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**Panel on Security**

**Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat  
for the meeting on 5 January 2016**

**Training on psychological quality of police officers**

The subject of training on psychological quality of police officers per se has not been discussed by the Panel on Security ("the Panel"). However, it had been raised at several meetings of the Panel in the context of discussions on the Police's handling of public assemblies relating to the "Occupy Movement" ("the Movement"). Some members expressed concern that frontline police officers involved in the handling of incidents relating to the Movement were under heavy work pressure, did not have enough rests and had to exercise particular restraint when faced with provocation from many participants of the Movement who scolded police officers and insulted them with abusive language. Many police officers and their families had also become victims of cyber-bullying. According to the Administration, the Police management had been maintaining close communication with frontline police officers and police staff associations. The fundamental training for police officers included training on self-recognition and crowd management. Appropriate counselling was also provided to police officers in need.

2. At its meeting on 4 November 2014, the Panel passed a motion moved by Hon Michael TIEN urging the Administration, among others, to address the additional psychological pressure borne by police officers due to the Movement, formulate measures to support frontline police officers and proactively provide them with psychological counselling.

3. According to the Administration's replies to Members' initial written questions on the Estimates of Expenditure 2015-2016 -

- (a) the Police Psychological Services Group ("FPSG") provided police officers with training in positive psychology, enabling them to

maintain a positive attitude towards work and positive emotions. FPSG had also developed a programme known as "Psychological Gear in Large-scale Public Order Events" in 2013, covering areas such as caring for one's body and mind, giving recognition to work, understanding crowd psychology and emotion management during operation;

- (b) after the Movement, the Personnel Services and Staff Relations Branch of the Police had organised 165 positive workshops with the theme "Shoulder the Challenge, Stride toward 2015" for over 6 000 police officers who had participated in the operation. The purpose was to encourage them to tackle negative emotions with a positive attitude and promote esprit de corps; and
- (c) the Police would continue to provide officers with other training in psychological and emotional adjustment. An emotional fitness training programme had recently been launched by the Hong Kong Police College.

4. The Administration will brief the Panel on the training on psychological quality of police officers at the meeting on 5 January 2016.