<u>Hospital Authority welcomes additional</u> <u>funding from Government</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Chairman of the Hospital Authority (HA) Mr Henry Fan welcomes the Government's announcement today (14 February) of an additional allocation of \$4.7 billion to support HA in implementing various measures to enhance public hospitals' capability to respond to the new coronavirus epidemic.

"Since the outbreak of the epidemic, the Government has assisted the HA in the procurement of supplies and in related epidemic control measures," said Mr Fan.

HA Chief Executive Dr Tony Ko said that the appropriation will be used in different areas in managing the epidemic, including related expenses in frontline healthcare manpower; temporary accommodation arrangements and allowances; additional personal protective equipment; enhancing laboratory support; and strengthening a range of hospital support services including cleansing, transportation and supplies.

"We will make good use of the funding and work with our over 80 000 colleagues with our best efforts to manage the epidemic and protect the health of the community," Dr Ko added.