

Quality Deliberation in the Legislative Assembly with Comprehensive and In-Depth Oversight



During the fourth session of the seventh-term Legislative Assembly (from 16 October 2024 to 15 October 2025), 28 plenary meetings and 100 committee meetings were held, with 22 laws, two resolutions and four simple-majority resolutions passed during the plenary meetings.

Fulfilment of Legislative Functions:

Regarding public administration reform, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 18/2024 on the Electronic Property, Commercial, and Notary Registration, to digitalise the processes for property acquisition, mortgage registration and cancellation, company incorporation registration, and notarisation, thereby enhancing data connectivity between departments and advancing the development of e-governance;
- Law No. 10/2025 - Public Procurement Law, to strengthen the supervision of public procurement procedures; and
- Law No. 26/2024 on the Adaptation and Integration of Certain Laws and Decree-Laws Published from 1976 to 1993 and Law No. 27/2024 on the Adaptation and Integration of Certain Laws and Decree-Laws Published from 1994 to 1999, to continue reviewing and consolidating previous legislation.

Furthermore, to further implement the principle of “patriots governing Macao”, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 8/2025 on Amendments to the Macao Public Servants Statutes and Regulations and related regulations; and

- Law No. 9/2025 on Amendments to Law No. 15/2009 - Basic Regulations on General Rules for Department Heads and Supervisors.

These laws serve to refine the oath-taking and disciplinary systems for relevant personnel and strengthen the monitoring of sick leave, while also optimising the mechanisms regarding the appointment, management, and accountability of department heads and supervisors.

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

- Law No. 3/2025 - Mediation System for Family Cases, to introduce a mandatory pre-litigation mediation system for specific family cases, seeking to resolve disputes involving family relationships in a non-confrontational manner before legal proceedings commence;
- Law No. 19/2024 on Amendments to the Eviction Proceedings System of the Civil Procedural Code, to promote the healthy and orderly development of the rental market by simplifying the related litigation and enforcement procedures, thereby reducing time and costs of legal proceedings; and
- Law No. 22/2024 - Hawker Management System, to implement unified management for all hawkers across Macao, including by introducing a licensing mechanism and optimising the management model.

Regarding combating crime, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 20/2024 - Law to Combat Illegal Gaming Crimes, to explicitly bring “side-betting” under the scope of illegal gambling operations and prohibit other illicit activities such as illegal mutual betting and illegal online gambling, thereby further promoting the healthy and sustainable development of the casino gaming industry; and
- Law No. 2/2025 on Amendments to Law No. 17/2009 prohibiting the illegal production, trafficking, and consumption of narcotics and psychoactive drugs, to add 24 substances to the list of controlled substances through an urgent procedure, thus aligning Macao’s regulations with international standards and regulations of neighbouring regions, and fulfilling the MSAR’s obligations under international conventions.

Regarding the management of radio communications, the Legislative Assembly passed Law No. 21/2024 - Legal System for Radiocommunications, to relax regulatory measures, expand the scope of radio communication equipment that is exempt from approval, and simplify administrative procedures for radio communication services.

Regarding safeguarding labour rights and promoting the integrated development of Hengqin and Macao, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 23/2024 on Amendments to Law No. 7/2008 - Labour Relations Law, to raise the maximum monthly basic remuneration used for calculating severance pay to 21,500 patacas; and
- Law No. 1/2025 on Amendments to Law No. 3/2012 - Framework Law for Private School Teaching Staff of Non-tertiary Education and Law No. 15/2020 - General Regulations for Private Schools of Non-tertiary Education, to establish the requirements and procedures

for Macao education entities to open affiliated schools in the Guangdong-Macao In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, and to ensure that Macao teachers and students in these schools enjoy the same welfare benefits as those applicable under the Macao education system without conflicting with related Chinese mainland regulations.

Regarding promoting appropriate economic diversification, the Legislative Assembly passed:

- Law No. 5/2025 - Law on the Business of Travel Agencies and the Professionalism of Tourist Guides, to regulate the licensing, business, and operation of travel agencies, as well as the professional requirements and code of conduct for tourist guides; and specify the management of outbound and inbound tour operators and combat the malpractice of “zero-fare tours”, in order to safeguard the rights of tourists and uphold Macao’s position as a World Centre of Tourism and Leisure;
- Law No. 4/2025 - Civil Aviation Activity Law, to establish the access regime for commercial air passenger transport services;
- Law No. 12/2025 - Supervisory and Administrative System for Medical Devices, to implement full life-cycle supervision of medical devices, in order to ensure their quality, efficacy, and safety;
- Law No. 11/2025 - Investment Funds Law, to enhance compatibility and alignment with internationally accepted systems and strengthen investor protection, while also increasing market openness; and
- Law No. 24/2024 on approving the Tax Code, to comprehensively regulate the overall system regarding the legal order and legal relationships involving taxation, and related tax procedures, in order to further modernise the tax system.

All 19 of the above laws were proposed by the Government.

It should also be noted that the bill for the Road Traffic Law, which the Government submitted to the Legislative Assembly in December 2023, attracted considerable public attention due to its wide-ranging implications. With the Legislative Assembly election approaching, and following discussions with the Government, a consensus was reached that the bill was not ready to be put to a vote in a plenary meeting. The Government may reintroduce the bill at a more appropriate time in future.

