

President's Forward for Annual Report 2007

2007 is an important year for the HKSAR as we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Hong Kong's return to China.

The period leading up to the handover on 1 July 1997 was rosy but very soon afterwards, the economy of Hong Kong suffered with the Asian Financial Crisis for several years and hit bottom with the outbreak of SARS in 2003 followed by the loss of confidence in the Government.

Architects are the first to be hit in any economic downturn and our members were not spared. We had to be innovative in seeking new markets to survive.

This year, we had the election of the Chief Executive of Hong Kong in March with the return of Donald Tsang as the CE of HKSAR for a second term of five years.

At the same time, the economy has improved with substantial works in China, Macau, Vietnam and the Middle East besides those of Hong Kong.

With the new Government, the Development Bureau was established much like the old Public Works Department which groups all the development departments under one roof to try to unify interpretation and speed up the development approval process. This Bureau is still young since its inception in July 2007 under the capable hands of its Secretary, Mrs Carrie Lam.

There are still many challenges ahead to streamline Hong Kong's approval process and improved planning for developments but we are hopeful that given patience and

二〇〇七年度年報 —— 會長序言

二零零七年對香港特別行政區而言是重要的一年，正因我們要慶祝香港回歸祖國十週年。

在一九九七年回歸祖國之前的期間，香港形勢一片大好，可是不久之後，香港經濟受到亞洲金融風暴衝擊，拖累了數年，再加上二零零三年爆發沙士，令經濟跌進谷底，隨之，市民對特區政府失去了信心。

建築師可說是在經濟衰退時會受到首當其衝的牽連，而我們的會員又豈能獨善其身。為求生存，我們需要不斷創新以尋找新的市場。

在今年的三月，香港舉行了行政長官選舉，曾蔭權特首再度連任，為期五年。

與此同時，經濟得到改善之下，大量工作湧現。除了香港以外，工程遍及中國、澳門、越南及中東等地區。

在新政府之下，發展局隨之而成立，其架構就類似舊有的工務局一般，將其局內所有之發展部門歸納在一屋簷下，以嘗試統一闡釋及加快發展審批的程序。這新的發展局在二零零七年七月成立，並得到局長林鄭月娥女士之英明領導。

在精簡發展項目之審批程序及改善發展項目之規劃的一環而言，前景還是充滿挑戰。但是我們滿抱著希望，只



