

## **Speech by Mr Francis Lui Yiu Tung, Vice Chairman of K. Wah Group**

Honourable guests, friends and colleagues, good evening!

First of all, I'd like to convey my sincere thanks to all of you for attending today's gala dinner, to witness and celebrate with us this important milestone of K. Wah Group. Although Dr Lui Che-woo expressed his thanks already, on behalf of all the members at K. Wah, I would like to thank you again for spending your valuable time to be with us tonight. In addition, I wish to also thank all our guests and friends who cannot make it tonight for sending us your congratulations and blessings, thank you!

In the past 60 years, both China and Hong Kong have experienced a lot of ups and downs. Today, China has become a strong and rich country, and society is flourished and yet stable while Hong Kong attracts elites and international companies from all over the world. But the path wasn't easy for Hong Kong; it took a lot of hard work from people of the previous generations to bring Hong Kong the international status that it deserves today. Looking into the future, we really hope that the young people of our time can always think back to the things that their predecessors have given them, look beyond our differences, and unite to create a brighter future.

K. Wah Group has also experienced a lot in the past 60 years. Hong Kong was sluggish after the war, and business was not flourishing. My father, Dr Lui Che-woo, foresaw society's need to build a lot of houses, and taking the opportunity; he converted the business from the import/export of heavy machines into construction materials, and hence, set forth the company's solid foundation in this industry. As Hong Kong began to internationalize, K. Wah expanded its business to property and hotel development, venturing out to places like Northern America, Mainland China and also South East Asia. Thirteen years ago, we expanded our business again, to Macau. Developing major integrated tourism and leisure properties, K. Wah has become a multinational conglomerate with businesses in construction materials, property market, hotel development, and the entertainment and leisure industries.

K. Wah's achievements are the results of each and every team member's hard work and dedication, their team spirit and the encouragement that they give to each other to always strive for the better. On this important occasion where we are all gathered together to celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I represent our Chairman and members of the Board to convey my most sincere thanks to all of you – thank you!

I am also honoured to receive, on behalf of my brothers and sisters and all colleagues of K. Wah, from Dr Lui Che-woo, his latest autobiography. This is not only a significant account of Dr Lui's lifelong endeavors, but also a historical record of the extraordinary years that K. Wah has gone through. In his autobiography, Dr Lui tells us that he too, experienced moments of ups and downs, and the important message that he wants to share is that he has always been able to overcome the adversities with wisdom and patience. Each time, things just turn out better, with more people supporting him as he ventured towards the zenith of his career. There is a very important person that I must talk about, that has been present throughout – my mother, Mrs Lui Chiu Kam-ping. My mother has always been there for my father; she offered stalwart support in a relationship of lasting love and care, supported my father endlessly so that he can dedicate himself to his business matters. Moreover, my mother also took care of all matters at home, and taught her five children to be who we are today, and because of this, her unceasing efforts must be mentioned.

What appeals to me most in the accounts of this autobiography is my father's philosophy to "give back to the society from which one has benefitted", and his pursuit of public interest. One of the main objectives of the recently founded "LUI Che Woo Prize – Prize for World Civilisation," a project that he considered for many years, is to encourage people to revisit and defend traditional values in the age of technology. These exceptional insights have inspired many people beyond words.

K. Wah Group is rooted in Hong Kong, backed by Mainland China and facing the entire world. I'd like to seize this opportunity to thank the Central Government and the Hong Kong SAR Government for their commitment in ensuring Hong Kong a wonderful business environment, making the city an intriguing and peaceful cosmopolitan that is fit for both living and doing business. Also, I need to thank those from the society, our friends and also all our partners, for the support and care over these years, which ensure that our business can be developed smoothly. Looking into the future, K. Wah Group will continue to strive for business growth, uphold our principle to "Building the Future with Passion", identify the needs and trends of our time with a stronger sense of mission and responsibility for the prosperity and future development of the society, and contribute to the sustainable development of our country and our home!

Lastly, my sincere gratitude also, to the members of the anniversary celebration's organizing committee and all individuals and parties for working hard to prepare this magnificent and spectacular gala event. Please enjoy the night! Thank you!