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Total Water Management Programme in Hong Kong

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Abstract:

Hong Kong is a vibrant city with a population of about seven million. In 2007, the fresh water consumption in Hong Kong is about 951 million cubic metres. Our fresh water supply is composed of two components. About 20% - 30% of the fresh water supply is provided by surface water collected from the water gathering grounds in Hong Kong. The remaining 70% - 80% of the fresh water supply is imported from Dongjiang in Guangdong.

In the 2003 Policy Address, the Government pledged the implementation of a Total Water Management (TWM) programme to better utilise and manage different water resources in an integrated, multi-sectoral and sustainable manner. It is to better prepare Hong Kong for uncertainties and crisis situations that may affect the water resources situation in Hong Kong such as acute climate changes, and to enhance Hong Kong's role as a good partner with other municipalities in the Pearl River Delta in promoting sustainable use of water in the region where there has been rapid growth in water demand.

The current TWM programme comprises the key components of water reclamation, new water resources, water conservation, and water resource protection and management. While the Government is taking various measures to implement the TWM programme, the Government is also undertaking a study to formulate a long-term TWM strategy. The speaker will talk on the current TWM programme and the strategic study being carried out.