

SJ leads cross-professional delegation to Uzbekistan to deepen legal co-operation (with photos)

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, led a cross-professional delegation comprising members of Hong Kong's legal and dispute resolution sectors, as well as the financial and accounting sectors, to continue their visit to Tashkent, Uzbekistan, today (August 29, Tashkent time), deepening legal co-operation between the two places.

This morning, Mr Lam met the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Mr Akbar Djurabayevich Tashkulov. Mr Lam explained how Hong Kong's advantages of being connected to the Chinese Mainland and the world, as well as its common law system, can assist Uzbek enterprises in expanding into Hong Kong, the Chinese Mainland, and international markets. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by two sides to enhance collaboration between the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Department of Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, including exchanges on legal frameworks and policies regarding dispute resolution, as well as sharing experiences in the application of AI technology in the legal sector. Mr Lam then attended a lunch hosted by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In the afternoon, Mr Lam visited the Center for Islamic Civilization to learn about local efforts in cultural preservation, academic research and education promotion.

In the morning of August 27, Mr Lam and the delegation visited the Tashkent State University of Law and met with the senior management of the university to discuss legal talent training and exchanges.

Mr Lam then attended a lunch with the Mayor of Tashkent City, Mr Umurzakov Shavkat Buranovich, to introduce Hong Kong's distinctive institutional advantages under the "one country, two systems" principle and explore opportunities for co-operation.

In the afternoon, Mr Lam and the delegation met with representatives from the Uzbek Chamber of Commerce for Chinese Entrepreneurs and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan. The Director of the Tashkent International Arbitration Centre, Ms Diana Bayzakova Hamwi, also attended the meeting. Mr Lam introduced Hong Kong's unique advantages and learned about their specific demands for legal services. They also jointly explored ways to strengthen co-operation between the two places to support enterprises in leveraging Hong Kong's professional services to expand into international markets.

Mr Lam and the delegation visited the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan to meet with Deputy Minister Mr Abidkhadjaev Umid Kutpitdinovich and the Advisor to the Minister, Mr Jasur Karshibaev yesterday (August 28). They also visited the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan to meet with Deputy Minister Mr Kasimov Ilzat Ablakhatovich. Mr Lam and

the delegation shared Hong Kong's professional experiences in areas such as investment, cross-border trade, commercial and dispute resolution under the common law system, and explored how Hong Kong could help advance the development of the Tashkent International Financial Centre.

In the afternoon, Mr Lam and the delegation visited and had a lunch with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Republic of Uzbekistan, Mr Yu Jun. They exchanged views on topics including consolidating Hong Kong's role as an international legal hub and strengthening co-operation with international legal and dispute resolution institutions. Mr Lam then met with the Chairman of the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Mr Shukhrat Shavkatovich Sadikov, to discuss ways to deepen exchanges and collaboration between legal professionals in the two places.

In the evening, Mr Lam attended a Uzbekistan Independence Day celebration activity.

Mr Lam concluded his visit today and will return to Hong Kong tomorrow (August 30).

Ends/Saturday, August 29, 2026