<u>CE expresses shock and sadness over</u> <u>passing of Customs officers</u>

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, who is currently on duty visit in Davos, Switzerland, today (January 22) expressed shock and sadness over the passing of three Customs officers in a vessel sinking incident when they were carrying out duties near Sha Chau, and extended her deepest condolences to their families. She also expressed sympathy to the other two officers who were injured in the incident and hoped that they would recover soon.

"The Hong Kong Customs is entrusted with the important tasks of law enforcement and customs control, including dangerous duties such as combating smuggling and drug trafficking. Customs officers have always been fearless and dedicated to serving the public with professionalism. I am profoundly grieved by the unfortunate loss of three Customs colleagues who were on duty last night and I offer my deepest condolences to their families. The Civil Service Bureau and the Customs and Excise Department will make every effort to support the families," Mrs Lam said.