

ITEM FOR ESTABLISHMENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Head 151 - GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT : SECURITY BUREAU Subhead 000 Operational expenses

Members are invited to recommend to Finance Committee the creation of the following permanent post in the Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau with effect from 13 February 2012 –

1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
(D2) (\$126,500 - \$138,350)

PROBLEM

The Commissioner for Narcotics (C for N) needs dedicated support at the directorate level to sustain anti-drug initiatives in the war against drug abuse.

PROPOSAL

2. We propose to create a permanent post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (AOSGC) (D2) in the Narcotics Division (ND) of the Security Bureau (SB) with effect from 13 February 2012 upon the lapse of a supernumerary AOSGC post to support the sustained implementation of anti-drug initiatives to combat drug abuse problem.

/JUSTIFICATION

JUSTIFICATION

Responsibilities of ND

3. With the advice of the Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN), ND formulates and co-ordinates policies and measures of various bureaux and departments, public agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other stakeholder groups in the community to combat drug abuse problem and implement a five-pronged anti-drug strategy of preventive education and publicity, treatment and rehabilitation (T&R), legislation and law enforcement, external cooperation, and research. It is also responsible for administering the Beat Drugs Fund (BDF) with a capital base of \$3.35 billion to provide funding support to worthwhile anti-drug projects and measures.

4. The Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse (Task Force), led by the Secretary for Justice, promulgated in November 2008 a reinvigorated and comprehensive long-term strategy with over 70 recommendations on initiatives in respect of the five-pronged strategy and fostering a caring culture for young people in the community. In July 2009, the Chief Executive (CE) steered a high level inter-departmental task force to further expedite implementation of the Task Force initiatives along five strategic directions, namely community mobilisation, community support, drug testing, T&R, and law enforcement. ND plays a key coordinating role in ensuring the implementation of the initiatives identified by the CE and the Task Force.

5. Although the overall policy coordinating role on anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-financing of terrorism (CFT) matters was transferred to the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau in October 2008, ND continues to be responsible for the implementation of the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in respect of designated non-financial businesses and professionals (DNFBPs)¹. ND is also responsible for implementing FATF's special recommendation in relation to detection of cross-boundary transportation of currency and bearer negotiable instruments.

6. ND is headed by C for N ranked at the Administrative Officer Staff Grade B (D3) level. Two three-year supernumerary posts of AOSGC, designated as Principal Assistant Secretary (Narcotics) (PAS(N)) and Principal Assistant Secretary (Narcotics) Special Duties, were created on 13 February 2009 and 17 February 2010 vide EC(2008-09)14 and EC(2009-10)11 respectively to

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¹ The DNFBPs are lawyers, accountants, trust and company service providers, estate agents and dealers in precious metals and precious stones.

provide dedicated directorate support to C for N to enable the implementation of the anti-drug initiatives. The two posts were redesignated as PAS(N)1 and PAS(N)2 respectively. Major progress achieved on various fronts since then is summarised at Enclosure 1.

Encl. 1

Latest developments

7. With the concerted efforts of the government, the anti-drug sector and the community, we have seen a significant improvement in the drug abuse situation. The total number of reported drug abusers dropped by about 11.2%, from 13 988 in 2009 to 12 420 in 2010. Among them, the number of drug abusers aged under 21 dropped by 18.7%, from 3 387 in 2009 to 2 753 in 2010. The number of newly reported drug abusers also dropped by 16.6%, from 4 458 in 2009 to 3 719 in 2010. During the first half of 2011, a further downward trend of 28.3% and 34.0% respectively was observed for the number of drug abusers under 21 and the number of newly reported young drug abusers, compared with the same period in 2010.

8. In spite of these positive developments, there are still major challenges in the battle against drug abuse. Young drug abusers aged under 21 continued to constitute about 40.2% of the total number of newly reported drug abusers in the first half of 2011 and of these young people, about 98.2% took psychotropic substances. Compared with 2008, drug abusers aged under 21 taking drugs at home or friends' home had increased from 67.8% to 75.1% in 2010. The hidden nature of psychotropic substance abuse has increased the difficulty for detection and enforcement. We need to keep up the efforts to strengthen young people's resolve to "Say No to Drugs".

Enhancing the overall anti-drug efforts

9. Against this background, there is a need for sustained commitment to the anti-drug war. ND will need to continue to take forward initiatives in a number of key areas on a long-term basis to build on the achievements made so far.

Legislation and Law Enforcement

10. Rapid changes in the drug scene nowadays with the emergence of precursor chemicals and new synthetic drugs from time to time both overseas and in Hong Kong call for increased vigilance in monitoring new developments involving relevant bureaux and departments, and a timely response before any new synthetic

/drugs

drugs become an issue of concern here. There is a need for dedicated support at the directorate level to co-ordinate with law enforcement agencies and relevant departments the work involved in analysing overseas and local drugs trends, formulating anti-drug policies on the way forward, and coordinating the design of interdepartmental and cross-sectoral action plans. Where the situation warrants, ND would review relevant legislation and initiate necessary changes to bring new substances of abuse or precursor of chemicals under control. These necessitate high-level steer at the directorate level to ensure timely actions by various departments.

