

Regarding the development of reclaimed water reuse, the Government has formulated technical regulations for reclaimed water distribution in the public water supply and residential buildings, and related reclaimed water quality standards. The Government also expedited the application for water use for the eco-island, in accordance with comments from related ministries of the Central People's Government regarding the phased implementation of the ecological island project.

To foster the development of a liveable city, the Government has continued developing open space for the public. In 2023, the Government optimised the open space and children's playgrounds in the Northern District; and in the third quarter of the year commenced the design of enhancements of leisure areas at Istmo de Ferreira do Amaral, Rua Central De Toi San, Rua da Missao de Fatima and Rua de Lei Pou Chon.

In addition, work has begun on planning the construction of a sports park at the original site of Macao (Yat Yuen) Canidrome Club. The sports park will comprise three main buildings together with a standard athletics field, seating areas and various small urban plazas, creating a quality venue for recreation, family, and sports activities in the densely populated North District.

Legislation Covering National Security and Livelihoods in Response to Development Needs



During the second session of the seventh Legislative Assembly (from 16 October 2022 to 15 October 2023), 34 plenary meetings and 171 committee meetings were held, with 22 laws, one resolution, and three simple-majority resolutions passed during the plenary meetings.

Fulfilling legislative functions

Regarding safeguarding national security, the Legislative Assembly passed Law No. 8/2023 on

amending Law No. 2/2009 - Law on Safeguarding National Security, to comprehensively prevent and penalise offences against national security.

Regarding public administration, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 1/2023 on amending the Macao Public Servants Statutes and Regulations and related regulations, to establish a personnel transfer mechanism in accordance with practical needs;
- Law No. 3/2023 - Archives Law, to clearly define the scope of public and private archives, and improve the supervision mechanism and regulations for storage and use of archives;
- Law No. 11/2023 on amending Law No. 8/2002 - Macao Special Administrative Region Resident Identity Card System, to provide convenience and enhance administrative efficiency by using electronic identification while ensuring the security of residents' identity information; and
- Law No. 16/2023 - Legal System for Corporations with Public Capital, to regulate the establishment, transfer, management and operation of, and investment in, corporations with public capital, while establishing related principles and regulatory modes.

Regarding monetary, finance, tourism and entertainment, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 15/2022 - Trust Law, establishing the general system and basic principles for regulating trust relationships on the basis of Macao's legal system, to facilitate the development of the modern financial services industry;
- Law No. 10/2023 - Macao Currency Issuance System, addressing the needs of modern financial services development, to establish digital currency as a legal tender, simplify administrative procedures for currency issuance, define exceptions to mandatory acceptance of cash, and lower the upper limit for accepting coins;
- Law No. 13/2023 - Macao Financial System Act, to enable scope for exploring various types of financial institution licences, enhance the flexibility of banking licences, simplify procedures for public issuance of bonds, establish a temporary licensing system for financial technology projects, and align with international standards to enhance regulatory requirements and combat illegal financial activities; and
- Law No. 16/2022 - Gaming Business Operations Framework, to set business norms for gaming operators, establish a comprehensive mechanism for review gaming operator qualifications, and define the obligations and responsibilities of regulated entities.

Regarding urban development and social welfare, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 18/2022 - Legal System Governing Urban Renewal, to protect private property rights and respect the will of property owners by stipulating procedures for initiating the reconstruction of old buildings and the minimum percentage of ownership rights for mandatory participation in reconstruction, and establishing necessary arbitration systems to resolve related disputes;
- Law No. 17/2023 - Legal System of Housing for the Sandwich Class, providing a new pathway for property ownership between Home-Ownership Scheme housing and private housing, to address the housing needs of residents with different income levels;

- Law No. 5/2023 - Public Parking Services System, to enhance the operation, management, utilisation and supervision of, and system of penalties regarding, public parking services;
- Law No. 9/2023 - Arbitration System for Disputes over Water Leakage in Buildings, to introduce a new mechanism for assisting residents with resolving long-standing water leakage issues.

Regarding education and talent systems, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 17/2022 - Law on the Activities of Private Complementary Pedagogical Support Centres for Non-higher Education, to improve the licensing and supervision system, particularly regulating the business premises and facility criteria, operating rules, practitioner qualifications and system of penalties;
- Law No. 12/2023 - Specific Provisions on Remuneration for Staff Tasked with Specific Duties of the Education and Youth Development Bureau, to rationalise and clarify the remuneration and working hour system for principals, vice principals and officers-in-charge of non-tertiary education public schools, education activity centres and youth centres operating within the scope of Education and Youth Development Bureau; and
- Law No. 7/2023 - Legal System for Importing Talented People, to stipulate definitions of high-end, outstanding talented people, and senior professionals, and establish their required qualifications and approval mechanisms.

