Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs The Hong Kong 2009 East Asian Games Supplementary Information Paper

Purpose

In response to the requests raised by members at the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs on 17 April 2009, we have prepared the following supplementary information on the Hong Kong 2009 East Asian Games (EAG) for members' reference.

Media Centre and Media Facilities

2. The EAG Media Centre will be located on the ground floor of the Hong Kong Central Library in Causeway Bay, occupying an area of about 2 000 square metres. It will consist of three parts, namely the International Broadcasting Centre, the Press Centre and the Press Conference Theatre. The Media Centre will be able accommodate about 400 journalists at any one time during the Games period.

3. The International Broadcasting Centre (IBC) will serve as the master control for the transmission of signals for the EAG. It will collect television signals from competition venues and relay them to the local and overseas media organisations stationed at the Media Centre. The IBC could provide some 30 booths for hire by broadcast rights holders. The television signals will also be relayed to local or overseas broadcast rights holders who have not hired booths in the IBC.

4. The Press Centre will provide working space for approximately 200 to 250 journalists. The Centre will be equipped with telephones, fax machines, computers, photocopying machines and broadband Internet access to facilitate the journalists' work. Moreover, broadcasts of events and the release of live scores will also be available in the Centre to enable journalists to obtain the latest information about various EAG events.

5. The Press Conference Theatre will be the venue for holding press conferences and press briefings during the EAG period.

6. All the 21 competition venues of the EAG (including the venue for Road Cycling) will have media rooms or facilities to support news reporting. The media rooms will be equipped with telephones, fax machines and computers, and provide a range of services including wired or wireless broadband Internet access, photocopying, broadcasts of events and the release of competition results. In addition, we will set up press areas in all the venues to facilitate news reporting and will deploy staff to provide assistance to the media.

<u>100-Day Countdown cum Torch Relay</u>

7. The EAG 100-Day countdown cum Torch Relay will be held on 29 August 2009. The Torch Relay is scheduled for the afternoon, to be followed in the evening by a gala show celebrating the 100-Day countdown to the Games at a television station. We are working on the detailed arrangements and will announce these in due course.

Home Affairs Bureau May 2009