



澳門特別行政區政府  
Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau  
財政局  
Direcção dos Serviços de Finanças

***The benefits and changes the Belt and Road Initiative has brought to the Macao Special Administrative Region***

*It is with great pleasure for me to commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Over the past decade, we have all witnessed BRI flourish from a grand idea into a concrete reality, even amid the severe Covid-19 pandemic situation in the past three years, BRI has still proven itself as a tremendous contributor to world peace and development and human progress through joint efforts of the participating countries and regions.*

*Under BRI's open and comprehensive framework, not only large countries but small regions like Macao can also benefit from it in many aspects. BRI helps create a platform that facilitates further expansion of the international and regional tax cooperation network of Macao. Until now, a total of eight countries and regions have already signed Double Taxation Agreements with Macao, including Mainland China, Portugal, Belgium, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Vietnam, Hong Kong China, and Cambodia, many of which are Belt and Road countries and regions. Over the years, we have seen a gradual but steady increase in mutual trade and investment activities among Macao and other Belt and Road countries and regions. In the future, Macao will continue to make better use of the BRI network and strive to ink more tax agreements with other interested parties.*

*In addition, Macao has historically been an important center for Sino-Portuguese economic and cultural exchanges. And under the auspices of the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Mechanism (BRITACOM), the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Academy (BRITA) which mainly serves the tax authorities of the Portuguese-speaking countries was established in Macao in 2019. The Academy provides a platform to facilitate dialogue, strengthen cooperation and improve capacity building for tax authorities of the Portuguese-speaking countries. It has greatly enhanced the level of connectivity between Macao, Portuguese-speaking countries and other Belt and Road countries and regions.*

*BRI has already delivered successful practical results in the past, and it will continue to create new opportunities for the world and contribute strength to world peace and development and human progress in the future.*

*Director of Financial Services Bureau of Macao, China*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Long Kong Leong'.

*Long Kong Leong*