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**Panel on Constitutional Affairs**

**Updated background brief prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat  
for the meeting on 17 December 2012**

**Initial Report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
under the United Nations Convention  
on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

**Purpose**

This paper provides background information on the initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("HKSAR") under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ("UNCRPD"), and gives an account of the discussions of the Panel on Constitutional Affairs ("the CA Panel") in respect of the initial report of HKSAR.

**Background**

2. UNCRPD has entered into force for the People's Republic of China, including HKSAR, since 31 August 2008. The purpose of the Convention is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities ("PWDs"), and to promote respect for their inherent dignity.

3. In accordance with Article 35 of UNCRPD, each State Party undertakes to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations ("UN"), for consideration by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, an initial report on measures taken to give effect to its obligations thereunder within two years after the entry into force of UNCRPD for the State concerned.

4. The HKSAR's initial report was submitted to UN in August 2010, forming part of the initial report of the People's Republic of China under the Convention. The report set out the administrative, legal and other measures taken by HKSAR to implement the Convention and the resulting progress achieved. Thereafter, HKSAR is required to submit subsequent reports at least every four years.

5. The Labour and Welfare Bureau ("LWB") is responsible for co-ordinating the overall implementation of UNCRPD in Hong Kong. The Rehabilitation Advisory Committee ("RAC"), being the principal advisory body on measures pertaining to the rights of PWDs, assists the Government in promoting and monitoring the implementation of UNCRPD in Hong Kong.

### **Discussions of the CA Panel on the initial report of HKSAR under UNCRPD**

6. LWB issued the outline of topics to be included in the initial report for a six-week public consultation from 17 February to 31 March 2010. The CA Panel discussed the outline of topics with deputations and the Administration at its meeting on 19 March 2010. The HKSAR's initial report was submitted to UN in August 2010. In anticipation of a UN hearing on China's combined report, the CA Panel discussed the initial report of HKSAR with deputations and the Administration on 18 June 2012. The major issues raised by members at these meetings are summarized in ensuing paragraphs, including the Panel's recent discussion at its meeting on 18 June 2012 in paragraphs 15 to 21 below.

#### Definition of disability

7. Some members shared the concern of the Equal Opportunities Commission ("EOC") that due to the broad definition of "disability" in the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487) ("DDO"), bureaux and departments had adopted different definitions of disability under their respective policy purviews so as to suit their respective scope of services provided to PWDs. They considered that the Government's approach had failed to address fully the needs of PWDs. They enquired whether the Administration would consider adopting the new International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health ("ICF") introduced by the World Health Organization ("WHO") under which disability and health were classified from body, individual and societal perspectives and whether the Administration would consider introducing amendments to enhance the protection afforded under DDO as proposed by EOC.

8. The Administration advised that the definition of "disability" was very broad under DDO. It included persons who were physically and mentally impaired at present, in the past and possibly in the future. The policy intention in adopting a broad definition of "disability" under DDO was to provide the widest possible protection to PWDs. Given its wide coverage, bureaux and departments had to, on a pragmatic level, adopt their own definitions of "disability" taking into account the scope of services provided and the needs of PWDs under respective policy areas. LWB would review the measures for rehabilitation and welfare services for PWDs from time to time.

9. The Administration further explained that although the ICF classification had been advocated by WHO some 10 years ago, no country had successfully applied the classification in law because of technical problems and complications. This called into question whether Hong Kong should adopt a new classification to replace the existing definition in DDO which had been used for 14 years. Nevertheless, the Administration would keep in view the world trend and make changes as and when necessary.

#### Accessibility

10. At the Panel meeting on 19 March 2010, some members echoed the concern of EOC that barrier-free access facilities for PWDs were inadequate. They considered that Hong Kong lagged behind in the provision of barrier-free access facilities in comparison with those in western countries. Some members expressed concern about the travelling arrangement for PWDs and geriatric patients and their difficulties in applying for Non-Emergency Ambulance Transfer Service and booking the Rehabus service. The Administration advised that the Hospital Authority had in recent years carried out improvement works for hospitals and provided new facilities and services that were more accessible to PWDs. The Financial Secretary had also earmarked provision for four additional new Rehabuses in 2011. The Administration would also pilot home care services for persons with severe disabilities in Kwun Tong and Tuen Mun with a view to alleviating their travelling problem.

