



司法機構政務處

Judiciary Administration

電話 Tel: (852) 2867 5203
傳真 Fax: (852) 2501 4636
本函檔號 Our Ref.: SC/CR/19/1/27 PT3
來函檔號 Your Ref.: CB4/PL/AJLS

2 September 2019

Mr Lemuel Woo
Clerk to Panel on
Administration of Justice and Legal Services
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Woo,

Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services

**Proposed amendments to the High Court Ordinance (Cap. 4) to facilitate
the more efficient handling of cases,
including those relating to non-refoulement claims**

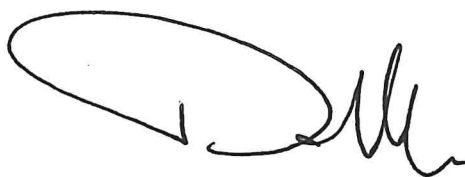
At the meeting of the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services on 24 June 2019, the Judiciary has been requested to provide information about the longest time taken for the court to handle a non-refoulement claim case. Our reply is set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

2. The Judiciary does not keep separate statistics for the processing time for non-refoulement claim cases. Furthermore, Members may wish to note that it is the Judiciary's general policy not to provide specific information relating to particular cases. In any event, the time taken by the court to handle one particular case would not be a good indicator of the general situation relating to the operation

of the courts. A wide range of factors can affect the processing and the eventual disposal of an individual case, including its complexity, the preparedness of the parties etc, some of which are beyond the control of the courts.

3. The Judiciary has been making every effort to deal with increasing number of non-refoulement claim cases as expeditious as possible, including engaging temporary judicial resources where it is practicable. The proposed legislative amendments would increase the flexibility in the deployment of judicial manpower and bring about a positive impact on overall case management at different levels of courts. The Judiciary would continue to closely monitor the situation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'D' followed by several loops and a final flourish.

(David Lau)
for Judiciary Administrator