

Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs

Green Paper on Constitutional Development

On 11 July 2007, the Government published the Green Paper on Constitutional Development for consulting the public on the options, roadmap and timetable for implementing universal suffrage for the Chief Executive and the Legislative Council (LegCo). The three-month consultation period will close on 10 October 2007.

2. The Government has been consulting widely during the consultation period. Firstly, we attended LegCo Constitutional Affairs Panel meetings on 16 and 25 July 2007. Secondly, we have commenced discussions with all 18 District Councils (DCs). We have already attended the meetings of seven DCs to discuss the Green Paper and we will meet with the other 11 DCs within September.

3. Thirdly, we welcome views and submissions from members of the public. Copies of the Green Paper are available for collection by the public at the 18 District Offices. The Green Paper has also been uploaded onto the website. We are seeking to enhance community participation by organising forums which are open to public. The first open forum was held on 28 August 2007, and there will be another open forum to be held on 4 September 2007. In addition, four regional forums have been

arranged to hear the views of representatives of various groups and personalities at the district level.

4. Fourthly, we have also attended meetings and forums organised by trade unions, chambers of commerce, professional groups, Heung Yee Kuk, women's groups and other community organisations. We will continue to listen to the views of different sectors and strata of the community with a view to facilitating extensive discussion on the issue of constitutional development of Hong Kong, in the hope that this will be conducive to consensus being attained with regard to implementation of universal suffrage.

Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

31 August 2007