#### Facilitating voting by PWDs in public elections

11. At the Panel meeting on 19 March 2010, some members expressed concern that the long-standing problem of barrier-free access to polling stations remained unresolved. They enquired whether the Administration would consider using mobile polling stations to facilitate voting by PWDs.

12. The Administration advised that the Registration and Electoral Office ("REO") had been putting in place various measures to ensure that PWDs could exercise their voting right. In identifying venues for use as polling stations, REO would arrange for venues accessible to PWDs as far as practicable. However, this would depend on constraints such as availability of venues suitable for use as polling stations, and consent of party responsible for its management. If there was no other suitable choice and a venue which was not readily accessible to PWDs had to be used, REO would try to provide, where circumstances permitted, temporary ramps to increase the accessibility of the polling stations to PWDs. The map attached to the poll card would indicate whether the polling station allocated to the elector was suitable for use by PWDs. An elector with a disability could contact REO for re-allocation to a polling station accessible to PWDs in his constituency. Where feasible, REO would

also arrange for Rehabus service for electors with disabilities to commute to the relevant polling stations.

### Implementation of UNCRPD and monitoring

13. At the Panel meeting on 19 March 2010, some members requested the Administration to provide a timetable setting out the various measures to be implemented by relevant bureaux and departments to give effect to the obligations under UNCRPD. The Administration explained that it might not be feasible to devise a timetable as UNCRPD touched on a wide spectrum of areas. According to the Administration, the 2007 Rehabilitation Programme Plan<sup>1</sup>, which covered similar aspects of rehabilitation services pertaining to the rights and well-being of PWDs as included in UNCRPD, had already set out clear and comprehensive strategic directions and priorities for the development of rehabilitation services for all sectors to follow.

14. Some members queried why the implementation of UNCRPD was promoted by RAC, not EOC. The Administration explained that the work of RAC and EOC would complement each other. Membership of RAC included persons with different disabilities, representatives from rehabilitation sector, community and business leaders, and professionals. Given its long and meritorious record of promoting the interests and well-being of PWDs, RAC was widely accepted by the rehabilitation sector as the suitable body to advise the Government on promoting and monitoring the implementation of UNCRPD in Hong Kong.

15. At the Panel meeting on 18 June 2012, the Panel sought the Administration's response to the suggestion that legislation should be introduced for the implementation of UNCRPD. The Administration explained that it had carefully examined its current policies and practices to ensure that they comply with the spirit and legal obligations of UNCRPD and effectively fulfill the policy goal of protecting the rights of PWDs. The Administration advised that the rights recognized in UNCRPD could be implemented by legislative, administrative and other measures. The Administration considered it unnecessary to incorporate the provisions of the Convention into domestic law. Addressing members' concerns about the adequacy of publicity efforts on UNCRPD, the Administration advised that expenditure spent on public education to promote UNCRPD had been increased from \$2 million in 2003 to \$13 million in 2011-2012.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the Administration, the 2007 Rehabilitation Programme Plan adopted a holistic approach in reviewing the development of rehabilitation services and set out the strategic directions and proposed incentives for the further enhancement of a wide range of services, including rehabilitation services for PWDs.

### Job opportunities of PWDs

16. At the Panel meeting on 18 June 2012, some members expressed concern about the possible adverse impact of the introduction of the Minimum Wage Ordinance (Cap. 608) ("MWO") on the job opportunities of PWDs with impaired productivity, as employees with disabilities enjoyed the same entitlement to the statutory minimum wage as able-bodied employees. Members also enquired about the availability of incentives to encourage recruitment of disabled employees, e.g., subsidy to employers for provision of facilities to disabled employees and tax exemption.

17. The Administration advised that in response to public concern over the possible impact of the implementation of MWO on PWDs' job opportunities, the voluntary productivity assessment under MWO was introduced so as to strike a reasonable balance between providing wage protection to PWDs and safeguarding their employment opportunities. Under MWO, employees with disabilities, not their employers, had the right to invoke the assessment which assessed the productivity of the employees concerned in the authentic workplace. The assessment served to determine the extent, if any, that the disabilities affected the degree of productivity of the employees in performing their work so as to determine whether they should be remunerated at no less than the statutory minimum wage level or at a rate commensurate with their productivity. For employees with disabilities who were already in employment and had opted for the assessment before the implementation of MWO, they would be paid no less than their original contractual rates prior to undergoing the assessment. This special arrangement for employees with disabilities had been formulated after detailed discussions between the Administration and various stakeholders.

