

Speakers and Abstracts



Hon. Bernard CHAN, GBS, JP

Convenor, Non-official Members of the Executive Council, HKSAR Government

Bernard Charnwut Chan is a deputy to the National People's Congress of China, a non-official member of Hong Kong's Executive Council (2004-09 and from 2012) and (from 2017) the Convenor of the Non-Official Members of the Executive Council. He is also a former member of Hong Kong's Legislative Council (1998-2008).

A graduate of Pomona College in California, he is the President of Asia Financial Holdings and Asia Insurance. He is Chairman of the Hong Kong – Thailand Business Council and an advisor to Bangkok Bank (China) Co. Ltd. He sits on the boards of several local and overseas companies in the financial services and manufacturing sectors. He also joined the governing board of the Alibaba Entrepreneurs Fund in Hong Kong.

Among his public service activities, he is Chairman of the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food, Chairman of the Steering Committee on Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme, Chairman of The Jockey Club CPS Ltd. Advisory Committee, Chairperson of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service and a Board Member of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority. Past positions include Chairman of the Council for Sustainable Development, Chairman of the Antiquities Advisory Board, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Revitalisation of Historic Buildings, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Judicial Salaries and Condition of Service as well as Council Chair of Lingnan University.

He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 2002, and a Commander (3rd Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand in 2004. In 2006, he was awarded the Gold Bauhinia Star by the Hong Kong SAR Government. He has been conferred honorary degrees from Lingnan University, City University of Hong Kong and the Open University of Hong Kong.

Innovative Governance for Ageing

The Hong Kong government is committed to tackling the long-term challenges of an ageing population. In her first policy address last year, chief executive Carrie Lam specifically mentioned the need to explore new options in care delivery and home and community care services.

The government is also determined to play a leading role in encouraging new ideas to enable active ageing in terms of lifelong learning and volunteerism, innovation and technology, building design and urban planning.