



GLOBAL INVESTORS' SYMPOSIUM

WELCOME REMARKS BY LAURA DEAL LACEY, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, MILKEN INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL

Announcer 00:00

To open the program, please welcome to the stage Executive Vice President, International at the Milken Institute, Laura Deal Lacey.

Laura Deal Lacey 00:19

Good morning, everyone. It's so great to be here. On behalf of the Milken Institute, I would like to welcome you to the third Global Investors' Symposium in Hong Kong. This symposium was created to convene leaders who are thinking seriously about the long-term future of capital, growth, and investments while navigating transpacific relations. The theme for today's program is *Capital in a Changing World*. Today's program will explore the forces reshaping capital flows, tech innovations, economic growth across Asia and around the globe. If the first few months of 2026 have taught us anything, it is that there's a new geopolitical operating environment for investors and business leaders, and that's changing very fast. In moments like these, neutral, nonpartisan platforms, just like this one, are becoming even more essential. They allow for investors to come together with their peers across regions and exchange perspectives from the ground, and—so they can think more clearly about how to deal with uncertainty and risk. For the last 35 years, the Milken Institute has brought together leaders to exchange ideas and translate those ideas into practical solutions that expand opportunities and strengthen economic resilience. Our goal has always

been to gather people who might not normally sit together at the same table and give them the space to share insights, to think bigger and deeper, and create a real-world impact. Hong Kong is particularly well-positioned to host this kind of conversation. For generations, this city has been one of the great connectors. It links international capital with Asian markets, and it serves as a vital gateway between the world's second-largest economy and the global financial system. Today, as Asia's economic influence continues to grow and global capital markets continue to evolve, that role of Hong Kong as a connector is more important than ever. So, to officially open our program, I would like to—delighted to invite the acting financial secretary of Hong Kong, Michael Wong, to make some remarks. So, Acting Secretary, please come. Let's give him a round of applause and welcome him to the stage. Thank you all for being here. We're really excited to be here.