Sustaining the Anti-drug Momentum in the Community

11. In light of the hidden nature of psychotropic substances abuse, there is a need to sustain the anti-drug momentum in the community in spite of the success of the community-wide anti-drug campaign in helping to arrest the deteriorating drug abuse situation. ND has to continue to step up efforts in coordinating bureaux, departments, community groups and NGOs to enhance anti-drug education for students, strengthen support and training for parents and the school sector, and build on a community-wide network of the Path Builders² platform to capitalise on resources available in the community in the war against drugs.

12. T&R services form an important element of the five-pronged anti-drug strategy. Successful T&R programmes will help drug abusers quit drugs and rebuild normal life, and will therefore minimise the burden on society in the long term. Services currently provided by different sectors are heterogeneous in terms of points of intervention, target clienteles, treatment approaches and modes of services, with a wide range of operators with different backgrounds, philosophies, priorities and resource strengths. In the circumstances, ND plays an important role in coordinating among service providers, Government departments and the civil society in the provision of T&R services, including ensuring better integration of different service providers and service modes both to serve the varying needs of drug abusers and ensure cost-effective use of resources in the sector, providing the necessary assistance to drug treatment and rehabilitation centres (DTRCs) to improve their facilities to meet licensing conditions and coordinating among Government departments to monitor the provision of such services.

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² The Path Builders was launched by the ACAN and ND in September 2008 to mobilise the community to fight against drug abuse by fostering a caring culture for the youth. The initiative provides a platform where community resources can be channelled to programmes and initiatives for young people's healthy development.

13. In addition, with the enlarged capital base of the BDF following the injection of an addition of \$3 billion in May 2010, the BDF is better endowed to support worthwhile anti-drug projects and measures. ND needs to engage stakeholders in the anti-drug sector more actively to encourage, for example, more researches on anti-drug related matters, and new innovative proposals such as those allowing for more integration of different services in the treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration of drug abusers in the community. ND also needs to provide active assistance to operators of DTRCs to help bring improvements to their facilities.

Fostering a Drug-free Culture in Schools

14. Schools are an important platform for the battle against youth drug abuse. It is therefore important to foster a drug-free culture in schools in a holistic manner. Taking into account the experience gained in the Trial Scheme on School Drug Testing in Tai Po District and findings of a parallel evaluation research, we are convinced that schools should implement a Healthy School Programme with a drug testing component (HSP(DT)). The objective is to help students develop healthy habits and a positive outlook on life and values in a holistic manner, thereby enhancing their resilience to adversity and their resolve to stay away from drugs, through a holistic approach of both diversified personal growth programmes and drug testing.

15. At present, more than 40 schools have volunteered to implement the HSP(DT) in the 2011/12 school year with the support of the BDF. With the aim of extending the programme to all secondary schools in Hong Kong, ND will have to continue to promote, through engagement of school sponsoring bodies, school management, parent and teacher groups, student bodies, NGOs and social workers, the HSP(DT) and encourage voluntary implementation of HSP(DT). With more than 400 secondary schools in Hong Kong, it is necessary to roll out the HSP(DT) progressively and ensure that various concerns of different interests are addressed tactically. Considering also the sensitivity of the drug testing component in issues such as the protection of personal data privacy and confidentiality of information of students, the implementation of the scheme requires close monitoring and assessment at the directorate level.

Implementation of AML/CFT measures

16. As a member of FATF, Hong Kong is obliged to implement FATF's requirements to combat money laundering and financing of terrorism (paragraph 5 above).

17. Implementation of the FATF requirements regarding DNFBPs and cross-boundary transportation of cash involves complex policy and practical issues cutting across various sectors, necessitating intensive dialogue and consultation with the concerned professions and sectors, formulating options and policy recommendations on the way forward, and overseeing legislative changes, if necessary. Directorate steer on relevant issues is essential.

Need for permanent directorate support

18. There is at present only one permanent directorate post i.e. C for N, who is responsible for the complex and broad anti-drug policy portfolio. There has been growing pressure on the anti-drug front in the past few years with a significant increase in business necessitated by the implementation of recommendations of the Task Force and CE's escalated anti-drug campaign. In light of such developments, we had created two supernumerary AOSGC posts (paragraph 6 above) to provide short-term relief and ensure the timely implementation of various initiatives.

19. In spite of some success in arresting the deteriorating drug situation, it is clear that sustained and escalated efforts are necessary to continue the war against drugs. The complexity and diversity of the issues described in paragraphs 10 to 17 above argue for officers who possess the necessary experience to take charge. It would be beyond the capacity of C for N alone to take forward all the work involved. In fact, the Task Force has recommended the creation of a permanent AOSGC post in ND to underpin C for N to strengthen the directorate support required to combat the drug abuse problem.

20. The battle against drugs must persist. The problems of drug abuse, in particular the problem of drug abuse among young people, can only be tackled through sustained, persistent and integrated efforts by different sectors of the community. It also calls for continuous monitoring of rapid changes in the drug scene to ensure timely response with effective strategies and measures. The responsibilities of the proposed AOSGC post in the areas of monitoring the latest drug abuse pattern and trend, prevention and publicity, overseeing anti-drug legislation and enforcement policy, and overseeing the policy and administration of the BDF, are matters which require proper coordination and oversight at D2 level on a long-term and sustained basis.