Regarding healthcare and animal welfare, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 15/2023 - Legal System for the Islands District Medical Complex – Macao Medical Centre of Peking Union Medical College Hospital, to define the positioning, objectives and operational management model of the medical centre; grant administrative, financial and property autonomy to align with future healthcare policies and the overall direction of developing medical tourism;
- Law No. 14/2023 - Medically Assisted Reproduction Technology, to address society's demand for medically assisted reproduction technology, regulate and supervise the situations in which the technology can be used, beneficiaries, management of reproduction units, and handling of related personal data; and
- Law No. 4/2023 - Law on Veterinary Clinical Care and Commercial Use of Animals, establishing the regime for professional accreditation of veterinary surgeons, and the regime for licensing and supervising establishments for clinical veterinary care, breeding, sale or boarding of animals, to reinforce animal health protection and enhance the industry's service quality.

Lastly, regarding the protection of workers and minors, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 2/2023 - Law on Occupational Safety and Health in the Construction Sector, defining the obligations of all stakeholders, outlining the key components of occupational safety and technical standards regarding health, regulating the establishment and operation of an admission system for safety management personnel, and enhancing the supervision system, to reinforce occupational safety and health protection for workers; and
- Law No. 6/2023 - Law on Prevention and Control of Alcohol Consumption by Minors, imposing restrictions on the sale, provision and consumption of alcoholic beverages, and

monitoring of minors who come into contact with alcoholic beverages, to foster a secure and wholesome environment for development of minors.

All the above 21 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. 19/2022 on the 2023 Government Budget, deliberating the Government's Reports on Budget Implementation for 2021 and the Commissioner of Audit's Report 2021, and listening to and discussing the 2023 Policy Address delivered by the Chief Executive.

Moreover, to enhance interactions between the administrative and legislative functions, the Chief Executive's question and answer sessions were held in April and August. The first session entailed questions to the Chief Executive regarding public administration and issues of general public concern – including administration reform, promotion of employment, tourism development, cultural promotion, optimisation of the transportation system, development of the Guangdong-Macao Intensive Cooperation Zone, and the ageing population. The second session focused on appropriate economic diversification, development of the Sino-Portuguese platform, land planning, smart transportation, telemedicine, education policies, culture and sports, public housing, welfare measures and cross-departmental collaboration. Hence, the Legislative Assembly continued demonstrating its functions of communicating public demands and resolving issues concerning people's livelihoods.

To better fulfil its duty of listening to and gathering legislators' opinions, the Government held a briefing for legislators on the detailed planning of Eastern District-2 and LRT East Line, a report on the simulation-based feasibility study of sluices in the Inner Harbour and progress with disaster prevention and reduction, as well as the proposed, revised plan for the Hac Sa Youth Activity Experimental Camp. To enhance mutual interactions and understanding between the administrative and legislative functions, the Government held a special consultation meeting for legislators on amending the Chief Executive Election Law and the Legislative Assembly Election Law, and formulating the Plan for Development of Appropriate Economic Diversification of the Macao Special Administrative Region (2024-2028). Lastly, during the legislative session, legislators visited by invitation the Islands District Medical Complex – Macao Medical Centre of Peking Union Medical College Hospital, to share views on its future operation.

During the legislative session, legislators gave 376 pre-agenda speeches, covering the spirit of the 20th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party (CPC), safeguarding national security, pandemic prevention and control, consolidation of Macao's image as a tourism city, cultivation of the four nascent industries, promotion of financial innovation, employment protection, social welfare improvement, urban renewal and housing policy. Moreover, legislators submitted 807 written questions and 81 oral questions to the Government, and the Legislative Assembly held eight plenary meetings covering these enquiries.

Lastly, 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 actively followed up regarding administrative issues, and prepared seven reports, on the following topics:

1. Follow up regarding the tender process for public works and the interim report on implementation of the 2022 Government Budget;
2. Implementation of the 2Q22 Investment Plan Budget;
3. Implementation of the 3Q22 Investment Plan Budget;
4. Implementation of the 4Q22 Investment Plan Budget;
5. Implementation of the 1Q23 Investment Plan Budget;
6. Progress with construction of the new prison, and the construction expenses; and
7. Report on promoting new energy vehicles and improvement of the cross-border traffic situation.

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 received members of the public in-person through a duty roster system seven person-times. The Legislative Assembly also received 226 submissions and recommendations via in-person visits, telephone calls and emails. The Legislative Assembly received one petition from an association, and handled it appropriately.

Expediting Anti-corruption Progress and Enhancing Quality and Efficiency through Effective Auditing

