



司法機構政務長

Judiciary Administrator

20 March 2020

Dr Hon Priscilla Leung, SBS, JP  
Chairman  
Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Chairman,

**Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services  
("AJLS Panel")  
Preparation for Court Resumption**

Thank you for your letter of 12 March 2020. Further to my letters of 24 February, 27 February and 6 March 2020, on the instruction of the Chief Justice, I am writing to provide an update on the Judiciary's latest position regarding court resumption for the information of the AJLS panel.

2. The Judiciary previously announced that the General Adjourned Period ("GAP") would end on 22 March if public health situation permits. Having considered the latest public health situation and all the other relevant factors, the Judiciary considers that while GAP may end on 22 March as scheduled, enhanced health preventive measures would need to be introduced for court proceedings and court users coming to court buildings.

3. Furthermore, as set out in my letter of 6 March, the Judiciary has decided to re-open court registries and offices ahead of the cessation of GAP starting from 9 March by adopting a staggered and progressive approach. As at 19 March 2020, all court registries and offices are re-opened in an orderly manner.

4. During GAP and indeed beyond that, having regard to the public health situation, the Judiciary has been making efforts to minimize the flow of people in court premises and avoid the gathering of crowds in confined areas such as courtrooms, court lobbies and registry areas as far as practicable. At the same time, a whole range of preventive measures have been put in place to protect the well-being of all those who are required to or need to attend court premises during GAP. These arrangements and measures will continue and will be reviewed on a regular basis.

5. At the invitation of the AJLS Panel, the Judiciary is pleased to provide a detailed account in relation to GAP and the resumption arrangements for the information of the AJLS Panel shortly.

Yours sincerely,

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

(Miss Emma Lau)  
Judiciary Administrator

c.c. Ms Teresa Cheng, GBS, SC, JP  
Secretary for Justice

Mr Philip Dykes, SC  
President, Hong Kong Bar Association

Ms Melissa K Pang  
President, the Law Society of Hong Kong