21. Having reviewed the future need of ND, and in view of the complexity and wide range of issues which need proper attention, we consider it necessary to create a permanent AOSGC post, designated PAS(N)1, to underpin C for N upon the expiry of the current term of supernumerary AOSGC post on 13 February 2012. The creation of the proposed post is in line with the recommendation of the Task Force.

22. We will further review the overall directorate support in ND in 2012 taking into account the progress made in the key areas of work, in particular the need for a legislative exercise or otherwise for implementing FATF's recommendations on AML/CFT and the outcome of the consultation exercise on community drug testing. ND will take into account the review outcome and consider carefully the arrangement for the duties currently undertaken by PAS(N)2 as the supernumerary post lapses on 17 February 2013.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Encls. 2 & 3 23. We have critically examined the possibility of tasking PAS(N)2 to take on the roles expected of the proposed PAS(N)1 but consider that the PAS(N)2 post will, until the end of its term, continue to be fully committed. There is no room for PAS(N)2 to take on the complex yet varied issues of the proposed PAS(N)1. The main duties and responsibilities of the proposed PAS(N)1 and the current PAS(N)2 are at Enclosures 2 and 3 respectively.

Encl. 4 24. We have also considered the possible redeployment of other existing directorate officers in SB to take on the work of the proposed post. Since all the directorate officers are fully committed to duties on different subject areas, we consider that redeployment is not operationally feasible without adversely affecting the discharge of their schedules of duties. The duties and existing work priorities of the five Principle Assistant Secretaries in SB are at Enclosure 4.

Encls. 5 & 6 25. The proposed organisation charts of ND and SB with the proposed creation of the permanent PAS(N)1 are respectively at Enclosures 5 and 6.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

26. The proposal will bring about an additional notional annual salary cost at mid-point of \$1,612,000. The full annual average staff cost, including salaries and staff on-cost, will be \$2,285,000. To support the proposed PAS(N)1 post, we plan to create one Personal Secretary I post in ND with a total notional annual salary cost at mid-point of \$324,000 and full annual average staff cost of \$468,000. There is sufficient provision in the 2011-12 Estimates to meet the cost of the proposal in the current financial year. We will reflect the resources required in the Estimates of subsequent years.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

27. The Task Force considered that combating the drug problem could not be a short term or time-limited exercise. The nature of the tasks demands intensified steer, input and coordination at the directorate level. Hence, it recommended in its report that a permanent AOSGC post should be created in ND to underpin C for N in order to strengthen the directorate support to combat the drug abuse problem. ACAN had been consulted and also supported the proposal.

28. On 7 November 2011, we consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Security on the proposal. Panel members supported the submission of the proposal to the Establishment Subcommittee. The specific concern expressed during the Panel discussion over whether there is a need for a permanent post has been addressed in paragraphs 18 to 21 of this paper. As regards the request for the provision of indicators for assessing the performance of ND with the creation of the proposed post, it is not feasible to provide such indicators since the problems of drug abuse encompass complex social issues with implications on various fronts, e.g. health care, welfare, legal, and law and order. As a coordinator among Government bureaux and departments, community groups, NGOs and schools, ND is responsible for ensuring that different sectors of the community contribute to the anti-drug movement and the causal relationship between anti-drug efforts in different areas and their results may not be directly established. Nonetheless, we may assess the results of the overall anti-drug efforts by drawing reference to factors such as the overall drug scene, timely control of new psychotropic or synthetic drugs, and community awareness of the drug problems, etc.

BACKGROUND

29. The social costs of the drug problem are significant, estimated to be around HK\$4.23 billion in 1998, or about 0.3% of the local Gross Domestic Product that year³. The social costs included the cost to health and welfare systems in providing counselling, T&R; the cost of law enforcement and criminal justice system in tackling the drug problem; and the loss of income due to lower or non-productivity of the abusers and so forth. The growing popularity of psychotropic substances with more hidden harmful effects (e.g. cognitive, neuromuscular, psychiatric, respiratory, urinary or cardiovascular problems) would result in the growth in medical costs in the long term since such health problems have been found to persist among many abusers even after quitting drugs. Added to this is the serious psychological damage and practical effects inflicted by drugs on young people and their families, which cannot be measured in quantifiable terms.

/ESTABLISHMENT

³ Study entitled "Social Costs of Drug Abuse in Hong Kong, 1998" conducted by Professor Y W Cheung of the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2000.

