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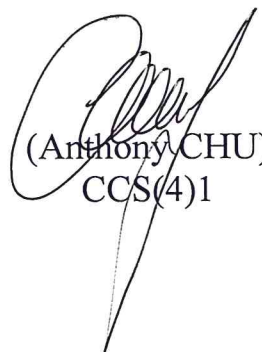
Date : 21 February 2019

Public Accounts Committee

**Recoverability of the outstanding advances to
the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

The Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") Report No. 71 was tabled in the Council on 20 February 2019. In Part 5 of the Report on the "Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Reports of the Director of Audit on the Accounts of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the year ended 31 March 2017 and the Results of Value for Money Audits (Report No. 69)", the latest progress of implementing the Director of Audit's recommendations in relation to the recoverability of the outstanding advances to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees ("UNHCR") was reported (see the **Appendix** attached).

2. PAC has followed up the issue since 1998, and has repeatedly written to the Secretary for Security expressing its concern over the Administration's recovery of the outstanding advances to UNHCR, the last time in January 2018. However, members note with concern that no progress has been made in the matter and the amount of outstanding advances has remained at \$1,162 million since 1998. While PAC will continue to keep in view of the development on the subject, members have recommended that the issue also be referred to the Panel on Security for following up with the Administration.


(Anthony CHU)
CCS(4)1

Encl

P.A.C. Report No. 71 – Part 5

Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Reports of the Director of Audit on the Accounts of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the year ended 31 March 2017 and the Results of Value for Money Audits (Report No. 69) [P.A.C. Report No. 69]

~~13. The Committee was informed that the estimated total public housing production of HKHA and the Hong Kong Housing Society in the five-year period from 2018-2019 to 2022-2023 would be 100 800 units according to HKHA's Public Housing Construction Programme as at September 2018. On land supply, the Administration had identified land for the construction of about 237 000 public housing units for the ten-year period from 2018-2019 to 2027-2028, assuming that all sites identified could be delivered on time for housing construction. The Administration acknowledged that there was a gap in the public housing supply target.~~

~~14. The Committee wishes to be kept informed of further development on the subject.~~

Recoverability of the outstanding advances to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

(Paragraphs 16 to 18 of Part 4 of P.A.C. Report No. 69)

15. The Committee was informed that the Security Bureau wrote to the Hong Kong Sub-office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in August 2018 again to reiterate the Administration's stance and register the Hong Kong community's expectation of an early recovery of the outstanding advances.

16. The Committee recommends that the issue be followed up by the LegCo Panel on Security and wishes to be kept informed of the development on the Administration's recovery of the outstanding advances to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

~~**Footbridge connections between five commercial buildings in the Central District**~~

~~*(Paragraphs 19 to 22 of Part 4 of P.A.C. Report No. 69)*~~

~~17. Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him declared that he had an office in one of the five concerned commercial buildings.~~