18. Some members, however, expressed doubt about the effectiveness of the voluntary productivity assessment in enhancing the employment prospects of disabled employees with impaired productivity. They pointed out that the job opportunities for PWDs had in fact been affected by the implementation of MWO as shown by the survey findings submitted by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service. The Administration advised that for the 200-odd workers who had so far undergone assessments, their wage levels after the assessment were in general higher than those before the implementation of MWO. The small number of PWDs undergoing productivity assessment might reflect that the need for PWDs, including those PWDs already in employment before the implementation of MWO, to invoke the assessment because of employment difficulties was not prevalent at present; and some newly employed PWDs were remunerated at or above the statutory minimum wage rate and therefore did not need to undergo the assessment. The Administration undertook to review the situation two years after the implementation of MWO and would commence the review in May 2013.

19. On provision of incentives to encourage employers in the private sector to employ PWDs, the Administration advised that, under the Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities Through Small Enterprise Project operated by the Social Welfare Department, a funding ceiling of \$2 million would be available for a business if half of its employees were disabled persons. Besides, under the Labour Department's Work Orientation and Placement Scheme, the ceiling of financial incentive an eligible employer could receive had been increased from \$3,000 to \$4,000 per month, and the payment period had been extended from three months to a maximum of six months. In addition, an allocation of \$8 million was made available so that an employer could receive a maximum subsidy of \$20,000 for each employee with disabilities to provide special equipment or make alterations to the workplace to facilitate a disabled employee to adapt to the work environment.

#### Long-term policies on provision of support services and facilities for PWDs

20. At the Panel meeting on 18 June 2012, some members requested the Administration to give an account of its long-term policies on improvement of the support services and facilities to facilitate PWDs' integration with the society. The Administration advised that the rehabilitation policy was one of the foci of LWB. In terms of resources commitment for this policy area, the budget had been increased from \$16.6 billion in 2007-2008 to \$23.2 billion in 2011-2012, representing an increase of 40%. According to the Administration, it had been the policy objective and the development directions of the Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan to help PWDs develop their potential as well as to build a barrier-free living environment with a view to enabling PWDs to participate in full and enjoy equal opportunities both in terms of their social life and personal growth.

21. The Administration also advised that it would improve the provision of support services and facilities for PWDs by taking the following measures –

- (a) the number of subsidized residential care places for various rehabilitation services was increased by 1 409 places, representing an increase of 13% to the total provision of 11 000 places, and 627 additional places would be provided in 2012-2013. Premises were also reserved for providing another 746 residential care places for PWDs in the next four years;
- (b) the pilot scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities was launched in March 2011 to facilitate home living of PWDs while waiting for residential care services. The Community Care Fund had also introduced the Assistance Programme of Special

Care Subsidy for the Severely Disabled with a view to providing additional assistance to severely disabled persons living in the community. Each eligible person would receive a monthly special care subsidy of \$2,000 for a period of not more than 12 months;

- (c) the Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness were set up across the territory to provide one-stop integrated community mental health support services ranging from prevention to crisis management to discharged patients, persons with suspected mental health problems and their families;
- (d) the Community Care Fund introduced the Assistance Programme of 'Training Subsidy for Children who are on the Waiting List of Subvented Pre-school Rehabilitation Services' in 2011-2012, with a view to providing training subsidy for pre-school children from low-income families and in need of rehabilitation services. The maximum monthly subsidy for services for each eligible child was \$2,500 for a maximum period of 12 months; and
- (e) in response to the EOC's Formal Investigation Report on Accessibility in Publicly Accessible Premises released on 7 June 2010, retrofitting programme for upgrading the barrier-free facilities were being carried out in Government and Housing Authority premises/facilities. Nearly 90% of them would be retrofitted by 30 June 2012 and the remaining by 30 June 2014. The Highways Department was also in the course of implementing its retrofitting programme for the provision of barrier-free access at public footbridges, subways or elevated walkway structures without such access.

