorms and typhoons.

The duties of the legislative authority lie in fully reflecting and hearing various opinions, suggestions and criticisms from citizens, and responding to social needs in a timely manner. During the legislative session, legislators received citizens in-person over 26 times, based on a roster system; and 448 cases of public opinions and suggestions were communicated to the Legislative Assembly via personal visits, phone or email.

In addition, the Legislative Assembly received seven petitions from individuals and groups, and handled them appropriately, considering the actual situations.

CCAC Supports Clean Election and CA Strengthens Exchanges and Cooperation

In 2021, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) dedicated all its efforts to implementing the Government's major policies, focusing on upholding the integrity of elections. The CCAC deployed in advance and invested significant resources to enhance monitoring, to ensure the fairness, impartiality, openness and integrity of the seventh Legislative Assembly Election.

While monitoring the election activities between 8 March and 12 September, the CCAC