ESTABLISHMENT CHANGES

30. The establishment changes in SB for the past two years are as follows –

Establishment (Note)	Number of Posts			
	Existing (as at 1 November 2011)	As at 1 April 2011	As at 1 April 2010	As at 1 April 2009
A	13+(2)#	13+(2)	13+(2)	13+(1)
B	42	42	42	42
C	132	131	124	122
Total	187+(2)	186+(2)	179+(2)	177+(1)

Note:

A – ranks in the directorate pay scale or equivalent

B – non-directorate ranks, the maximum pay point of which is above MPS point 33 or equivalent

C – non-directorate ranks, the maximum pay point of which is at or below MPS point 33 or equivalent

() number of supernumerary directorate post created with the approval of the Establishment Subcommittee/Finance Committee

as at 1 November 2011, there was no unfilled directorate post in SB

CIVIL SERVICE BUREAU COMMENTS

31. The Civil Service Bureau supports the proposed creation of the permanent AOSGC post to support the sustained implementation of anti-drug initiatives to combat the problem of drug abuse. The grading and ranking of the proposed post are considered appropriate having regard to the level and scope of the responsibilities required.

ADVICE OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DIRECTORATE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

32. The Standing Committee on Directorate Salaries and Conditions of Service has advised that the grading proposed for the post would be appropriate if the post was to be created.

**Progress of Major Anti-Drug Initiatives
Implemented by the Narcotics Division**

Preventive Education and Publicity

Territory-wide campaign

At the territory-wide level, two rounds of large-scale publicity campaigns were launched in mid-2008 and mid-2010 respectively, entitled “No Drugs, No Regrets. Not Now, Not Ever.” and “Stand firm! Knock drugs out!” respectively. A number of intensive publicity measures, including television and radio drama series, large-scale anti-drug events, Announcements in the Public Interest and on-line programmes highlighting the harmful effects of drugs and the consequences of drug abuse were also launched.

Supports to parents

2. To provide support to parents, the Narcotics Division (ND) launched an anti-drug resource kit in June 2009 to equip parents with anti-drug knowledge, attitude and skills to prevent, identify and handle youth drug abuse problem. A dedicated website on the resource kit was also launched. ND also commissioned a non-governmental organisation (NGO) to provide a series of services to enhance the support for parents. These include anti-drug telephone support services manned by social workers, district-based parent seminars, train-the-trainer sessions for relevant stakeholders, in-depth training programmes for social workers and quarterly anti-drug publications for parents.

Supports to schools - School drug testing

3. One of the key strategies to tackle youth drug abuse problem is the introduction of voluntary school drug testing through a trial scheme on school drug testing in Tai Po District (the Scheme). The Scheme for the 2009/10 and 2010/11 school years have been successfully completed. Findings of a government-commissioned research indicated that the Scheme had generally achieved the dual objectives of strengthening students’ resolve to stay away from drugs, and providing support for students troubled by drugs. Early concerns such as possible labelling effects and adverse impact on parent-child relationship, student-teacher relationship, and parents’ and students’ trust in schools were not borne out by evidence. Instead, most students, parents, teachers and principals found the Scheme to have positively helped to build an anti-drug culture on the school campus.

4. The research also recommended that school drug testing should be further developed in Hong Kong in a holistic manner through a voluntary, school-based and student-oriented approach with complementary anti-drug programmes.

Supports to schools - Anti-drug resource kit

5. An anti-drug resource kit for the school sector has been developed with the sponsorship of the Beat Drugs Fund (BDF). The kit includes the framework and practical guidelines on the development of a healthy school policy with an anti-drug element, anti-drug elements in the curriculum and teaching resources, as well as protocols for handling suspected or confirmed student drug abuse cases. Seminars, training and demonstration were organised following the launch of the kit. A telephone enquiry service (186 186) for teachers manned by social workers has since August 2009 been in operation.

Supports to schools - Training for schools and teachers

6. ND and the Education Bureau have since the 2008/09 school year been providing basic anti-drug and advanced professional training programmes with a view to enhancing teachers' capability in promoting anti-drug education and handling possible student drug abuse cases. Starting from the 2011/12 school year, we have sought to extend basic anti-drug training to teacher training institutions with a view to widening the coverage of the training scheme as well as professional development programmes for teachers.

Supports to schools - Drug education for students

7. In addition, drug education programmes commissioned by ND have been offered to local primary three to six students and students in international and non-Chinese speaking schools at primary three to senior secondary levels. The Social Welfare Department also provided sponsorship for drug prevention programmes for secondary schools. The Department of Health launched the Junior Health Pioneer Workshops for primary three students, with "anti-drug" as one of the main themes from the 2007/08 school year onwards. Furthermore, since 2008/09, drug education has become a core basic life skill training for all Form 1 students in schools enrolled with Adolescent Health Programme. With the creation of nine new Police School Liaison Officer posts in 2010-11 on top of the previous establishment of 85, the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) has extended coverage of anti-drug school talks and enhanced collaboration with schools and NGOs concerned.

/Enhanced

Enhanced use of BDF

8. ND, in consultation with the Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN), continued to use BDF to support community-driven anti-drug projects to complement the multi-faceted anti-drug strategies. Following the injection of \$3 billion into the BDF in 2010-11 to generate more revenue to support anti-drug work of the community, ND has also stepped up efforts to promote more applications for support to run worthwhile projects. Various community organisations such as religious bodies, uniformed youth groups, business associations, professional bodies and women associations have also responded to the anti-drug cause. In 2010, the BDF approved funding for 86 projects amounting to \$86 million initiated by community organisations to enhance drug prevention and treatment and rehabilitation services.

