

FOREWORD



Similar to many countries and jurisdictions, Hong Kong is facing an increasing threat of non-communicable diseases (NCD) which will give rise to increasing mortality, morbidity and disability if not addressed promptly. The health conditions of individuals also have a bearing on families, healthcare systems, and the entire society and economy as a whole.

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is fully committed to protecting people's health. Since 2008, the Government has launched a strategic framework to prevent and control NCD and set up a high-level multidisciplinary and intersectoral steering committee (SC) under my chairmanship to oversee the overall implementation. The publication of the document, *"Towards 2025: Strategy*



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and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong”, bears the fruit of the invaluable efforts and views contributed by numerous stakeholders. It presents an overview of NCD in the global and local contexts, sets out the overarching principles, approaches and strategic directions in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations, and proposes a list of actions that Hong Kong will pursue to achieve the committed NCD targets as we move towards 2025.

The SC will closely monitor and review progress of implementation of the stated actions. Moreover, the SC will keep in view global, regional and local developments together with the latest evidence and consider implementing the appropriate strategies accordingly.

The Government is committed to fighting against NCD on all fronts and alleviating its burden. But we cannot achieve this alone. The Government will continue to foster co-operation across sectors and work in close partnership with the community and members of the public to build a health-enhancing physical and social environment and promote the health of all Hong Kong people.