<u>Proposed construction of landing steps</u> <u>at Kwun Tong Tsai Wan (Yau Tong Bay)</u> waterfront gazetted

The Government intends to allow Ever Sun International Holdings Limited to construct one flight of landing steps within an area of approximately 787 square metres of the foreshore and seabed at Kwun Tong Tsai Wan (Yau Tong Bay). The proposed works aim to facilitate the proposed conversion of the Wing Shan Industrial Building. The extent of the area of foreshore and seabed affected is described in a notice published in the Government Gazette today (May 8).

The proposed construction of the landing steps involves modification, demolition and reconstruction of the existing seawall at Kwun Tong Tsai Wan (Yau Tong Bay) and related works. To facilitate the proposed works, a temporary works area would need to be erected. The proposed works are scheduled to commence in the fourth quarter of 2020 for completion by the second quarter of 2022.

The notice and its related plan are posted near the site. The plan is also available for inspection at:

- * Survey and Mapping Office of the Lands Department (23/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong), where copies can be purchased on order;
- * Kwun Tong Home Affairs Enquiry Centre of the Kwun Tong District Office (G/F, The Grande Building, 398 Kwun Tong Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon); and
- * Lands Department's website (www.landsd.gov.hk) under Government Notices.

Any person who considers that he or she has an interest, right or easement in or over the foreshore and sea-bed involved may submit a written objection to the Director of Lands, 20/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong, within two months from the above-mentioned date, i.e. on or before July 8. The notice of such objection shall describe the interest, right or easement of the objector and the manner in which he or she will be allegedly affected.

Tenders invited for licence of fee-

paying public car park

The Government Property Agency is inviting tenders for a three-year licence of a fee-paying public car park on portions of the ground floor of Yuen Long District Office Building, 269 Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long, New Territories, Hong Kong.

The premises should be used for the purpose of a fee-paying public car park for the parking of private cars.

The tender notice was uploaded today (May 8) to the Agency's website: www.gpa.gov.hk. Tender documents are available for collection at the Government Property Agency, 9/F, South Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices, 11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon, during the period from 9am to 6pm from Mondays to Fridays, except public holidays. The documents can also be downloaded from the Agency's website.

Interested tenderers who wish to attend a site inspection should make a prior appointment with the Government Property Agency by calling 3842 6783 on or before May 20 this year.

Tenderers must submit their tenders by placing them in the Government Logistics Department Tender Box situated on the Ground Floor, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong, before noon on May 29 this year. Late tenders will not be accepted.

<u>Make prior work arrangements for</u> rainstorms

The Labour Department (LD) today (May 8) reminded employers to make prior work arrangements for staff during and after rainstorms. These arrangements not only can ensure the safety of employees and smooth operation of establishments, but also are conducive to maintaining good labour-management relations.

"Employers should make prior work arrangements for staff and contingency measures during and after rainstorms. In drawing up and implementing the work arrangements, employers should give prime consideration to employees' safety and the feasibility for employees to travel to and from their workplaces. Employers should also give consideration as much as possible to the situations faced by individual employees, such as their place of residence and the road and traffic conditions in the vicinity, and adopt a sympathetic and flexible approach with due regard to their actual difficulties and

needs," an LD spokesman said.

To avoid misunderstanding, disputes and confusion, employers should draw up the work arrangements in consultation with employees and make appropriate updates or amendments based on the experience of each occasion and the needs of both employers and employees as well as the actual situations.

The work arrangements should cover the following matters:

- * Arrangements in respect of reporting for duty;
- * Arrangements in respect of release from work;
- * Arrangements in respect of resumption of work (e.g. the number of hours within which employees should resume duty after the warning concerned is cancelled, when safety and traffic conditions allow);
- * Arrangements regarding working hours, wages and allowances (e.g. calculation of wages and allowances in respect of reporting for duty and absence); and
- * Special arrangements in respect of essential staff in times of adverse weather.

"Employers should conduct timely and realistic assessment of whether there is any need for requiring essential staff to report for duty when a rainstorm warning is in force. In assessing the need for essential staff, employers should take into account the safety of employees, including the feasibility for employees to travel to and from their workplaces in adverse weather. Employers should also consider the business nature, operational needs and urgency of service, with due regard to the manpower requirements, staffing establishment and individual needs of employees. Employers should require only absolutely essential staff to report for duty in adverse weather conditions and the number of essential staff should be kept to a minimum as far as possible," the spokesman said.

"If an Amber, Red or Black Rainstorm Warning is issued during working hours, employees working indoors should continue to work as usual unless it is dangerous to do so. Supervisors of employees working outdoors in exposed areas should suspend outdoor duties as soon as practicable. They should arrange for their employees to take shelter temporarily and resume duty when weather conditions permit. When the Black Rainstorm Warning is issued, those employees should not resume duty until the warning is cancelled and weather conditions permit. If the Black Rainstorm Warning is still in force by the end of working hours, employees should stay in a safe place until the heavy rain has passed. An area in the workplace should be made available by employers as temporary shelter for employees.

