<u>Police response to press enquiries on</u> <u>a public order event in Kowloon City</u> <u>District</u>

Regarding media enquiries on a public order event to be held on August 17, Police respond as follows:

Due to public safety and public order considerations, Police prohibited two public meetings and objected a public procession to be held in Kowloon City District today (August 17). The organiser lodged an appeal to the Appeal Board on Public Meetings and Processions (the Board) in respect of Police's decision. The Board held the hearing of the appeal yesterday (August 16).

After considering the submissions made by the organiser and Police and the alternative route suggested by the organiser, the Board upheld Police's decision to prohibit the two public meetings and approved the public procession to be conducted along the alternative route suggested by the organiser.

Police respect the Board's determination. Police will maintain close communications with the organiser, deploy suitable manpower and implement appropriate measures to ensure that the public order event is held in a safe and orderly manner.

Police urged the organiser and participants to respect the Board's determination and to observe the conditions imposed upon the public procession as stated in the Letter of No Objection.

In view of the public order event, Police once again remind members of the public that serious traffic congestion may occur in Kowloon City District. Actual implementation of the crowd safety management measures and traffic arrangements will be made depending on traffic and crowd conditions in the area. Motorists are advised to pay attention to special traffic signs and take heed of the instructions from the police officers at the scene.