Treatment and Rehabilitation

9. We have enhanced various treatment and rehabilitation services for drug abusers, and have helped them reintegrate into society. In 2010-11, we strengthened outreaching, counselling and residential treatment services. Resources have been allocated to strengthen the manpower of the 16 District Youth Outreaching Social Work Teams, open four new counselling centres for psychotropic substance abusers and provide additional subvented places in drug treatment and rehabilitation centres (DTRCs). In 2011-12, we further strengthened school social work service in all secondary schools by a 20% increase in manpower.

10. In 2010-11, the Hospital Authority injected an additional \$10 million to provide more consultation sessions at the Substance Abuse Clinics in the seven hospital clusters to cope with the anticipated increase in service demand.

11. We have continued to implement the Fifth Three-year Plan on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services (the Fifth Three-year Plan). To facilitate networking and collaboration among different parties, we, amongst others, published the first edition of the “Tiered, Multi-modality Approach of Treatment and Rehabilitation Services for Drug Abusers in Hong Kong” in December 2010. We also set a number of priority areas in the BDF Funding Exercises to encourage NGOs to develop projects that take forward the recommendations in the Fifth Three-year Plan. These include multi-disciplinary collaboration among different NGOs, provision of training for anti-drug workers, and enhancement of the reintegration elements in treatment and rehabilitation programmes.

12. We also provide assistance to DTRCs to upgrade their facilities or relocate to meet licensing requirements. Since May 2011, the funding ceiling of the Special Funding Scheme under BDF has been increased substantially from \$3 million to \$50 million per project. Its scope has also been significantly expanded to expedite the planning and construction processes. In 2011, we also produced publicity materials to promote the important role played by the drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities (including DTRCs) and call for community support for setting up these facilities.

Hair drug testing

13. Introduction of hair drug testing services is another new initiative pursued with a view to developing an alternative tool to identify young drug abusers and motivate them to quit drugs. The Government Laboratory (GL) has successfully developed a hair drug testing method and obtained accreditation. In June 2010, GL launched a pilot scheme providing free hair drug testing services for treatment and rehabilitation service units. ND, in collaboration with GL, will continue to explore with potential parties to make use of the hair testing technology, and consider ways to transfer the technology to the industry so that the service can be developed locally.

Legislation and Law Enforcement

Law enforcement

14. The relevant law enforcement agencies (LEAs) are taking forward various recommendations of the Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse (Task Force). First, the LEAs and the Department of Justice (DoJ) have been working closely together to continue to identify suitable cases to invoke section 56A of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Cap 134)^{Note 1} for enhanced sentencing. In appropriate cases, LEAs will also continue to provide relevant evidence of importation of drugs to DoJ for submission and consideration by the court for enhanced sentencing.

15. Secondly, a team established in HKPF in 2008-09 continues to carry out Internet patrol on drug offences. The LEAs also continue to sustain their crime prevention efforts through publicity and preventive education in collaboration with NGOs as well as industry partners.

/Legislative

^{Note 1} Section 56A of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Cap 134) empowers the court, where it is satisfied with evidence that an adult has involved a minor in the commission of a drug-related offence and if it thinks fit, to pass a sentence on the convicted adult offender that is more severe than the sentence it would, in the absence of such evidence, have passed.

Legislative Amendments in 2011

16. Between 2009 and 2010, three types of non-controlled synthetic chemical substances^{Note 2}, which have gained prevalence amongst drug abusers overseas as substances of abuse, have emerged in Hong Kong and posed a threat to the local community, particularly among young people. Although there was not yet evidence suggesting that these substances had gained prevalence in Hong Kong in the same way as they had in Europe, these substances should be subject to legislative control to deter trafficking and abuse. The *Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Amendment of First Schedule) Order 2011* was made to impose control on the substances with effective from 1 April 2011.

External Cooperation

17. On the law enforcement front, HKPF and the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) continue to maintain close collaboration with their Mainland and overseas counterparts.

18. HKPF has continued to organise tripartite anti-drug operations with their counterparts in Guangdong and Macao. HKPF, C&ED and the Immigration Department also jointly conducted operations at the land boundary control points to combat cross-boundary drug trafficking and deter youths from abusing drugs in the Mainland.

19. On the publicity side, members of ACAN, ND and HKPF have stepped up promotional events at the boundary control points, especially during the festivals and long holidays. In addition to advertising the adverse effects of drug abuse and promoting awareness of parents, there was also emphasis on the heavy penalties of drug related offences on the Mainland.

20. BDF has also supported NGOs in organising outreaching programmes at boundary areas seeking to help young people distance from drugs.

/Research

^{Note 2} Derivatives of piperazine, synthetic cannabinoids and derivatives of cathinone.

Research

21. ND rolled out a series of measures in 2009 to improve the Central Registry of Drug Abuse (CRDA). These include maintaining close contacts with the reporting agencies to improve on reporting to CRDA, assessing and reducing the extent of under-reporting, and widening and deepening the reporting network.

