

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.: SBCR 10/3221/15  
CB2/BC/3/20  
來函檔號 Your Ref.:

*English translation*

Clerk to Bills Committee on Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020  
Bills Committee of Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road, Central  
Hong Kong  
(Attn: Miss Betty MA)

23 April 2021

Dear Miss MA,

**Bills Committee on Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020**

**Follow-up matters**

As regards the suggestion of providing interpretation service to non-refoulement claimants through various channels in the letter from the Hon Michael TIEN to the Chairman of the Bills Committee on Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020 ("the Committee") dated 21 April 2021, further to our earlier reply on 2 March 2021, the Security Bureau has consulted the Immigration Department ("ImmD") and would like to supplement as follows.

2. Under the existing practice, unless the claimant could communicate in Chinese or English, ImmD will arrange publicly-funded simultaneous interpretation service to conduct screening interview. The same applies to oral hearings conducted by the Torture Claims Appeal Board ("TCAB"). After the proposed amendment takes effect, ImmD/TCAB will continue to arrange publicly-funded simultaneous interpretation service for the claimants in need.

3. Apart from the full-time interpreters currently hired by ImmD, ImmD would also hire local part-time interpreters on a need basis. Under the principle of ensuring that there will be no information leakage while meeting high standards of fairness, ImmD will recruit suitable interpreters through other different channels subject to the actual need and circumstances.

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

Yours sincerely,

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

(Ronald Ho)  
for Secretary for Security

c.c. Immigration Department  
Department of Justice