(Translation)

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4 September 2014

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

Dear Miss Ma,

Panel on Security Follow-up to meeting on 8 July 2014

At the meeting of the Panel on Security on 8 July 2014, Members requested supplementary information on agenda item IV "Weapons training for police officers" and agenda item VI "Police's handling of public meetings and public processions". The Administration's reply is as follows:

Decision Making Training System [paragraph 38 of the minutes]

Since its introduction in 1991, the Police have been enhancing and updating the "Decision Making Training System" which is supported by multi-media technology. Since 2002, trainees may decide the different levels of force to be used in the light of the specific circumstances of simulated scenarios, including the use of verbal advice/verbal control, empty-hand control, oleoresin capsicum foam, batons and firearms. Instructors may also fine-tune the development of the case in line with the trainees' decisions. For instance, a suspect in a training scenario may choose to surrender to or attack the police officer, or be subdued.

All new recruits and serving officers (including those issued with revolvers while on duty) receive "decision making training" under the most updated System. Serving officers receive such training on an annual basis.

Handling of persons arrested at the Chater Road assembly on 2 July [paragraph 106 of the minutes]

The Police always respect the rights of arrestees and inform each of them of his/her rights, including the rights to seek legal assistance, to contact his/her families and to be provided with food and water.

Under normal circumstances, arrestees have the right of external communication, such as seeking legal assistance and contacting their families. Telephones are also provided at the detention facilities for their use. In the 2 July operation, the Police handled the matter in accordance with established procedures. Inevitably, it took a longer time to make arrangements due to the large number of arrestees. Based on police record, 39 lawyers met 233 arrestees under police arrangement in this operation. Food and water were also timely provided to the arrestees according to established procedures. Arrestees were arranged to use telephones upon their request.

The Police are absolutely confident and capable in handling any internal security incidents occurring in Hong Kong. The use of venues is determined in the light of operational requirements. In selecting a suitable venue, the Police shall give comprehensive consideration to security issues, including whether the venue is suitable for the detention of arrestees and whether it has sufficient space, facilities, etc. In this operation, the Police have deployed sufficient manpower for various tasks, including the handling and custody of the arrestees.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs Millie Ng) for Secretary for Security

c.c.

Commissioner of Police

(Attn: Director of Police College

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