<u>CE welcomes State Council's</u> <u>appointments</u>

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, welcomed the State Council's decision today (July 3) to appoint Mr Luo Huining as the National Security Adviser to the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) in accordance with the relevant provisions of The Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (National Security Law).

Mrs Lam also welcomed the appointments made by the State Council on the personnel of the office established by the Central People's Government (CPG) in the HKSAR for safeguarding national security, including the appointment of Zheng Yanxiong as head of the Office for Safeguarding National Security of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and the appointment of Li Jiangzhou and Sun Qingye as deputy heads of the Office.

"I welcome the appointments made by the State Council. The HKSAR Government, the National Security Advisor to the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR and the Office for Safeguarding National Security of the CPG in the HKSAR will work closely, perform their respective functions and do their utmost in implementing the National Security Law, fulfilling the duty of the HKSAR in safeguarding national security.

In accordance with the National Security Law, the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR is chaired by the Chief Executive. The Committee shall be responsible for affairs relating to and assume primary responsibility for safeguarding national security in the HKSAR. It shall be under the supervision of and accountable to the CPG. The Committee shall have a National Security Adviser, who shall be designated by the CPG and provide advice on matters relating to the duties and functions of the Committee. The National Security Adviser shall sit in on meetings of the Committee.

As regards the Office for Safeguarding National Security of the CPG in the HKSAR, it shall peform the following: analysing and assessing developments in relation to safeguarding national security in the HKSAR, and providing opinions and making proposals on major strategies and important policies for safeguarding national security; overseeing, guiding, coordinating with, and providing support to the HKSAR in the performance of its duties for safeguarding national security; collecting and analysing intelligence and information concerning national security; and handling cases concerning offences endangering national security in specified circumstances in accordance with the National Security Law.