

**Legislative Council Motion Debate on
“Maintaining the political neutrality of the civil service”
on 28 November 2007**

Progress Report

Purpose

The paper informs Members of the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) of the follow-up actions taken by the Administration since the captioned motion debate held on 28 November 2007.

Recent Development

2. The Administration continues to pursue the objective to maintain a quality, professional, clean, meritocratic, politically neutral and permanent civil service, and to implement the relevant measures in areas such as civil service appointment system, performance management, promotion arrangements, training and development, discipline and conduct as highlighted in the Speech by the Secretary for the Civil Service in the motion debate.

3. At the motion debate, Members expressed concerns over the division of responsibilities and cooperation between civil servants and politically appointed officials under the expanded Political Appointment System. In this regard, the Civil Service Bureau (“CSB”) is in the process of drawing up a draft Code for the Civil Service, which sets out the framework within which civil servants are expected to work with politically appointed officials under the expanded Political Appointment System. CSB will consult the relevant bureaux/departments, the staff sides and the LegCo Panel on Public Service on the draft Code in due course.