

application deadline to 31 March, 2023, to encourage more motorcycle owners to participate.

At the same time, the MSAR Government urged bus companies to replace old buses with new ones, and required all public entities to – ideally – replace existing combustion engine vehicles with electric vehicles, and ensure any further vehicles that are purchased are electric. All newly built government buildings and public housing must be equipped with charging facilities for electric vehicles. To support the use of electric vehicles, by December 2022, the MSAR Government had added more than 2,100 light vehicle charging stations and installed 500 electric motorcycle charging stations in 42 public parking lots, to respond to the demand for facilities supporting electric vehicles.

In order to further promote the policy on restricting use of plastic, the MSAR Government started to ban the import of non-degradable disposable plastic straws and drink stirrers from 1 January, 2022; it also further implemented energy conservation, pollutant reduction and environmental protection in multiple ways, aiming to build a green, liveable city.

Safeguarding National Security and Continuing to Develop Patriotic Education



National security is the cornerstone of protecting citizens' lives and properties. As such, the security of the MSAR relies on the fundamental protection of national security. To this end, the MSAR Government has always been committed to giving priority to the work of safeguarding national security and public safety.

Amending the Law on Safeguarding National Security to Keep Abreast of the Times

2022 saw worrying changes in the security situation worldwide and regionally, and with the recurring pandemic, Macao faced a number of security challenges. Since the enactment of Law No. 2/2009 – Law on Safeguarding National Security, the Macao SAR has fulfilled its obligation set out in Article 23 of the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's

Republic of China, which has greatly facilitated the protection of national security and public order in Macao. However, to effectively tackle the complicated and volatile security risks, safeguard national security and the long-term stability of Macao and ensure stable and long-lasting implementation of the “One country, two systems” principle, the Law on Safeguarding National Security must be kept abreast of the times, to meet the latest needs and objective demands for safeguarding overall national security. Given these aims, the MSAR Government highlighted the amendment to the Law on Safeguarding National Security as one of the major legislative tasks, and commenced a public consultation on 22 August 2022, which lasted 45 days.

The amendment by the MSAR Government was introduced in line with the “Four Principles”, “Five Directions” and “Six Highlights”. The purpose of extensive public consultation was to ensure that the amended Law on Safeguarding National Security could take into account the need for national security crime prevention and protection of human rights, rectifying the problems and inadequacies of the existing law, to achieve parity in levels of safeguards afforded by the related laws of the country and the HKSAR, and enable the MSAR to implement the security law so it meets national standards, thereby upgrading Macao’s ability to coordinate and administer affairs related to the safeguarding of national security – effectively safeguarding the sovereignty, security and development interests of the country, as well as maintaining Macao’s prosperity and stability.

To widely gather opinions, the MSAR Government held a host of consultation sessions during the public consultation period, for Macao residents and sectors including political and legal, economy and finance, social and cultural, administration and judicial, and transport and public works. Relevant Government officials also exchanged views with the public on the consultation about the amendment to the law, through holding press conferences and presentations as well as taking part in radio and TV programmes. During the consultation period, the MSAR Government compiled a total of 111,049 views from 5,937 opinions and suggestions collected. According to the report with analyses and conclusions released on 7 November, 93.37% of the respondents agreed to the amendment, while 0.40% disagreed, indicating that the amendment was generally supported by the community.

After thoroughly studying and considering public opinions and suggestions collected during the consultation period, the MSAR Government introduced the Amendment to Law No. 22/2009 – Law on Safeguarding National Security to the Legislative Assembly on 2 December. The bill stipulates that “state secrets” would be regulated by special laws. To complement the legal amendment, the Government drafted the Law on Guarding State Secrets and submitted it to the Legislative Assembly for deliberation on 30 December, to ensure adequate and strict protection of state secrets.

Continuously Perfecting the System for Safeguarding National Security

The National Security Adviser and National Security Technical Advisers, all of whom were commissioned by the Committee for Safeguarding National Security, officially assumed their duties on 21 March 2022. The State Council appointed Fu Ziying, the Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the Macao Special Administrative Region, as the National Security Adviser, and Zheng Xincong, the Deputy Director of the Liaison Office, and Yin Shuhua, the minister of the Liaison Office, as National Security Technical Advisers.

