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30 May 2018

Clerk to the Panel on Constitutional Affairs
(Attn: Ms Joanne MAK)
The Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Mak,

Panel on Constitutional Affairs

At its meeting on 30 April 2018, the Panel on Constitutional Affairs (CA Panel) called for the Government to provide response to the request made by Hon LAM Cheuk-ting to make available the section on the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) for public comment before it is submitted to the Central People's Government (CPG) for inclusion in the national report to the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council (HRC) under the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism, and report the progress of its work in following up the recommendations of the UNHRC.

It has been the established practice of the HKSAR Government to provide an outline of the HKSAR report to be submitted under various international human rights treaties (including the UPR mechanism) for public consultation prior to the preparation of the relevant report. For the current round of public consultation from 3 April to 7 May 2018, the outline of the third report of the HKSAR for the UPR has been widely issued to stakeholders, including the Legislative Council (LegCo), interested NGOs and members of the Human Rights Forum, Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony, Ethnic Minorities Forum and Children's Rights Forum, and was made available

on the HKSAR Government website and at the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres of District Offices. The outline was also discussed at the CA Panel on 30 April 2018 at which representatives of interested NGOs presented their views. In this connection, the HKSAR Government would take into account the views expressed by Members and the deputations, together with other views received during the consultation exercise in drafting the HKSAR section of the report.

Given that an extensive public consultation has already been conducted, the HKSAR Government has no plan to launch another round of public consultation prior to the submission of the HKSAR section to the CPG for inclusion in the national report. The Report of the HKSAR will be published after the United Nations Human Rights Council has received it. The Report will be made available to stakeholders, including the LegCo, members of the forums mentioned in the paragraph above and interested NGOs, and will also be accessible to the public at the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres of District Offices, public libraries and the HKSAR Government website.

The HKSAR Government takes UN Treaty Bodies' Concluding Observations very seriously. Under the existing practice, the HKSAR Government will provide information in response to the recommendations of the UN committees on the latter's request. The follow-up reports will also be made available on the HKSAR Government website. Furthermore, in drafting report for any UN human rights treaties, the relevant bureaux / departments will respond to concerns and related recommendations raised in the Concluding Observations on the previous report, as well as provide explanation and update on the implementation progress of the recommendations as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Cathy LI)

for Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs