# Full collaboration between Hong Kong and Sichuan for fostering multimodal supply chain development

## 川港物流全方位合作 推動多式聯運供應鏈發展



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四川省人民政府口岸與物流辦公室主任吳 舸提到,成都是中國第四航空城,也是全 國第3個擁有雙機場的城市,在發展陸海聯 運的物流新通道上具優勢。

Last year, Hong Kong and the Port and Logistics Administration Office of the Sichuan Provincial People's Government (The Sichuan Government) entered the framework agreement to promote logistics passage construction and improve logistics business development between Hong Kong and Sichuan. Today, not only does the Chengdu-Guangxi Port ("Ronggui Port") based sea-land main multimodal passage become more unimpeded, the collaboration between Hong Kong and Sichuan has also been extended from the cargo organisation and the flow of goods to the construction of logistics parks, storage facilities and smart logistics platforms under the enforcement of a number of policies.

The Dazhou Economic and Technological Development Zone (The Dazhou ETD Zone) in Sichuan and TLW (HK) Properties Limited entered an investment project agreement in June this year, the latter will develop an integrated commercial project, namely, Dazhou TLW Plaza at the Dazhou ETD Zone. The total investment is RMB 19 billion. In July this year, Sunwah Group (Hong Kong) also invested RMB 5.1 billion in constructing the Sunwah International Financial Centre and the ASEAN International Logistics Base in the Chengdu - Europe International Railway ("Rongou+" Railway) in Neijiang, Sichuan.

#### **Develop all-cargo airlines**

Wu Ge, Director, the Port and Logistics Administration Office of the Sichuan Provincial People's Government mentions that Chengdu is China's fourth largest aviation city and the nation's third city having two airports, which is favourable to the development of a new sea-land intermodal logistics passage. Furthermore, the Chengdu Tianfu International Airport is under construction. It is expected that the airline routes of Sichuan will be more unobstructed and convenient after the completion. However, he adds that the entire province lacks professional air cargo carriers for developing all-cargo airline business. In light of this, Sichuan Airlines Logistics Co., Ltd. was driven to establish a professional air cargo carrier for developing international logistics business, so as to make up the shortfall in all-cargo airlines.

After the agreement is signed, Wu points out that, transferred by the sea-rail intermodal train of the Chengdu - Europe International Railway ("Rongou+" Railway) to Qinzhou, Guangxi; the cargoes being conveyed between Chengdu and Hong Kong can be transported eastward to Korea, Japan and Singapore; or westward to various European countries directly through Alashankou, Xinjiang. The trains from Qinzhou to Hong Kong are even available every day.

#### Promote the "air-rail-road-water" multimodal transport system

When talking about the progress of establishing the multimodal logistics system in Sichuan, Wu points out that the road-rail, road-water and air-road intermodal transport facilities at the major cities' prime logistics spots in Sichuan have all been set up. On the other hand, the construction of rail-water and air-rail intermodal transport facilities has been speeded up to establish a three-dimensional integrated air-rail and road-water transport system. Concerning the rail-water intermodal transport, the Chengdu International Rail System has set up an intermodal passage with the Lozhou Port in Sichuan; and other intermodal passages with the Tianjin Port, Shanghai Port, Ningbo Port, Shenzhen Port and Qinzhou Port outside the province. Regarding the air-rail intermodal transport, the high-speed rail and high-speed freight transport will have seamless connections with the Chengdu Tianfu International Airport, which is under construction currently. After completion, it will become the nation's first airport with two railway stations.

On the other hand, the international rail system in Sichuan has been in full operation since 2013. Though it provides intermodal transport services for 26 cities outside the territory, 14 cities in Mainland China, and becomes a new bridge spanning across Eurasia, Wu mentions that there are still shortfalls in two aspects. "The first one is that the international logistics passage is not quite unimpeded, for example, the sea-rail intermodal transport system seamless connections is not realised at certain points. The second one is that there are some discrepancies between the international

and mainland railway standards. As a result, some stations require track-replacement, which involves more time and higher economic cost in practice." In light of this, Sichuan will strengthen the interface with relevant countries and regions; neighbouring provinces, regions and cities, in the hope of maintaining more unobstructed intermodal passages collaboratively.

