

**Press Release**

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Government response on system of declaration of interests

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In response to the remarks made by Ms Emily Lau of the Frontier on the declaration of interests and investments of the Members of the Executive Council and of the Principal Officials under the accountability system on a radio programme today (August 18), a Government spokesman said:

"The declaration system is largely adopted from those applied to the Members of the previous Executive Council and senior civil servants which have been in place for years and have been proven to be effective.

"It strikes a balance between the need for transparency on one hand, and the need to protect privacy of the officials on the other hand. We consider the declaration system appropriate."

End/Sunday, August 18, 2002

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