

Recruitment under the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth Phase III starts today

â€‹The Government today (June 18) started the recruitment under the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth (MSSY) Phase III. The application period will close on July 17.

A spokesman for the Home Affairs Bureau said, "The Government strives to address young people's concerns about education, career pursuit and home ownership, and encourage their participation in politics as well as public policy discussion and debate. The Government will continue to create a favourable environment for young people to join different advisory committees under bureaux/departments. The MSSY has been regularised and two rounds of recruitment will be rolled out every year. The target is to increase, within the current-term Government, the overall ratio of youth members aged between 18 and 35 to 15 per cent."

The list of young members appointed through the previous phases of the MSSY (including the Pilot Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth) is available on the [website](#) of the Home Affairs Bureau.

The MSSY Phase III opens for application today. The following 10 committees, which cover a wide spectrum of policy areas, will each offer two seats for application:

1. [Fight Crime Committee](#);
2. [Advisory Committee on Mental Health](#);
3. [Telecommunications Users and Consumers Advisory Committee](#);
4. [Culture and Promotion Working Group, the Chinese Temples Committee](#);
5. [Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries](#);
6. [Panel on Manpower Development, the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification](#);
7. [Hong Kong Film Development Council](#);
8. [Advisory Committee on Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities](#);
9. [Country and Marine Parks Board](#); and
10. [Public Libraries Advisory Committee](#).

"Young people aged between 18 and 35 on July 17, 2019, i.e. the close of application, with a commitment to serve the community are invited to self-nominate to become members of the 10 specified committees," the spokesman continued.

A Recruitment Committee (RC) has been set up for overseeing the implementation of the MSSY. The RC comprises the Secretary for Home Affairs, a representative of the Youth Development Commission, non-official

chairpersons or members of the aforementioned 10 committees and/or representatives of the bureaux/departments concerned. Under the RC, 10 Assessment Panels (APs) will be formed to take care of the applications concerning the 10 committees respectively. The APs will conduct interviews with applicants to facilitate the assessment.

The APs will consider whether the applicant has a strong commitment to serve the community, good understanding of the policy area concerned and good analytical and communication skills. The above three criteria are the only assessment criteria that will be adopted under the MSSY. Following the principle of meritocracy, the Government aims to, through the MSSY, recruit young people who have the commitment to serve the community and the ability to contribute to the committees concerned for recommending to the relevant bureaux/departments for consideration of appointment. Subject to the actual number of applications received, the assessments would be completed in the fourth quarter of 2019.

The application form and other details of the MSSY Phase III are available on the website of the Home Affairs Bureau (www.hab.gov.hk). In completing the application form, applicants need to write no more than 600 words or provide a video/audio clip of no longer than three minutes to explain, in either Chinese or English, his/her suitability of being appointed to be a member of the selected committee(s). Applications may be submitted through the online application system, by post or by hand.

Flag-raising ceremony suspended

Owing to the maintenance works on the flag poles and the podium at the Golden Bauhinia Square, Wan Chai, the flag-raising ceremony scheduled at 8am today (June 18) will be suspended.

CGO reopens today

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following message as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

As the roads in the vicinity of the the Central Government Offices (CGO), Tamar have generally become accessible, the CGO will be reopened today

(June 18). Staff working in the CGO can enter the workplace via staff entrance on 2/F of the East Wing.

Government vehicles or vehicles with valid permit may enter West Wing of CGO via Lung Wo Road and Tim Wa Avenue.

Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Swimming Pool temporarily closed

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 17) that Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Swimming Pool in Yuen Long District has been temporarily closed for cleaning and superchlorination following the discovery of a small amount of vomit in the pool.

It will be reopened at 6.30am tomorrow.

The department appeals to swimmers to be considerate and to keep the swimming pools clean. They are advised not to swim after a full meal and should use the toilet facilities if necessary before swimming.

USCED continues visit to Dubai with business and professional mission (with photo)

The Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Dr Bernard Chan, continued his visit to Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), today (June 17, Dubai time) with a business and professional mission comprising Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises. The day's visit programme saw the delegation learn more about the latest developments of the local economy, with a view to exploring more business collaboration and seizing new opportunities brought about by the Belt and Road Initiative.

In the morning, Dr Chan met with the Assistant Undersecretary for Trade Remedies of the Ministry of Economy of the UAE, Mr Abdalla Sultan Alfan Alshamsi. While introducing Hong Kong's advantages in professional services, Dr Chan also spoke on the development opportunities for Hong Kong brought about by the Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. He expressed the hope that Hong Kong and the UAE can further strengthen co-operation by making full use of the Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement just signed between the two places and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office which will soon be set up in Dubai.

"Having one of the most liberal trade regimes in the Gulf region, the UAE is also the second largest economy in the Arab world and presents ample opportunities for our professional services sector. The country's rapidly developing logistics and financial services industries will offer a lot of common room for collaboration and long-term synergy with Hong Kong. To strengthen the bilateral ties between Hong Kong and the UAE on all fronts, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government is actively carrying out preparatory work for setting up an Economic and Trade Office in Dubai," Dr Chan said.

He added that the mission signifies Hong Kong's role as the ideal partner for Mainland enterprises to go global together and said he hoped that Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises could make direct and close connections with their counterparts in the UAE.

Dr Chan and the delegation visited the Jebel Ali Free Zone afterwards to learn about its investment environment and tax initiatives as well as enterprises' operation in the zone. The Jebel Ali Free Zone is situated next to Jebel Ali Port, which is the largest port in Dubai. With its strategic location, Jebel Ali Port serves as a maritime trade link between the East and the West, as well as a trading hub between Africa and the rest of the world. Established in 1985, the Jebel Ali Free Zone has attracted more than 8 600 companies, among which nearly 100 of them are Fortune Global 500 companies.

The delegation also visited the China-UAE Industrial Capacity Co-operation Demonstration Zone to learn about the production environment, management services and financial support provided to the companies there. Located in the Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi, the demonstration zone has been developed and managed by a Chinese-owned overseas investment company, and is the first of its kind under the Belt and Road Initiative. The demonstration zone currently houses companies mainly from the construction materials, chemical engineering and new energy sectors.

In addition, the delegation toured the COSCO Shipping Ports Limited Abu Dhabi Terminal adjacent to the Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi to get a better understanding of the local logistics facilities. Jointly developed by COSCO Shipping Ports and Abu Dhabi Ports, the terminal commenced operation in December last year and is part of a large-scale expansion plan to increase the capacity of Khalifa Port, which is the UAE's main container port.

Dr Chan will return to Hong Kong tomorrow (June 18).

