

## **Dialogue with the Secretary for the Environment**

By Mr. Michael Man Ho Chan

On 16 October 2017, the Young Members Committee was privileged to invite Mr. Wong Kam Sing, GBS, JP the Secretary for the Environment of the HKSAR Government and Ir Dr Hon LO Wai Kwok, SBS, MH, JP, members of the Legislative Council (Engineering Functional Constituency), to share with our young member on environmental policy and visions of environmental issues in Hong Kong just after the recent “Chief Executive’s 2017 Policy Address”.

The distinguished guest, Mr. Wong, started off the seminar by introducing the 6 environmental pillars which were mentioned in Policy Address, namely Climate Change and Energy; Air Quality; Waste Reduction and Recycling; Nature Conservation; Water Quality of the Victoria Harbour and Countryside Revitalisation. He emphasised each of the pillars are indispensable for the environment, despite pointing out climate change and waste reduction are the hottest topics in recent years that necessitate an urgent response. In view of the foreseeable consequences, the policy focused on various approaches to minimise the effect, such as taking actions in three areas for climate change: Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience. On the other hand, municipal solid waste charging, reducing waste at source and recycling are the main approach for waste reduction.

After the presentation, Ir Dr LO facilitated the discussion forum to enable all the young engineers to put forward their opinions on the recent policy address. During the discussion, the guests also remind the participants on the role of engineers and the things that can be done to aid the current situation.

At the end of the day, no matter how superior the environmental policies are written, it still requires the ambition and effort by every one of us to abide with the set policies in order to rebuild a better living environment together.



Photo Caption: Mr. Wong Kam Sing, Ir Dr Hon LO Wai Kwok and our young members