22. Several research studies, including two studies on the impact of ketamine, a study on Nepalese drug abusers in Hong Kong and a study on effective ways to dispel at-risk youth's misunderstandings about psychotropic substances were completed in 2010 and 2011. On the recommendation of the Task Force, ND had also commissioned in early 2010 two research projects to review the method of estimating the drug abuse population, and study the drug abuse situation and service needs of non-engaged youth. The projects are expected to be completed by end 2011 and mid-2012 respectively.

**Proposed Job Description of
Principal Assistant Secretary (Narcotics) 1**

Rank : Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (D2)

Responsible to : Commissioner for Narcotics (C for N) (D3)

Main Duties and Responsibilities –

- (1) to monitor the drug abuse trends and pattern through the Central Registry of Drug Abuse and student surveys, and assist C for N in formulating anti-drug measures to address the latest drug abuse situation;
- (2) to monitor and formulate necessary response to the threats posed by emerging drugs, including review of legislation and, where necessary, propose legislative control on new substances; work with law enforcement departments in targeting illegal drug trafficking and youth drug abuse; and oversee external co-operation in curbing cross-boundary drug activities;
- (3) to assist C for N in the formulation and coordination of the strategy and measures on anti-money laundering/counter-terrorist financing of terrorism with respect to the Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions and the detection of cross-boundary transportation of currency and bearer negotiable instruments, pursuant to the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force;
- (4) to develop and take forward innovative and effective publicity strategy to curb drug abuse problems;
- (5) to oversee and promote the implementation of the Healthy School Programme with a drug testing component, and coordinate with the Education Bureau and other relevant departments to strengthen drug preventive education work;
- (6) to oversee policy and institutional matters of the Beat Drugs Fund as well as resource planning to ensure an effective use of the Fund for the community to help fight drugs;

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- (7) to enhance mobilisation of various quarters of the community to join the fight against drugs through the *Path Builder* initiative as well as through various community and district level programmes;
- (8) to assist C for N in overseeing and following through the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse on the five-pronged anti-drug strategies, in collaboration with other bureaux and departments as well as stakeholders, including the Action Committee Against Narcotics, the Fight Crime Committee, as well as the education, social services, youth, community sectors and other key stakeholders in the community; and
- (9) to oversee the secretariats to the Beat Drug Funds Association, and the Action Committee Against Narcotics and its Sub-committees.

**Existing Job Description of
Principal Assistant Secretary (Narcotics) 2**

Rank : Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (D2)

Responsible to : Commissioner for Narcotics (C for N) (D3)

Main Duties and Responsibilities –

- (1) to consolidate and enhance the treatment and rehabilitation services in the context of the rolling out of the Sixth Three-year Plan on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services in Hong Kong (2012-14);
- (2) to encourage the anti-drug sector for proposals for new and effective service models and to continue re-engineering existing services to cope with the latest drug trends;
- (3) to promote collaboration between different sectors and modalities to ensure a continuum of services for drug abusers and promote new and effective ways for the provision of treatment and rehabilitation services to meeting prevailing needs;
- (4) to assist C for N in consulting stakeholders and the public on the principles and mode of operation of a community-based drug testing scheme having regard to the legal, human rights, privacy and other perspectives and the subsequent legislative exercise;
- (5) to develop a more systematic assessment and monitoring of the efficiency and effectiveness of residential drug treatment and rehabilitation programmes, including the extension of a service information system to other drug treatment and rehabilitation centres;
- (6) to render assistance to 20 existing drug treatment and rehabilitation centres without a licence in seeking upgrading and relocation, to address issues in land use planning, land administration, etc and to assist in local consultation exercises as recommended by the Director of Audit and the Public Accounts Committee;
- (7) to assess the pilot enhanced probation scheme for young drug offenders and decide on the way forward on the pilot scheme; and
- (8) to consider way to transfer the hair testing technology to industry so that the service can be developed locally.

**Duties and existing work priorities of
Principal Assistant Secretaries in the Security Bureau**

Principal Assistant Secretary for Security (A) is responsible for policy matters relating to boundary administration, closed area, counter-terrorism, surrender of fugitive offenders and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. He oversees the liaison between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government and the Garrison and handles matters with a Garrison dimension. He also deals with policy and resource matters relating to the Government Flying Service and parts of the functions of the Customs and Excise Department, as well as matters concerning the Security and Guarding Services Industry Authority. Apart from the heavy workload of his normal business, he is currently heavily engaged in the implementation of the reduced coverage of the Frontier Closed Area, the Bills Committee for the Adaptation of Laws (Military References) Bill 2010 and legislative work relating to the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance.

2. Principal Assistant Secretary for Security (B) is responsible for policies in respect of the emergency rescue services provided by the Fire Services Department, including matters relating to fire safety, fire prevention, firefighting, the emergency ambulance service, and the control of dangerous goods. She also oversees policies relating to the penal system maintained by the Correctional Services Department, covering such matters as rehabilitation of prisoners and the prison development programme. She deals with issues relating to the transfer of sentenced persons and supports the statutory boards on prison sentence review and prisoner supervision. In addition, she is responsible for the aviation security policies, including the maintenance and implementation of the Hong Kong Aviation Security Programme. She is currently heavily engaged in pursuing initiatives for better meeting demands for and enhancing the provision of emergency ambulance service, enhancing the legislative control on dangerous goods to align with international standards, and overseeing the prison development and improvement programmes to address the problems of outdated facilities and overcrowding.

3. Principal Assistant Secretary for Security (C) is responsible for immigration policies and strategies in respect of a wide range of matters. These include nationality and residency; travel documents and convenience of Hong Kong residents; visa regime for foreign nationals and travel convenience for Taiwan residents; the Outbound Travel Alert system and assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress outside Hong Kong. She oversees policy issues concerning entry into Hong Kong for study, employment, investment and settlement, as well as

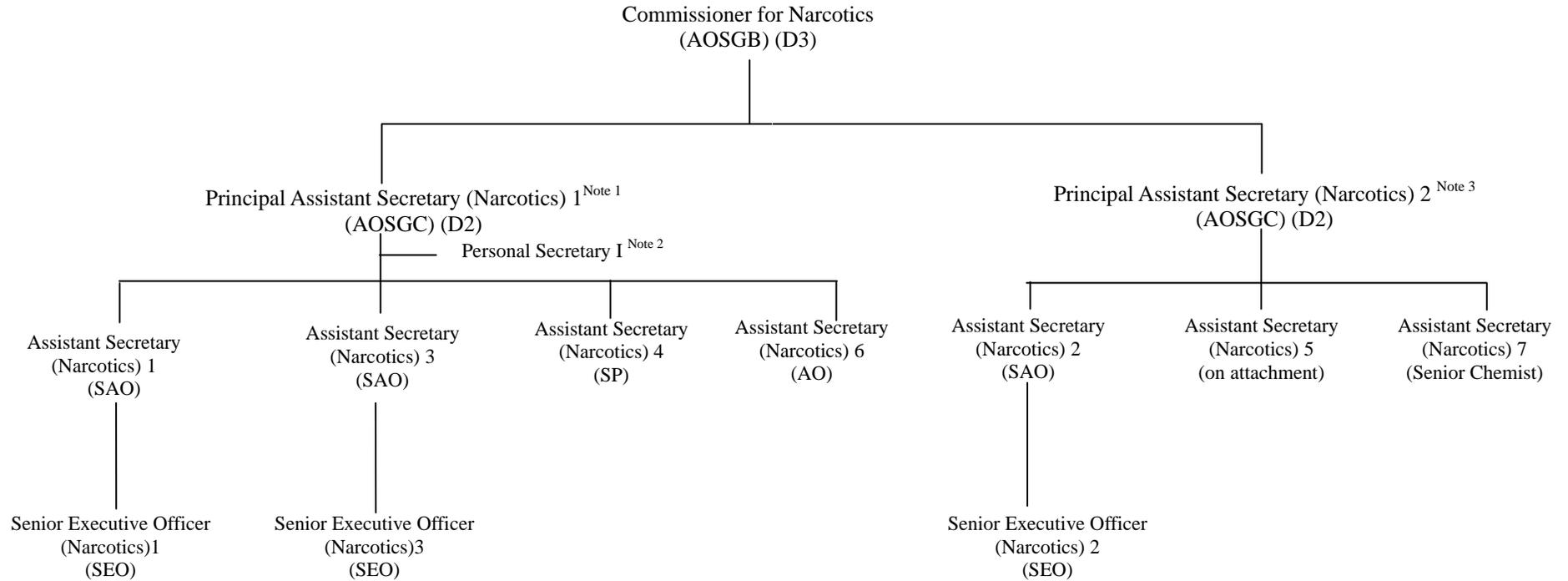
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those relating to entry from the Mainland, including the operations of the One-way Permit and Two-way Permit Scheme. She is also responsible for the policy, resource and housekeeping matters of the Immigration Department. She is also engaged in handling a series of judicial review cases concerning right of abode of foreign domestic helpers.

4. Principal Assistant Secretary for Security (D) is responsible for handling policy issues concerning torture claimants, asylum seekers and refugees; registration of persons, births, deaths and marriages; detention under the Immigration Ordinance; the processing of statutory and non-statutory petition cases; and housekeeping matters relating to the Immigration Tribunal, Registration of Persons Tribunal, HKSAR Passports Appeal Board, and Civil Celebrant of Marriages Appointment Appeal Board. He oversees the policy relating to human trafficking. He is also responsible for policy, legislation and resource matters relating to the operation of boundary control points and related cooperation with the Mainland. He is currently heavily engaged in securing the passage of the Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2011 concerning the screening procedures for torture claims and overseeing the handling of related judicial review cases. Furthermore, he is also engaged in the planning for new control points (including the New Cruise Terminal, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link and the Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point); extending and promoting the e-Channel service for Mainland and other frequent visitors; and a new information technology infrastructure for the Immigration Department.

5. Principal Assistant Secretary for Security (E) is responsible for policy matters concerning internal security and law and order, as well as resources matters relating to the Hong Kong Police Force and the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force. She also oversees the implementation of the Interception of Communications and Surveillance Ordinance. She is the Secretary to the Fight Crime Committee and oversees the operation of the Committee and its Subcommittees.