### **Recent development**

22. The UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities conducted a hearing to consider the China's combined report (including HKSAR's part) from 18 to 19 September 2012. The Administration will brief the Panel on the concluding observations of the UN Committee and the Administration's initial response to the concluding recommendations at the next meeting on 17 December 2012.

### **Relevant motion/questions and papers**

23. At the Council meeting of 21 November 2012, Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung moved a motion on "Building an inclusive society for all" urging the Government

to expeditiously establish an independent dedicated committee to promote, give effect to and monitor the Government's full implementation of the relevant provisions of UNCRPD. The motion, as amended by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG, Hon WONG Kwok-hing, Hon CHAN Han-pan, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki, Hon Emily LAU and Hon Michael TIEN, was passed by the Council. The wording of the passed motion is at **Appendix I**.

24. At the Council meeting of 31 October 2012, Hon Emily LAU raised an oral question regarding the concluding observations and recommendations issued by the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on the HKSAR's initial report. The question raised by Ms LAU and the reply of the Secretary for Labour and Welfare are in **Appendix II**. Details of other questions relating to UNCRPD raised at Council meetings since the first LegCo and relevant papers available on the LegCo website (<http://www.legco.gov.hk>) are in **Appendix III**.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
13 December 2012



(Translation)

**Motion on  
“Building an inclusive society for all”  
Moved by Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
at the Council meeting of 21 November 2012**

**Motion as amended by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG,  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, Hon CHAN Han-pan, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki,  
Hon Emily LAU and Hon Michael TIEN**

That, Hong Kong as an international city is advanced in economic development but falls behind in social development, often neglecting the basic rights of persons with disabilities; as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (‘the Convention’) has been in force in Hong Kong since 31 August 2008, this Council urges the Government to expeditiously establish an independent dedicated committee to promote, give effect to and monitor the SAR Government’s full implementation of the relevant provisions of the Convention, and based on the World Health Organization’s international standards on the definition of disabilities, to extend the scope of protection for persons with disabilities, review the definition of ‘severely disabled’ for Disability Allowance, and allow persons with disabilities under the age of 12 and those who do not lose 100% of their work capacity to equally enjoy the rights conferred under the Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities; and on 9 November 2011, this Council passed a motion on ‘Comprehensively reviewing the Disability Allowance scheme’, to which the authorities responded on the same day that they expected to complete the review of the Disability Allowance (‘DA’) scheme in early 2012 and report comprehensively to the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services (‘the Panel’); this Council urges the Government to expeditiously report the outcome of the Government’s review on the DA scheme to the Panel, so that this Council can conduct timely follow-up discussions in order to be accountable to all persons with disabilities in Hong Kong; this Council also urges the Government:

- (a) to conduct studies on extending the Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities to maxicabs and trams, etc.;
- (b) to increase barrier-free transport services such as the numbers of buses under Rehabus services and Easy-Access Transport Services, etc., so as to provide more point-to-point services for persons with disabilities;

- (c) to expeditiously implement the ‘universal accessibility’ programme to provide barrier-free access, and actively respond to the suggestions put forward by members of the public from various districts on the construction of barrier-free access;
- (d) to proactively promote barrier-free community facilities, improve community facilities, and provide owners’ corporations of buildings with technical and funding support for improving the main entry and exit access of their buildings;
- (e) to formulate a five-year plan for community care, build additional residential care homes for persons with disabilities and increase the number of places, so as to shorten the waiting time for admission and access to services;
- (f) to put in place a ‘subsidy for carers of persons with disabilities’ to assist carers of persons with disabilities in alleviating their financial burdens and mitigate the impact on their livelihood due to their inability to go out to work;
- (g) to set up a quota system for employing persons with disabilities and provide tax concessions to encourage employers to employ more persons with disabilities; and
- (h) to proactively support rehabilitation organizations to establish social enterprises, so as to provide employment opportunities for persons with disabilities;
- (i) in respect of enhancing public education, to implement Article 8 of the Convention, raise the awareness of the community at large regarding persons with disabilities, and combat stereotypes, prejudices and harmful practices relating to persons with disabilities, so as to achieve the harmonious integration between persons with disabilities and able-bodied persons;
- (j) in respect of creating a barrier-free environment, to implement Article 9 of the Convention and examine the existing barrier-free measures in connection with buildings, roads, transportation and other indoor and outdoor facilities, including schools, housing, medical facilities and workplaces;
- (k) to assist persons with disabilities in integrating into community life and implement Article 19 of the Convention, ensuring that public facilities

and various types of community services are responsive to the needs of persons with disabilities; and