At the first plenary meeting of 2022, held by the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the Macao Special Administrative Region, Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng said that in the face of a security environment that had become more serious and complicated overall since the end of 2021, in future the committee should follow the spirit of the central authorities and the important instructions as conveyed in the keynote speech by President Xi Jinping on 1 July 2021, and earlier speeches by other Central Government leaders and by the National Security Adviser. Taking the inauguration of the National Security Adviser and National Security Technical Advisers as a new starting point, the committee would make concerted efforts to consider the overall security issues of the country and Macao from a higher perspective and with a broader mindset and vision; deploy work in a more forward-looking and thorough manner; stringently conduct assessments; and promptly identify emerging security risks and efficiently resolve them; continue its work on security and development, and the coordination of conventional and non-conventional security work on the basis of the previously well-established foundation; and overcome the shortcomings and inadequacies in different areas of security, so that there are constant improvements and enhancements to the system for safeguarding national security, thereby enabling Macao to more effectively resist various security risks and threats against the country and the MSAR, maintain the stability of the country and Macao society, and strive for a more favourable security environment for economic recovery.

As cyber security is an important component of national security, the MSAR Government has actively aligned with the country's digital transformation, formulated a top-down policy on cyber security, and expedited improvements to the standard of cyber security construction in Macao. The Legal System for Interception and Protection of Communications came into effect on 1 August, to adapt to the development of information technology, better ensure public safety and provide better safeguards for the fundamental rights of Macao residents.

Strengthening a Sense of Recognition and Caring for the Motherland

The MSAR Government continued developing education on patriotism and national identity. The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China was held from 16 October to 22 October in Beijing, and the MSAR Government proactively led all sectors of society to seriously learn and comprehend the essence of the 20th National Congress. On 1 December, the MSAR Government invited members of the publicity delegation of the Central Government to hold two seminars to promote the spirit of the 20th National Congress of the CPC in Macao. These attracted almost a thousand participants from various sectors, including principal Government officials, members of the Executive Council, the Legislative Assembly and the judiciary, Macao deputies to the National People's Congress and members of the National Committee of CPPCC, officials from various MSAR Government bureaus, and representatives from the business, professional, educational, media and youth sectors.

On 15 April 2022, the educational exhibition on national security opened, featuring texts, photos and videos to highlight that – led by the holistic approach to national security – the country has been able to coordinate development and security, calmly cope with profound changes and a pandemic unseen in a century, and make a series of great achievements in national security in the new era. The exhibition also featured the measures adopted by and achievements of the MSAR Government in safeguarding national security and promoting “One Country, Two Systems” in a steady manner.

The exhibition received an overwhelming response from all sectors of the community since its opening. The rich exhibition content attracted participation from the general public, as well as from community organisations, youth associations, schools, public departments and public and private institutions. By the closing of the exhibition on 15 May, over 58,000 visitors had attended the exhibition, reaching a new record high, and the related website had recorded over 380,000 page views, demonstrating the solid foundation of patriotism in Macao.

Government departments, schools and community groups have been proactively promoting a variety of activities to raise awareness of national security among Macao residents, especially young people, and strengthen their sense of identifying with and belonging to the motherland and Macao.

Diligent Fulfilment of Legislative Function; Supervision of the Budget and Public Finances



During the first session of the seventh Legislative Assembly (from 16 October, 2021 to 15 October, 2022), a total of 41 plenary meetings and 176 committee meetings were held, with 19 laws, one resolution and 14 simple-majority resolutions passed during the plenary meetings.

Legislative function:

In line with the administrative principles of e-governance and environmental protection, Law No. 19/2021 on amending Law No. 16/96/M – Vehicle Licence Tax, dated 12 August was passed, realising paperless tax logos and e-monitoring of vehicle licence tax payments. Law No. 20/2021 on amending Law No. 3/1999 – Publication and Format of Laws and Regulations was passed, changing the official means of publication of Macao SAR Gazette from printing to digital. Law No. 5/2022 – Submission of Legal Procedure Documents and Electronic Payment of Procedural Costs was passed, marking the dawn of digitisation of legal proceedings. Law No. 6/2022 – Electronic Display of Documents Necessary for Driving Vehicles was passed, providing more convenient