Proposed Organisation Chart of Narcotics Division



Legend

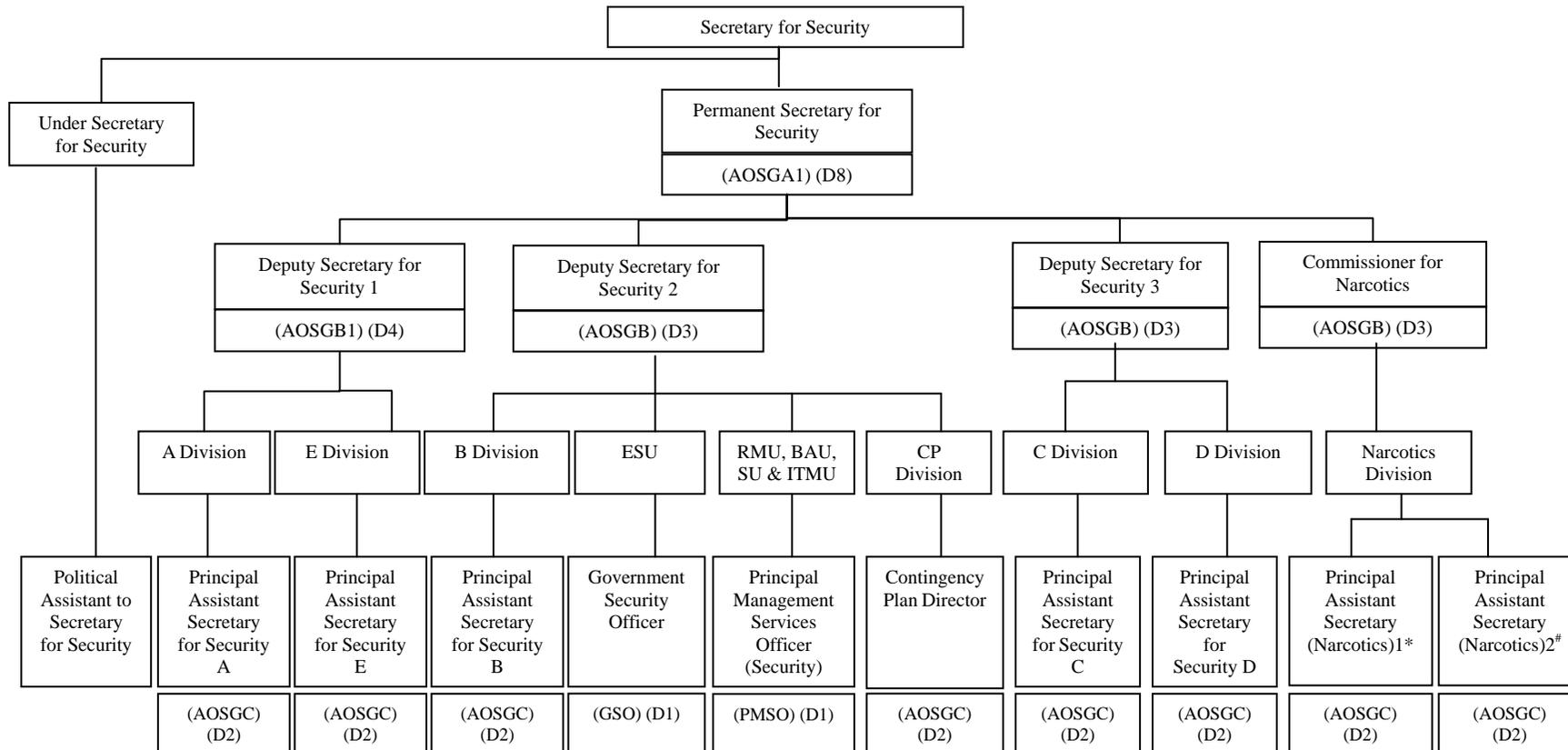
- AO : Administrative Officer
- AOSGB : Administrative Officer Staff Grade B
- AOSGC : Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
- SAO : Senior Administrative Officer
- SEO : Senior Executive Officer
- SP : Superintendent of Police

Note 1 Proposed permanent AOSGC post to be created, following the lapse of the existing supernumerary post on 13.2.2012

Note 2 Non-directorate post to be created to support the proposed PAS(N)1 post

Note 3 Supernumerary AOSGC post created for three years from 17.2.2010 to 16.2.2013 as approved by the Finance Committee on 22.1.2010

Proposed Organisation Chart of Security Bureau



Legend :

AOSGA1 : Administrative Officer Staff Grade A1
 AOSGB1 : Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1
 AOSGB : Administrative Officer Staff Grade B
 AOSGC : Administrative Officer Staff Grade C
 BAU : Bureau Administration Unit
 CP Division : Contingency Plan Division

ESU : Emergency Support Unit
 GSO : Government Security Officer
 ITMU : Information Technology Management Unit
 PMSO : Principal Management Services Officer
 RMU : Resource Management Unit
 SU : Statistic Unit

* Permanent directorate post proposed to be created
 # Supernumerary AOSGC post created from 17.2.2010 to 6.2.2013