Fulfilment of Supervisory Functions

The Legislative Assembly supervised the government budget and public finances by exercising the powers enshrined in the Basic Law, including:

- Passing Law No. 25/2024 on the 2025 Government Budget and Law No. 6/2025 on Amendments to the 2025 Government Budget;
- Deliberating the Government’s Reports on Budget Implementation for 2023 and the Commissioner of Audit’s Report 2023;

- Hearing the summary of work for 2024 and the budget arrangements for 2025 delivered by the fifth-term Chief Executive; and
- Hearing and debating the 2026 Policy Address delivered by the sixth-term Chief Executive.

To enhance communications and interactions between the executive and legislative systems, following the delivery of the Policy Address by the sixth-term Chief Executive in April, the Legislative Assembly held its customary question and answer session. During this session, members questioned the Chief Executive on matters of governance and widespread public concern, such as labour and employment protection, industrial diversification, land reserve planning, investment in educational resources, improving the business environment, air transport policy, promoting urban renewal, the legal harmonisation of Macao and Hengqin, and policies regarding care for the elderly and children.

During the legislative session, legislators delivered 257 pre-agenda speeches in plenary meetings, covering matters such as safeguarding national security; strengthening patriotic education; accelerating appropriate economic diversification; enhancing the level of integrated development between Hengqin and Macao; deepening the reform of the legal system; establishing and improving the government investment mechanism; promoting the integrated development of culture and tourism; boosting scientific and technological innovation capabilities; revitalising the community economy; making good use of land and maritime resources; optimising housing policy; and promoting the development of women and children. In addition, legislators raised a total of 774 written questions and 81 oral questions, and called for eight plenary meetings regarding the oral questions.

Lastly, the Committee for Following-up Regarding Land and Public Concession Affairs, the Committee for Following-up Regarding Public Finance Affairs and the Committee for Following-up Regarding Public Administration Affairs strived to make progress with important issues regarding public administration and the applicability of related laws, and compiled six reports on the following issues:

- Follow-up regarding the temporary use of land;
- Follow-up regarding the Government's Reports on Investment Planning and Budget Implementation for the First Quarter of 2025;
- Follow-up regarding the Government's Reports on Investment Planning and Budget Implementation for the Fourth Quarter of 2024;
- Follow-up regarding the Government's Reports on Investment Planning and Budget Implementation for the Third Quarter of 2024;
- Follow-up regarding the Government's Interim Reports on Budget Implementation for 2024 and the Government's Reports on Investment Planning and Budget Implementation for the Second Quarter of 2024; and
- Follow-up regarding matters concerning the employment, training, and development opportunities for local employees, and the current policy on non-resident workers.

Improving Internal Operational Rules

During this legislative session, to align with the amendments to the Law on Safeguarding National Security, the Legislative Assembly Election Law, and the Law on Oath-taking upon Assumption of Office, Law No. 7/2025 - Amendments to Law No. 3/2000 on Statutes of the Legislative Assembly and its Members was proposed by nine members and passed unanimously through an urgent procedure. This law enhances and refines the provisions concerning members' rights and obligations, oath-taking, suspension of duties, disqualification, and the reporting of absences, thereby demonstrating the firm resolve of all members of the Legislative Assembly to hold themselves to a higher standard and fully implement the principle of "patriots governing Macao".

To complement the above amendments to various laws concerning Legislative Assembly Members, the Committee on Rules and Statutes also proposed a resolution during the same session to amend the Rules of Procedure of the Legislative Assembly, namely Resolution No. 2/2025 - Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Legislative Assembly.

Maintaining Close Contact with the Public and Developing e-Governance

Other responsibilities of the Legislative Assembly include listening to and fully reflecting different views, suggestions and criticisms from the public, and making prompt responses regarding public aspirations. During the session, 25 residents were personally received by legislators. The Legislative Assembly also received 109 opinions and suggestions from the public through visits, phone and email. Moreover, the Legislative Assembly received one petition from a group, and handled it appropriately.

The Legislative Assembly Open Day was again held during this legislative session, and received a total of 2,649 visitors, including 1,043 teachers and students from 17 schools and representatives from 16 associations. Throughout the day, 25 members took turns to receive the public. Through the open day, the public gained a detailed understanding of the functions, structure, and basic operations of the MSAR's legislature, particularly the daily process of deliberating and voting on bills.

Finally, in addition to the ongoing development and application of e-governance, the Legislative Assembly further expanded its use of the new functions launched by the Government Affairs Platform, and implemented the "Smart Finance" system and the "Cantonese Intelligent Conference Minutes Software System", leveraging digital empowerment to enhance the modern management of public finances, while also utilising artificial intelligence to compile conference minutes.

Commission Against Corruption Nurtures Clean Governance Environment while Commission of Audit Ensures Proper Allocation of Resources

In 2025, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) made it a key priority to ensure that the eighth Legislative Assembly election was conducted in accordance with the law, with integrity, fairness and impartiality. The CCAC diligently carried out election monitoring, as well as publicity and education work; sought to combat vote buying and curb all forms of irregularities; promoted