#### (Translation)

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The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Security Bureau

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By Fax: 2185 7845 (Total: 5 pages)

20 November 2012

Miss Betty Ma Clerk to Panel on Security Legislative Council Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Ma,

### Legislative Council Panel on Security Follow-up to Meeting on 16 October 2012

I refer to the letter from the Secretariat dated 30 October 2012. As regards the information requested by the Panel, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) has furnished a reply as follows:

"The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) holds flag-raising ceremony on 1 July and 1 October each year in the Golden Bauhinia Square in Wan Chai to celebrate the establishment of the HKSAR and the People's Republic of China respectively. These celebration activities are co-ordinated by the HAD. To facilitate programme arrangements and venue set-up, the HAD will in advance secure from all owners of the properties and land titles of the venue the exclusive right of use on the day of the event. The exclusive right covers the entire area north of Convention Avenue between Expo Drive and Expo Drive East in Wan Chai. In the area outside the venue, the Police will make available a number of designated public activity areas for demonstrators and petitioners to gather and express their opinions.

In addition, to ensure the smooth conduct of the ceremony in a solemn manner without any disruption, the HAD has consulted relevant government departments and legal advice to formulate the Rules on the

Use of the Venue and the Rules to Observe (the Rules). In accordance with the Rules, any person who displays slogans without prior permission from the organiser or acts in a disruptive manner or otherwise disturbs the ceremony in the venue may be asked to leave. All persons attending the ceremony must observe the Rules. For information of all persons entering the venue and attending the ceremony, the Rules will be displayed at the entrances and in prominent places in the venue on the day of the event. The above arrangements for the management of venue and maintenance of order have been implemented since 2003. The Rules on the Use of the Venue and the Rules to Observe are at the <u>Annex</u>.

Regarding the incident on 1 October 2012, some members of the public were asked to leave the venue of the ceremony on the ground that they had displayed slogans in the designated area without prior permission from the organiser and had acted in a disruptive manner, including yelling, etc. In the circumstances, the frontline staff responsible for maintenance of order of the venue (including the staff of the HAD and the security personnel of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre) acted in accordance with the Rules and established operation procedures, and asked these members of the public to leave the venue and proceed to the area outside the entrance at Convention Avenue. Police intervention was at the request of the HAD to assist the frontline staff in removing from the venue individuals who had breached the Rules and refused to co-operate so as to maintain peace and public order."

As prompt actions had to be taken by then, the concerned police officers had not declared their police identities in time. The Police have reminded the officers concerned, when performing duties in future, to reveal their identities as far as possible before taking actions.

Yours sincerely,

( Mrs Millie Ng ) for Secretary for Security

c.c.

Director of Home Affairs

(Attn: Chief Liaison Officer (SD)2 Fax No.: 3583 2645)

Commissioner of Police

(Attn: Assistant Commissioner of Police (Support) Fax No.: 2200 4328)

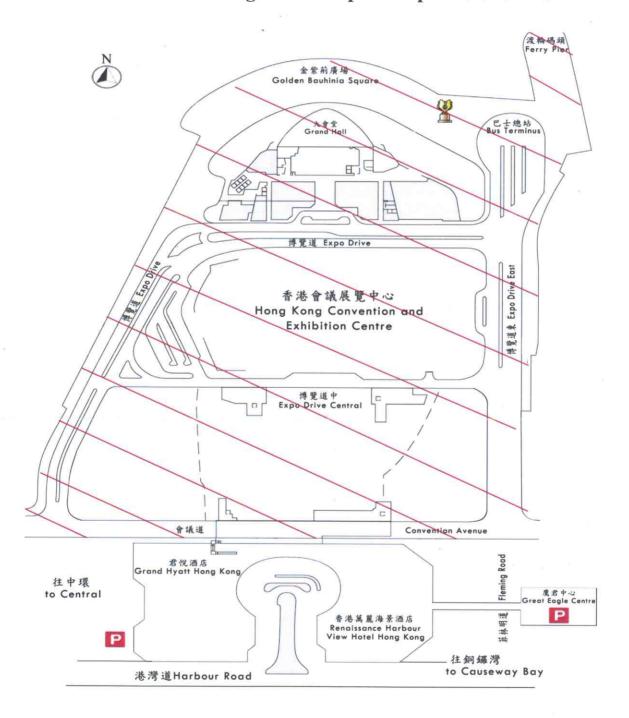
## Celebration Activities for the 63rd Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China

#### Rules on the Use of the Venue

- 1. The venue for holding the Events is shown at the attached plan.
- 2. Persons attending the Ceremony (persons) must comply with the Rules to Observe and other rules and instructions issued by the organizer.
- 3. To ensure public safety and order at the venue, persons shall not bring any glass containers or any other dangerous items into the venue. The organizer may inspect the personal belongings of persons seeking entry to the venue.
- 4. No loudhailers, banners, buntings, flyers or materials bearing slogans/ publicity materials of any kind shall be brought into and/ or used/ displayed in the venue without prior permission from the organizer.
- 5. No promotional materials, souvenirs and give-away items may be distributed in the venue without prior permission from the organizer.
- 6. The organizer will deny entry to the venue or remove from it any person who fails to comply with the Rules on the Use of the Venue.

### 慶祝中華人民共和國成立六十三周年慶祝活動活動場地

Venue for Celebration Activities for the 63rd Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China





中華人民共和國成立六十三周年 63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China

# 慶祝中華人民共和國成立六十三周年 觀禮規則

任何人士出席慶祝活動及儀式時,請保持莊重,在國旗和區旗升起時肅立致敬。任何人士如干擾程序或擾亂儀式的進行,會被要求離場。

### **Rules to Observe**

Persons attending the celebration activities and ceremonies are requested to observe the solemnity of the occasion and to stand in silence during the raising of the National and Regional Flags. Any person who acts in a disruptive manner or otherwise disturbs the Ceremony will be asked to leave.