

ATTN: SHIPPING & LOGISTICS EDITORS

SEVEN LOGISTICS BODIES ISSUE JOINT APPEAL FOR GOVERNMENT URGENT RELIEF MEASURES FOR INDUSTRY

Seven logistics organizations have issued an appeal to the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong SAR Government Mrs. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor. The joint appeal outlines specific recommendations to provide immediate and urgent relief to industry operators during the current economic turmoil.

Co-signatories (in alphabetical order) are the Hong Kong Association of Aircargo Truckers (HAAT); Hong Kong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics (HAFFA); Hong Kong Logistics Association (HKLA); Hong Kong Logistics Management Staff Association (HKLMSA); Hong Kong Sea Transport and Logistics Association (HKSTLA); The Chamber of Hong Kong Logistics Industry (CHKLI); and The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK).

Together, the group represents many thousands of industry operators. With trade and logistics one of the four pillar industries of the Hong Kong economy, it is hoped the united call for immediate action in the face of the unprecedented economic situation, further exacerbated by the current coronavirus outbreak, will be favorably received and acted upon by the SAR government.

The list of measures was agreed by all seven industry associations, and are designed primarily to prevent mass unemployment in the sector and company closures and divestment, and to strengthen the city's economy:

1. A HK\$200,000 emergency cash subsidy to logistics SMEs to support their continued operation, with not less than 50% to be used on reported and paid employee salaries;
2. A government loan guarantee of up to HK\$2 million per company to support sustainable business development;
3. A one-year corporate tax reduction;
4. A six-month 50% rent subsidy, reimbursed against paid rental;
5. The establishment of a special unemployment benefit fund to support industry staff who lose their jobs due to the influence of the coronavirus outbreak;
6. An air freight terminal charge subsidy of HK\$0.5 per kg;
7. A container terminal handling fee subsidy of HK\$300 per container.

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Issued on behalf of the following organizations: Hong Kong Association of Aircargo Truckers (HAAT); Hong Kong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics (HAFFA); Hong Kong Logistics Association (HKLA); Hong Kong Logistics Management Staff Association (HKLMSA); Hong Kong Sea Transport and Logistics Association (HKSTLA); The Chamber of Hong Kong Logistics Industry (CHKLI); and The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK) by PR Plus Limited. For further information, please contact Nikki Kemp on telephone 2575-6995 or email nikki@prplus.com.hk.