

Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality

In 2010, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) issued the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines) to provide general guidance to relevant Government bureaux and departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access by ethnic minorities to public services in key areas concerned, and to take this into account in their formulation, implementation and review of relevant policies and measures. The Guidelines cover the key public services which are particularly relevant to meeting the special needs of ethnic minorities and facilitating their integration into the community, namely, medical, education, vocational training, employment and major community services. The scope of application of the Guidelines covered 14 bureaux and departments and public authorities in 2010, and has now been extended to cover 23¹.

2. According to the Guidelines, the concerned bureaux, departments and public authorities should draw up checklists of measures that would assist in promoting racial equality and equal access to key public services to enhance the transparency of their work. The checklists contain contact information of the bureaux/departments/public authorities and have been uploaded onto the CMAB website. Where necessary, the bureaux/departments/public authorities will issue updates on the information of the checklists.

3. We reviewed the operation of the Guidelines in 2014. Various bureaux/departments/public authorities have given a positive response to the implementation of the Guidelines, and a number of them have put in place new measures to assist ethnic minorities. For example, the Labour Department has, on a pilot basis, engaged 15 ethnic minority

¹ The 23 bureaux and departments and public authorities are the Education Bureau, Social Welfare Department, Labour Department, Home Affairs Department, Employees Retraining Board, Vocational Training Council, Food and Health Bureau, Department of Health, Hospital Authority, Construction Industry Council, Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, Innovation and Technology Commission, Office of the Communications Authority, Housing Department, Hong Kong Observatory, Post Office, Legal Aid Department, Hong Kong Police Force, Correctional Services Department, Customs and Excise Department, Immigration Department, Fire Services Department and Registration and Electoral Office.

trainees of the Youth Employment and Training Programme and provided them with six-month on-the-job training in its Job Centres starting from September 2014; the Hospital Authority has introduced special meal arrangements for ethnic minorities in need, such as provision of halal food; and the Correctional Services Department has provided its staff with training on the Indonesian language besides other minority languages. To facilitate experience sharing among these departments, CMAB has shared among relevant bureaux/departments/public authorities the measures that have been put in place.

4. We will continue to keep the scope, coverage, and implementation of the Guidelines under review.

Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau
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