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Panel on Home Affairs

Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 15 March 2012

Safety arrangements of the 2012 Hong Kong Marathon

The Hong Kong Marathon, organized by the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association ("HKAAA") on a self-financing basis since 1997, is one of the major annual international sports events in Hong Kong. It has also been awarded the "M" Mark status under the "M" Mark Scheme launched by the Major Sports Events Committee of the Sports Commission since 2004.

2. The 2012 Hong Kong Marathon was held on 5 February 2012, featuring six 10-kilometre races, three half-marathon races, two full-marathon races as well as two wheelchair races. About 70 000 runners had registered for the event. The media reports on the death of a 26 year-old runner after competing in the half-marathon race and a number of unofficial substitute runners participating in the event had aroused wide public concern about the safety and logistical arrangements of the event. The relevant press reports are in **Appendix I**.

3. The subject of the safety arrangements of the 2012 Hong Kong Marathon has not been discussed by the Panel on Home Affairs. Three questions were raised at the Council meetings of 31 January, 28 March and 24 October 2007 respectively concerning the safety arrangements of the Hong Kong Marathon. The questions and the Administration's replies are in **Appendix II**.

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