

葛珮帆議員 BBS JP 主席 《2020 年入境(修訂)條例草案》委員會 香港中區立法會道 1號立法會綜合大樓

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葛珮帆議員 BBS JP 大鑒:

## 有關《2020年入境(修訂)條例草案》公聽會

繼 2021 年 1 月 25 日來函, 本會現再次致函促請《2020 年入境(修訂)條例草案》委員會(「委員會」)召開公聽會,讓公眾人士參與及作口頭申述。

閣下於 2021 年 2 月 5 日的委員會會議上提到,相關持份者已有機會在 2018 年 10 月 18 日的跟進免遣返聲請統一審核機制有關事宜小組委員會(「小組委員會」)會議上,就免遣返保聲請事宜作出口頭申述。因此,法案委員會無需再就《2020 年入境(修訂)條例草案》(「條例草案」)舉行公聽會。

我們必須強調《條例草案》的文本於 2020 年 12 月 4 日刊憲。故此,公眾人士在 2018 年的小組委員會討論時,只能就政府對處理免遣返聲請策略的全面檢討提出意見。到目前為止,相關持份者還沒有機會就《2020 年入境(修訂)條例草案》下的建議提出口頭意見。

就召開虛擬公聽會的技術問題,立法會秘書處的馬淑霞女士在上次委員會會議上確認,召開遙距公聽會在技術上是可行的。雖然馬女士擔心秘書處未必能核實發言人的身份,但我們認為此問題能夠透過網上核實的方法輕易解決,例如要求發言人在參與公聽會前透過鏡頭向秘書處出示身份證明文件。

大安

Virginie Goethals

關注難民網絡總召集人

關注難民網絡聯署機構

RUN Hong Kong Justice Centre Hong Kong The Refugee Ministry Group 香港佑寧堂 Youth Global Network

2021年3月2日

Hon Elizabeth Quat BBS JP
The Chairperson
Bills Committee on Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

By email: bc 53 20@legco.gov.hk

Dear Legislator Quat,

## Re: Public hearing on the Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020

Further to our letter on 25 January 2021, we are writing again to urge the Bills Committee on Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020 ("the Bills Committee") to convene a public hearing for members of the public to make oral representations.

At the last Bills Committee meeting on 5 February 2021, you mentioned that stakeholders have had the oppurtunity to make oral representations on issues concerning non-refoulement protection to the Subcommittee to Follow Up issues Relating to the Unified Screening Mechanism for Non-refoulement Claims ("the Subcommittee") at its meeting held on 18 October 2018. It was thus unnecessary for the Bills Committee to convene public hearings for the Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020 ("the Bill").

We respectfully remind you that the draft text of the Bill was gazetted on 4 December 2020, and at the time of the Subcommittee discussions members of the public were only able to comment on the Administration's comprehensive review of the strategy of handling non-refoulement claims. To date, stakeholders have not had any oppurtunity to provide oral submissions on proposals under the Bill.

As to the technical aspects of convening a virtual public hearing, Ms Betty Ma from the Legislative Council Secretariat confirmed at the last Bills Committee meeting that it is technically feasible to convene remote public hearings. Although Ms Ma expressed concerns that the Secretariat may not be able to verify the identity of speakers, in our opinion this can be easily addressed by online verification methods, such as by requiring speakers to show their identity documents to the Secretariat via webcams prior to participating in the public hearing.

Given the Bill is of wide public concern, we respectfully ask you to convene a public hearing and allow stakeholders to meaningful participate in the legislative process.

Yours faithfully,

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Virginie Goethals

Secretary General Refugee Concern Network

Co-signing Refugee Concern Network members:

RUN Hong Kong

Justice Centre Hong Kong

Refugee Ministry Group

Union Church Hong Kong

Youth Global Network