# **Contemporary Buildings**

The Macao Special Administrative Region has been actively integrating into the development of the "Belt and Road Initiative" of the nation with the development orientation of "One Centre, One Platform and One Base". Numerous new structures have been constructed as urban development proceeds, reflecting Macau's modern attributes as well as its economic progress. For this stamp issue, five exemplary new contemporary buildings that were recently completed have been chosen.

# **Mong-Ha Sports Centre**

The construction of the Mong-Ha Sports Centre, a multi-purpose sports facility with five storeys and a clear height of 7 to 12 meters, was completed in 2021, following the demolishment of the original gymnasium and nearby social housing. There is a multi-purpose sports arena as well as courts for other ball sports, including basketball and volleyball. In terms of architectural design, the venues' different heights are made used of to form an interlocking shape with numerous blocks stacking on top of one another.

#### **Building of Marine and Water Bureau**

The Building of Marine and Water Bureau was unveiled in June 2018. The construction project includes a staff canteen, a parking lot, an outdoor plaza, and a pedestrian path to Penha Hill, in addition to the office building and the integrated service centre. The new structure is erected on a hill behind the Moorish Barracks, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List. Glass curtain walls, light-coloured natural stone panels, wood, and steel are used on the building's façade to give it a contemporary vibe and help it fit in with the hillside's forest of trees. To reinforce the idea of "green architecture", vertical green walls and green roofs have been added, echoing with the nearby highlands and the far-off mountains of Zhuhai.

### Qingmao Port

Qingmao Port was in operation in September 2021. It includes the checkpoint buildings of the Macao side and Zhuhai side borders. The checkpoint building in Zhuhai was built over the Canal dos Patos. The checkpoint building in Macau, which is surrounded by many high-rise structures, is intended to stand out with its minimalist design. It is made of big glass curtain walls and aluminium trim panels to create a neat and straightforward geometric mass. The front face resembles a combination of two massive rectangular boxes, one flat and one tall, symbolizing the bottom block's main role as the entry and exit points and the upper block's function as corporate offices.

# **Hengqin Port**

Opened in August 2020, Hengqin Port replaced the existing Hengqin Port and Macao Lotus Port, which were the two checkpoint buildings of Hengqin and Macao, implementing the "joint boundary clearance" mode. This facilitates people's entry and departure from both sides and promotes Macao's integration into the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Hengqin Port's primary structure is a rectangular structure with an east-west length of more than 300 meters, a north-south width of around 90 meters, and a height of roughly 40 meters. The east and west façades, which are intended to be open, imposing, and solemn gates to welcome locals and guests from both sides, face Macao Cotai and Hengqin urban areas respectively.

## **China-Portuguese-speaking Countries Commercial and Trade Service Platform Complex**

Completed in 2019, the China-Portuguese-speaking Countries Commercial and Trade Service Platform Complex is a landmark building showcasing "One Platform", providing a meeting venue for each edition of the "Forum for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (Macao)" and office space for related organizations, institutions and groups. The Complex is a low-rise, horizontally spreading structure that is situated on Macao's Nam Van Lakeside Plaza. The main entry façade has a wide glass curtain wall and a massive canopy that meanders and resembles a phoenix extending its wings. Additionally, it has a ribbon-like appearance that alludes to the relationship between Macao and the "Belt and Road Initiative".

Architects Association of Macau Translation: NextVector Consultants Ltd.