

## **Concluding Remark**

Thank you Professor Lee. Now, I would like to give a brief concluding remark for today's Forum.

1. First of all, thank you for all of you, including members from Legislative Council and District Councils, professional bodies, trade associations and representatives from residents, to participate in this Forum and to provide us with your valuable views and give us this opportunity to brief you on the latest development of the project.
2. For the questions/ views collected at the Public Forum on 19 July 2008, we have just provided the response and explanation to the major concerns, including the construction method and reprovisioning arrangement for the typhoon shelter.
3. The proposed reprovisioning options for the vessels affected by the construction works in Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter (CBTS) have gone through an extensive public engagement exercise. In the light of the Protection of Harbour Ordinance, the public generally accept Option 6, which could minimize the impact to the livelihood and the loss of business of the CBTS users. We will maintain continual dialogue with the CBTS users with a view to refining the reprovisioning arrangements to meet their needs.
4. Since Option 6 does not require the construction of temporary typhoon shelter, the temporary reclamation required for the construction of proposed temporary breakwater as shown in the scheme of Central - Wan Chai Bypass project gazetted on 27 July 2007 will no longer be required and can be deleted.
5. Arising from the Court of First Instance's judgment of March this year and as a matter of prudence, we have reviewed the feasible options for the Trunk Road, taking into account both the permanent and temporary reclamation requirements of the options. After considering all the relevant social, environmental and economic factors, we have come to the conclusion that the Flyover Option is not a reasonable alternative to the Tunnel Option. In other words, we maintain that the Tunnel Option is still the way forward.

6. At present, the serious traffic congestion at northern part of Hong Kong Island has been causing serious losses to the public. The public has a very strong demand for the early completion of the Central-Wan Chai Bypass project. We shall strive to early implement the project in a legally permissible, reasonable and practicable manner.

Thank you.