- (l) in respect of supporting school children with specific learning difficulties, to implement Article 24 of the Convention, make reference to the special education policies of other countries and regions, and enact a 'special education law' to protect the learning needs of school children with specific learning difficulties; the Government should also strengthen teacher training, create a suitable learning environment, and ensure the integration of school children with specific learning difficulties into community life; and
- (m) to implement the recommendations relating to Hong Kong made by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities after it had examined the report submitted by China (including Hong Kong and Macao) on her implementation of the Convention during the session convened at Geneva in September this year; and
- (n) to expeditiously review the impact of the implementation of the minimum wage on the employment of persons with disabilities.

## Appendix II

**Press Releases**

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LCQ1: Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
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Following is a question by the Hon Emily Lau and a reply by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, in the Legislative Council today (October 31):

Question:

At its meetings held on September 18 and 19 in Geneva, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee) considered the report submitted by China (including Hong Kong and Macao) on China's fulfillment of her obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Convention), and the Committee published its concluding observations and recommendations at the end of September. In this connection, will the Executive Authorities inform this Council:

(a) given that the Committee has pointed out in its concluding observations that the rank of Hong Kong's Commissioner for Rehabilitation is too low and that Hong Kong lacks an independent monitoring mechanism, whether the authorities will consider appointing a person of a higher rank to be the Commissioner for Rehabilitation and setting up an independent monitoring mechanism so as to ensure that Hong Kong will effectively fulfill her obligations under the Convention;

(b) given that the Committee has expressed concern about the rather passive role adopted by the Equal Opportunities Commission, which is responsible for monitoring and executing the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, how the authorities will make improvements in this regard; and

(c) whether they will set up an inter-departmental group led by the Chief Secretary for Administration, with dedicated responsibility for executing and co-ordinating matters in relation to fulfilling the obligations under the Convention and handling issues about the rights and interests of persons with disabilities?

Reply:

President,

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government is committed to promoting, protecting and ensuring the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities in accordance with the law, and to promoting respect for their inherent dignity. It has all along been our policy objective to help persons with disabilities develop their capabilities as well as to build a barrier-free living environment with a view to enabling persons with disabilities to participate in full both in social life and personal growth, and enjoy equal opportunities. This is the spirit and core value enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Convention) as well as the direction of further development of rehabilitation services in Hong Kong.

My reply to the Hon Emily Lau's question is as follows:

(a) The Commissioner for Rehabilitation (C for R) of the Labour and Welfare Bureau is responsible to the Secretary for Labour and Welfare (SLW) for the formulation of the overall rehabilitation policy for persons with disabilities, and for co-ordinating and facilitating all government departments, public organisations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the development and provision of rehabilitation services. Following the application of the Convention to Hong Kong, C for R has henceforth taken up

the role as the focal point within the HKSAR Government for matters relating to the implementation of the Convention. Meanwhile, relevant bureaux and departments have the responsibilities to ensure that the policies and measures under their purview are in compliance with the spirit and provisions of the Convention. Subject to the development of the implementation of the Convention and related work, we will consider reviewing the duties and responsibilities and ranking of the C for R post, as well as the establishment and manpower of his/her team.

As for the monitoring mechanism, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), as the statutory and independent enforcement agency of the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (DDO), has all along been upholding the equal opportunities of persons with disabilities and safeguarding their specified rights under DDO. In tandem, the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee (RAC), being the principal advisory body of the Government on the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities, has been assuming the important role of monitoring the implementation of the Convention in Hong Kong in addition to assisting the Government in promoting the Convention. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of RAC are all non-officials, including persons with different disabilities, parents of persons with disabilities, representatives from self-help organisations of persons with disabilities and NGOs providing rehabilitation services, academics, community and business leaders, professionals and other persons who have a keen interest in the well-being of persons with disabilities. Representatives of relevant government bureaux and departments also serve as ex-officio members to provide the necessary support to RAC and follow up the issues raised by RAC as appropriate. With wide acceptance and representation, RAC is the most suitable central mechanism to promote the implementation of the Convention. We consider that the existing framework has been effective in monitoring the implementation of the Convention in Hong Kong.

