

For Information
5 June 2012

Legislative Council
Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to Mainland-HKSAR Families

**Implementation of Application for One-Way Permit
for Mainland “Overage Children” of Hong Kong Residents**

Pursuant to Article 22 of the Basic Law, for entry into the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), people from other parts of China must apply for approval. Mainland residents who wish to settle in Hong Kong must apply for One-Way Permit (OWP) from the Exit and Entry Administration Offices of the Public Security Bureau (PSB) of the Mainland at the places of their household registration. The application, approval and issue of OWP fall within the remit of the Mainland authorities.

2. In response to the request of Hong Kong residents and their Mainland “overage children” for reunion in Hong Kong, the Central Government decided that, starting from 1 April 2011, Mainland “overage children” of Hong Kong residents may apply for OWP orderly for reunion with their natural parents in Hong Kong. On 15 March 2011, the Exit and Entry Administration Offices of the PSB of the Mainland released application details, including the application procedures and required documents. The application, approval and issue of permits to “overage children” largely follow the existing procedures for general OWP applications.

3. According to the relevant application details, starting from 1 April 2011, individuals may apply for OWP to come to Hong Kong if they were below the age of 14 when their natural fathers or mothers, on or before 1 November 2001, obtained their first Hong Kong identity cards, as long as their natural fathers or mothers still reside in Hong Kong on 1 April 2011. The phased submission of applications by “overage children” to the Exit and Entry Administration Offices of the PSB will be scheduled chronologically according to the order in which their natural fathers or mothers obtained their Hong Kong identity cards. Since 1 April 2011, the Mainland authorities have been accepting applications from Mainland residents whose natural fathers or mothers obtained their first Hong Kong identity cards before 1980. Starting from 15 May 2012, the Mainland authorities accept a new round of applications for OWP to settle in Hong Kong from applicants whose natural fathers or mothers obtained their first Hong Kong identity cards before 1981.

4. The arrangement for applications of “overage children” to reside in Hong Kong has been implemented in a smooth and orderly manner since 1 April 2011. The Immigration Department has established communication mechanism with the Mainland authorities to exchange views on application progress from time to time. The relevant statistics from the Mainland authorities as at 14 May 2012 are as follows –

Applications	29 955
Cases after initial assessment	22 142
OWP approved	15 862

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