The Sichuan Government intends to facilitate the construction of the "air-rail-road-water" multimodal transport system in a bid to foster the joint development of airports, rail ports, highway ports and the surrounding water ports, and connect global hub cities, so that Sichuan can be developed into a dynamic open economy. Wu points out that the Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport offers 122 international and regional flights, including 14 South Asian and Southeast Asian flights and 13 European flights. The sea-rail intermodal transport system connects various countries and regions, including Poland, Germany, the Netherlands, Kazakhstan, Vietnam, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Macau, among others

He adds that the scope of collaboration between Hong Kong and Sichuan has been expanded. The regions where Hong Kong enterprises can invest have been extended from Chengdu to several cities and prefectures, including Neijiang, Guangan, Dazhou, among others. Besides, Zigong, Lozhou, Yibin and Liangshan have taken a proactive approach to foster joint venture cooperation with Hong Kong.

#### Foster the regional logistics economic development

Concerning the future development, Wu believes that international cargo airlines and freight forwarders are encouraged to operate air cargo services in Sichuan, and joint efforts to build and utilise the China-Europe Express (Chengdu), and the "Rongou+" Railway ASEAN Rail-Sea (Rail) Intermodal Trains. Moreover, they are also encouraged to establish joint venture enterprises focusing on the development of logistics passage operational platforms together. Hong Kong companies are also encouraged to build logistics bases, logistic parks, integrated free trade zones and tariff-free logistic centres in Sichuan, and participate in the logistics economic development with different positionings and features based on the regional attributes of "one trunk, multiple branches".

He also asserts that the People's Government of Sichuan Province supports Hong Kong leading enterprises to establish multimodal logistics industrial development alliances with the Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport, Chengdu Tianfu International Airport, Luzhou Port, Yibin Port and Chengdu International Rail Port through diverse approaches, such as joint ventures, partnerships and associates. Hong Kong leading logistics enterprises, shipping companies and airlines are also encouraged to establish regional headquarters, operation centres, distribution centres and transit centres in Sichuan.

Wu emphasises that the People's Government of Sichuan Province is looking forward to developing advanced multimodal approaches with Hong Kong enterprises, such as the air-rail and sea-rail intermodal transport systems. The collaboration covers the active promotion of the multimodal transport "one-stop solution"

and the pilot logistics passage "one-stop channel", so as to develop supply chain financial innovations based on the multimodal transport.

Recently, smart logistics solutions have become a global hit. According to Wu, the People's Government of Sichuan Province is actively strengthening the establishment of smart logistics system frameworks with Hong Kong enterprises, aspiring to promote the research and development of smart logistics systems, and having collaborations in diverse aspects, such as the cross-border e-commerce, big data and the Internet of Things to establish air-rail-sea intermodal resources together.

On 19 and 20 November, Wu will attend the Asian Logistics and Maritime Conference (ALMC) held in Hong Kong. He hopes to have a better understanding of the future development trends of the global logistics industry and explore more international logistics collaboration opportunities between the mainland and Hong Kong through this conference. He also has plans to organise a delegation to invite overseas enterprises to study the investment policies in Sichuan.

香港與四川省人民政府口岸與物流辦公室簽訂《深化物流通道建設框架協議》(下稱「協議」)一年後,以「蓉桂港」為主要路線的陸海聯運通道更見暢通,在多項政策推動下,川港合作方式亦由貨物組織、商品流動等,擴展到建設物流園區、倉儲設施及智慧物流平台等方面。

今年6月,四川達州經開區與香港銅鑼灣集團簽訂專案投資協議,後者將在達州經開區發展綜合商業項目達州銅鑼灣廣場,總投資額190億元人民幣。此外,香港新華集團今年7月投資約51億元人民幣在四川內江興建新華國際金融中心及蓉歐+東盟國際物流基地。

#### 發展全貨機航空

四川省人民政府口岸與物流辦公室主任吳舸提到,成都是中國第四航空城,也是全國第3個擁有雙機場的城市,在發展陸海聯運的物流新通道上具優勢。四川現正興建天府國際機場,預計建成後,當地的空中通道將更加暢通及便捷。他表示,全省缺少專業貨運航空公司開展全貨機航空業務,遂推動四川川航物流有限公司成立專業貨運航空公司,以發展國際物流業務,彌補全貨機航空的缺口。





