## **FOREWORD**

Since the promulgation of the first Three-year Plan on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services in Hong Kong (Three-year Plan) in 1997, our society has achieved considerable success in curbing the drug problem. With the concerted efforts of the Government and the anti-drug sector, the number of reported drug abusers have drastically declined over the past three decades. This achievement could only be attained with the continuous improvement of drug treatment and rehabilitation services provided in Hong Kong. I am heartened to witness the people-oriented efforts made by service providers to render support, guidance and companionship to drug abusers and rehabilitees over the years.

Despite such achievements, the ever-changing drug scene is evolving even faster and becoming increasingly complex nowadays as a result of the constantly advancing technology that reshapes the ways of our lives. The changes in both overseas and local circumstances have presented new challenges to the anti-drug work in Hong Kong. Amid these changing times, the Three-year Plans have proven their value to the anti-drug sector in guiding service providers keep abreast of the latest local and global drug scene and ensure the services are well suited and responsive to the needs of abusers and their families.

The preparation of the 2024–26 Three-year Plan has been a valuable process of collaboration and co-creation among the Government, anti-drug service units and other stakeholders in the anti-drug sector. It provides a platform for indepth exchange of experiences and ideas, constituting a course of consensus-building to the strategic directions of the drug treatment and rehabilitation services in the coming three years, which should be embraced not only by the anti-drug sector but also the general public.

Having the opportunity to lead the preparation of the tenth Three-year Plan, it has been a delightful experience for me to witness the momentum gained over the years among various sectors to work together, joining hands to offer appropriate drug treatment and rehabilitation services to those who are in need. I am confident that the Government, the anti-drug sector and our society

as a whole would continue to work closely together to achieve the objectives of the strategic directions in this Three-year Plan and join hands to build a drugfree Hong Kong.

> Professor Dennis WONG Sing-wing Chairman of the Working Group on the Three-year Plan on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services

> > in Hong Kong (2024 – 2026)