

香港特別行政區政府  
保安局



The Government of the  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
Security Bureau

香港添馬添美道 2 號

2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

本函檔號 Our Ref.:

來函檔號 Your Ref.: SBCR 7/3221/15 Pt.11

15 March 2019

Clerk to Legislative Council Subcommittee to Follow Up Issues Relating  
to the Unified Screening Mechanism for Non-refoulement Claims  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong  
(Attn: Ms Betty MA)

Dear Ms Ma,

**Legislative Council Subcommittee to Follow Up Issues Relating to  
the Unified Screening Mechanism for Non-refoulement Claims**

**Follow-up matters to the meeting of 15 January 2019**

In response to the follow-up matters raised at the captioned Subcommittee meeting, the Government provides the supplementary information as below –

**(a) Non-refoulement claims substantiated at the appeal stage with legal representation**

As at end 2018, 29 non-refoulement claims substantiated on appeal were with legal representation.

**(b) Non-refoulement claimants who had been staying in Hong Kong for over 10 years**

Since 2016, the Immigration Department (“ImmD”) has introduced a number of administrative measures to streamline workflow under the existing legal framework, alongside additional manpower and resources, to expedite the screening of claims. The backlog of claims is now largely cleared up with their screening basically completed. As at

end February 2019, 296 claims are pending screening by ImmD. Out of these claims, 9 claimants made a non-refoulement claim for the first time before 2009. Whilst screening of such claims were delayed before due to various reasons (e.g. medical reasons), their claims are all being handled now.

At the same time, some 6 200 appeals are pending handling by the Torture Claims Appeal Board ("TCAB"). Out of these appeals, about 700 appellants made a non-refoulement claim for the first time before 2009. We will consider asking TCAB to accord priority to these appeals as appropriate.

For further enquiries, please contact the undersigned at 2810 2099.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Cyrus Cheung', written in a cursive style.

(Cyrus Cheung)  
for Secretary for Security