

## Press Release

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CE's transcript

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Following is the transcript (English portion) of the press conference given by the Chief Executive, Mr Tung Chee Hwa, on the National People's Congress Standing Committee's interpretation on Article 7 of Annex I and Article 3 of Annex II of the Basic Law tonight (April 6):

Reporter: Will you be submitting proposals for amending the electoral regulations ..... before the NPC gives its permission ?

Chief Executive: Well, as I said earlier on, we now know about the interpretation by the National People's Congress Standing Committee in great detail. And tomorrow we will begin our work as to how to plan forward our next step. And in the meantime, I have asked CS (the Chief Secretary for Administration) and his Task Force to get on with the second stage of their work.

Reporter: Your Secretary for Constitutional Affairs was criticising the United States last week for interfering in the internal affairs of China. How is Hong Kong preserving its autonomy in order to qualify for US-Hong Kong trade privileges ..... under the US-Hong Kong Act?

Chief Executive: Let me say this. This constitutional development issue is an internal matter. And then we also emphasise we are doing what is best for our country as well as for Hong Kong. And thirdly, I want to assure you that our relationship - our commercial relationship, economic relationship, and human relationship with the United States are very important ones. And I would expect that this relationship would continue, and would not be affected by what we are doing.

(Please also refer to the [Chinese](#) portion.)

Ends/Tuesday, April 6, 2004

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