

**MTR Welcomes the Authorization of Shatin to Central Link**

The MTR Corporation welcomes the authorization of the 17-km Shatin to Central Link (SCL) by the Chief Executive-in-Council under the Railways Ordinance announced today (27 March 2012).

“The SCL will play a critically vital part in connecting all districts of Hong Kong with an integrated rail network,” said Mr Jay Walder, Chief Executive Officer of MTR Corporation. “It will provide much needed railway service to the East Kowloon District including Ho Man Tin, To Kwa Wan, Ma Tau Wai and Kai Tak, and will go a long way to facilitating these areas to rejuvenate and prosper.”

Subject to the funding approval for the project, the construction is expected to start in mid-2012. The section between Tai Wai and Hung Hom is expected to be completed first in 2018. The Hung Hom to Admiralty Section would be completed in 2020 as this section needs to interface with other infrastructure projects, including the Wan Chai Development Phase II and Central-Wan Chai Bypass. It is estimated that the SCL will create 16,000 jobs.

- End -

Photo captions:

1. There are 10 stations for the SCL, of which 6 are interchange stations connecting the existing rail lines.



2. The Hin Keng Station of the Shatin to Central Link will adopt greenery design.



3. Kai Tak Station will be situated at the new Kai Tak Development area, providing convenient railway service to the residential and commercial areas there.