在「協議」簽訂後,吳舸指出,往返成都與香港之間的貨物,通過「蓉歐+」鐵海聯運班列經轉廣西欽州港,向東可到韓國、日本及新加坡等,向西經新疆阿拉山可直達歐洲各國,而從欽州到香港更是「天天有班列」。

#### 推動「空鐵公水」多式聯運

論及四川建構多式聯運物流進展時,吳舸表示,四川省主要城市重要物流點的公鐵、公水及空公聯運已全部實現,並正加快推動鐵水、空鐵聯運建設,以確立空鐵公水立體綜合交通體系。鐵水聯運方面,成都國際班列在省內已與瀘州港實現聯運,省外則已與天津港、上海港、寧波港、深圳港及欽州港等實現聯運。空鐵聯運方面,該省建設中的天府國際機場已規劃高鐵和高鐵貨運與機場無縫銜接,建成後將成為全國第一個「雙鐵」進站的機場。

另一方面,四川自2013年開通國際班列以來,雖然成都國際班列已聯通境外26個城市、國內14個城市,成為橫跨歐亞大陸的新橋樑,吳舸提到仍有兩方面的不足:「一是部分國際物流通道仍不是十分暢通,例如海鐵聯運在個別節點還未實現無縫對接。二是國際與國內鐵路標準尚存一定差別,個別站段由於需要換軌等方面原因,增加時間和經濟成本。」有見及此,該省將加強與相關國家及地區、兄弟省區市的銜接,攜手打造更加暢通的海鐵聯運通道。

四川政府有意加快構建「空鐵公水」多式聯運體系,以推動航空港、鐵路港、公路港及周邊水港的聯動發展,與全球主要樞紐城市連接,令四川發展具動力的開放型經濟。吳舸指出,成都雙流國際機場現已開通122條國際及地區航線,當中包括14個南亞及東南亞航線及13條歐洲航線;海鐵聯運則已連接波蘭、德國、荷蘭、哈薩克、越南、新加坡、香港及澳門等國家及地區。

他續指,目前川港合作範圍已擴大,其中,港資企業可投資的 地區由成都擴大至內江、廣安及達州等多個市(州),另外,自 貢、瀘州、宜賓及涼山等亦積極推進與香港的合資合作。

#### 推動區域性物流經濟

論及未來發展時,吳舸認為,其一是鼓勵國際貨運航空公司和

貨運代理,到四川參與經營航空貨運,鼓勵共同建設運用中歐班列(成都)、「蓉歐+」東盟鐵海(鐵)聯運班列,亦鼓勵共同組建物流通道運營平台合資公司;另亦鼓勵香港企業到四川建設物流基地、物流園區、綜合保税區及保税物流中心,並圍繞「一幹多支」區域特點,合作發展定位不同、特色各異的物流經濟。

他又提到,四川省人民政府支持香港大型企業與成都雙流 國際機場、天府國際機場、瀘州港、宜賓港及成都國際鐵 路港等企業,透過合資、合股及聯營等多種形式,組建多 式聯運物流產業發展聯盟,又鼓勵香港大型物流企業、船 公司、航空公司在川設立地區總部、運營中心、分撥中心及 轉運中心。

吳舸強調,四川省人民政府盼與港企業共同發展空鐵聯運、 海鐵聯運等先進多式聯運方式,包括積極推動多式聯運「一單制」及試點物流通道「一單通」,以拓展基於多式聯運的供 應鏈金融創新。

近年智慧物流科技成為全球熱話,他指出,四川省人民政府 正積極與香港企業加強智慧物流體系架構建設,共同推進智 慧物流系統研發,並實施跨境電子商務、大數據及物聯網等 領域合作,共同建設空鐵海聯運資訊互換平台。

吳舸將出席於11月19及20日在香港舉行的「亞洲物流及航運會議」(ALMC)。他期望能透過會議了解全球物流業的未來發展趨勢,以及內地與香港及國際的物流合作機會;未來亦有意組織考察團,邀請國外企業到四川考察當地的投資政策。

#### Meet Mr Wu at:

Regional Forum

New horizons of opening-up in Western China:

Development of land-sea intermodal transport logistics channels

Date: 19 November Time: 4:15pm-5:30pm

### 與吳舸會面:

區域論壇 1

打造西部對外開放新高地, 建設陸海聯運物流主通道

期:11月19日

時間:4:15pm-5:30pm

地點:沽動室B