

REFUGEE UNION HK.

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Ladies and gentlemen,

I speak on behalf of Refugee Union.

At this moment I would like to thank organizers, officials and individuals in your capacity for this precious opportunity given to represent Refugee Union Hong Kong.

Refugees deserve protection, Hong Kong promised to protect "refugees" on 9 December 1992, when the United Nation Convention against Torture (CAT) was extended to Hong Kong.

The most important point is PROTECTION. (PS)

During screening of cases why are 99.5% of the cases rejected?

Can Hong Kong honestly say that 99.5% of claims cannot be substantiate?

Is it possible that USM is unsuitable to substantiate refugee's claims?

What is the use of a screening mechanism that rejects 99.5% of cases? Is it biased? (PS)?

Is the USM used by Immigration as a migration control system to reject unwelcome people?

If USM were designed to protect refugees wouldn't the acceptance rate be higher?

What would be reasonable by International standards? 10%.....5%.....1%.....?

In developed countries the refugees' acceptance rate is between 25% and 45%.

How can Hong Kong justify a 0.5% acceptance rate in 23 years since 1992? Yet the convention was signed?

REQUEST: _ Refugees need respect of personal liberty.

_ Refugees need a believable acceptance rate.

_ Refugees demand stop to the smear campaign

_ Refugees need right to conditional work.

However, there is Government crisis in differentiating between strong and weak claims.

There is a crisis in addressing genuine cases. (PS)

Once more, i would like to thank Hong Kong Government for the assistance given to us but refugees are human beings with basic needs that need to be met by welfare or by working.

If the government does not allow refugees to work, then the Government must meet our basic needs.

A critical reflection about refugees' issues is needed based on humanitarian grounds not to generalize.

Generally to speak about camps is unacceptable. (PS)

Thank you.