(b) Apart from handling complaints in accordance with DDO, EOC will also proactively initiate regular investigations. For the period from September 20, 1996 to September 30, 2012, about 12 per cent of DDO-related investigations were initiated by EOC. Moreover, EOC has made proactive efforts to promote the rights of persons with disabilities on different fronts. Some examples are set out below:

(i) Barrier-free access and facilities

In December 2006, EOC initiated a formal investigation on the barrier-free access of the premises and facilities owned or managed by the public sector, including the Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong Housing Society, The Link Management Ltd and the Government, and released a Formal Investigation Report on Accessibility in Publicly Accessible Premises in June 2010.

(ii) Mental health

EOC has actively participated in the Mental Health Month, a major public education programme, since 1999 and collaborated with the Government and stakeholders to promote mental health. Furthermore, EOC, in collaboration with relevant NGOs, actively puts forward proposals to the Government for further enhancement of the mental health policy and services.

(iii) Education

EOC has commissioned a Study on Equal Learning Opportunities for Students with Disabilities under the Integrated Education System to review the implementation of integrated education in Hong Kong and to find ways to further enhance the equal learning opportunities of students with special educational needs. The study report is expected to be released at the end of 2012.


(c) C for R is responsible to SLW for the co-ordination of matters relating to the implementation of the Convention within the HKSAR Government, while relevant bureaux and departments have

the responsibilities of reviewing the policies and measures under their purview and taking appropriate follow-up action to ensure that the policies and measures are in compliance with the spirit and provisions of the Convention. Under the existing mechanism, major policies that cut across different bureaux will be discussed at the Policy Committee or the relevant Policy Groups chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration (CS) and the Financial Secretary, and any decisions subsequently made will be properly followed up by relevant bureaux and departments. Where necessary, an inter-departmental task force will be set up to follow up on the matters. For example, with the support and steer of CS and SLW, C for R is responsible for co-ordination with relevant departments to take forward a large-scale retrofitting programme on upgrading the barrier-free facilities for government venues. With the full co-operation of all relevant departments, the retrofitting programme has made satisfactory progress and achieved the desired results. We consider that the existing framework has been effective in addressing the issues relating to persons with disabilities.

Promotion and implementation of the Convention is an ongoing initiative. During the process, we will continue to work in close partnership with RAC, EOC, groups of persons with disabilities, the rehabilitation sector and other sectors in the community to strive to further promote the rights and equal opportunities for persons with disabilities, and to facilitate their active participation in community activities and full integration into society, with a view to building an inclusive, caring and equal society.

Ends/Wednesday, October 31, 2012  
Issued at HKT 14:42

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## Appendix III

### Relevant documents on Initial Report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Committee	Date of meeting	Paper
Legislative Council	17.3.2010	<a href="#">Official Record of Proceedings Pages 104 – 109 (Written question raised by Hon Emily LAU)</a>
Panel on Constitutional Affairs ("CA Panel")	19.3.2010 (Item IV)	<a href="#">Agenda Minutes</a>
Legislative Council	26.5.2010	<a href="#">Official Record of Proceedings Pages 119 – 122 (Written question raised by Hon Emily LAU)</a>
Subcommittee on Improving Barrier Free Access and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities under the Panel on Welfare Services ("WS Panel")	29.5.2012 (WS Panel meeting)	<a href="#">Report of the Subcommittee on Improving Barrier Free Access and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities</a>
Legislative Council	30.5.2012	<a href="#">Official Record of Proceedings Pages 36 – 48 (Oral question raised by Hon Albert HO)</a>
	13.6.2012	<a href="#">Official Record of Proceedings Pages 131 – 135 (Written question raised by Hon Emily LAU)</a>
CA Panel	18.6.2012 (Item II)	<a href="#">Agenda Minutes</a>

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Paper</b>
Legislative Council	31.10.2012	<a href="#">Official Record of Proceedings Pages 7 – 19 (Oral question raised by Hon Emily LAU)</a>
	21.11.2012	<a href="#">Official Record of Proceedings Pages 202 – 262 (Motion moved by Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung)</a>

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