"Employers should provide transport services for employees who are required to travel to and from workplaces when the Black Rainstorm Warning is in force, or grant them an extra travelling allowance.

"For staff who have practical difficulties in resuming work on time upon cancellation of a rainstorm warning, employers should give due consideration to the circumstances of individual employees and handle each case flexibly.

"As rainstorms are natural occurrences that cannot be avoided, for employees who are not able to report for duty or resume work on time due to adverse weather conditions, employers should not withhold their wages, good attendance bonus or allowances without reasons. Employers should enquire into the reasons and give due consideration to the exceptional circumstances in each case, and should not penalise or dismiss the employee concerned rashly," he said.

The spokesman also reminded employers to observe the statutory liabilities and requirements under the Employment Ordinance, the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance, the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance, the Employees' Compensation Ordinance and the Minimum Wage Ordinance.

Employers should not deduct the annual leave, statutory holidays or rest days employees are entitled to under the Employment Ordinance so as to compensate for the loss of working hours resulting from employees' failure to report for duty upon the announcement of a Black Rainstorm Warning. An employer who without reasonable excuse fails to comply with relevant provisions under the Employment Ordinance is liable to prosecution.

Employers should also note that they have an obligation to provide and maintain a safe working environment for their employees under the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance.

"If employees are required to work in times of rainstorms, employers should ensure that the risks at work are reduced as far as reasonably practicable," the spokesman said.

Under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance, employers are liable to pay compensation for deaths or injury incurred when employees are travelling by a direct route from their residence to their workplace, or from their workplace back to their residence after work, four hours before or after working hours on a day when Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above or a Red or Black Rainstorm Warning is in force.

The LD has revised the "Code of Practice in Times of Typhoons and Rainstorms", which outlines the major principles, the framework, the reference guidelines and information on relevant legislation for reference. The booklet can be obtained from branch offices of the Labour Relations Division or downloaded from the department's webpage (www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/wcp/Rainstorm.pdf).

Appointments to Council on Human Reproductive Technology

The Government today (May 8) announced the appointment of one new member and re-appointment of three serving members to the Council on Human Reproductive Technology with effect from May 11, 2020, for a term of three years.

Re-appointed members

Ms Kam Yim-mui (Deputy Chairperson) Professor Sylvia Fung Yuk-kuen Mr Chan How-chi

Newly appointed member

Mr Hui Ching-on

Established in 2001 under the Human Reproductive Technology Ordinance, the Council on Human Reproductive Technology is tasked to regulate the conduct of reproductive technology including embryo research in Hong Kong through a licensing system and the publication of a Code of Practice for the relevant professions.

Under section 4(2) of the Ordinance, the Council consists of 26 members from a wide range of disciplines, including medical specialists, legal professionals, a social worker, a scholar in philosophy or ethics, a psychologist, a sociologist, local community leaders and government representatives.

The membership list of the Council with effect from May 11, 2020, is as follows:

Chairperson

Dr Matthew Ng

Deputy Chairperson

Ms Kam Yim-mui

Members

Dr Philip Beh Swan-lip Mr Chan How-chi Ms Chan Ka-wai Professor Cecilia Cheng Dr Cheung Tak-hong Professor Cheung Yuet-wah Dr Chow Kam-ming Dr Abril Choy Fung-peng Professor Sylvia Fung Yuk-kuen Mr Hui Ching-on Professor Ma Lai-chong Mr Gavin Poon Ka-ming Reverend Dr Andrew Ng Wai-man Dr Tang Kwok-keung Professor Wong Man-sau Ms Priscilla Wong Wai-yee Ms Wu Shuk-yin Ms Adelaide Yu Hoi-man Dr Yu Kai-man Mr Christopher Yu Wing-fai Principal Assistant Secretary, Food and Health Bureau Assistant Director, Department of Health Assistant Director, Home Affairs Department Chief Social Work Officer, Social Welfare Department

<u>Appointment of members of Equal</u> <u>Opportunities Commission</u>

The Government announced today (May 8) that the Chief Executive has appointed a new member and re-appointed an incumbent member to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) for a term of two years with effect from May 20, 2020.

The newly appointed member is Mr Simon Lam Ken-chung (brief background in Annex) and the re-appointed member is Dr Sigmund Leung Sai-man.

A Government spokesman said, "The membership of the EOC continues to represent a balanced mix of expertise and sectors, including women, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, employment, social services, legal, accounting, academics and education, and the community at large. Their experience and expertise will be instrumental to the work of the EOC in promoting equal opportunities.

"We would like to take the opportunity to thank the outgoing member, Mr Samuel Chan Ka-yan, for his contribution to the Commission's work towards the elimination of discrimination."

The spokesman added, "We look forward to the concerted efforts of the Chairperson of the EOC and all its members in implementing the existing anti-discrimination ordinances and constructing a pluralistic and inclusive society in Hong Kong."