Opening remarks by CSP PPRB at press briefing on preparation work of Government for commissioning of HZMB

Following is the opening remarks by the Chief Superintendent of Police Public Relations Branch, Mr Tse Chun-chung, at a press briefing today (October 19) on preparation work of the Government for the commissioning of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge:

I will now briefly introduce some Police preparatory work for the commissioning of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge.

The Hong Kong Port and Hong Kong Link Road are situated at Lantau Police District. Lantau District has set up a task force with 112 officers to maintain law and order round-the-clock at the Hong Kong Port and Hong Kong Link Road. Duties of the task force include maintaining law and order at the boundary control point; conducting anti-crime patrols and handling reports made by members of the public and travellers. Members of the public and travellers in the Passenger Clearance Building can also seek Police assistance at the Police Reporting Centre inside this building.

For traffic control, the traffic officers of the New Territories South Region will be deployed to execute traffic control measures at the Hong Kong Link Road. In case of urgent traffic emergencies, the New Territories Regional Command and Control Centre of the Police and the Emergency Transport Coordination Centre under Transport Department are the contact points of Hong Kong. We will liaise and notify the relevant Zhuhai and Macao counterparts as early as possible and take follow up actions promptly.

Lastly, about the counter-terrorist situation, the overall terrorist threat level of Hong Kong remains "Moderate". There is no specific intelligence suggesting Hong Kong or the bridge will be under attack. However, noting the bridge is a national-level critical infrastructure and one of the land boundary crossings, Police have adopted a series of security measures at the Hong Kong Port and along the 12km long Hong Kong Link Road. The security measures are similar with those in other boundary control points being taken. The measures include establishing a round-the-clock operating Police Base and Incident Control Tower; setting up security fences; and installing alarm system as well as incorporating recording function at the Traffic Control and Surveillance System for security purpose. officers from Lantau District and New Territories South Headquarters, as well as Counter Terrorism Response Unit will also conduct high profile patrols to ensure the safety of the bridge. Since March this year, Police have conducted and participated in over 40 exercises relating to the bridge. the commissioning, various drills will also be conducted continuously to maintain effective response capabilities.

Police will closely monitor the situation after the commissioning of the

<u>Appeal for information on missing man</u> <u>in North Point (with photo)</u>

Police today (October 19) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in North Point.

Yuen Tit-shan Dennis, aged 76, went missing after he left an elderly home on King's Road on October 15 morning. Staff of the elderly home made a report to Police on the next day (October 16).

He is about 1.7 metres tall, 60 kilograms in weight and of thin build. He has a pointed face with yellow complexion and is bald. He was last seen wearing a dark blue short-sleeved shirt, dark-coloured trousers, dark-coloured sports shoes and carrying a black shoulder bag.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Hong Kong Island on 2860 1040 or 9886 0034, or email to rmpu-hki@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



Grading of beach water quality

released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (October 19) released the latest grading of water quality of 38 gazetted beaches* that are open for swimming and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay**).

Twenty-seven beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1) and 12 as Fair (Grade 2).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Cafeteria New Beach Cafeteria Old Beach

Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach

Chung Hom Kok Beach

Clear Water Bay First Beach Clear Water Bay Second Beach

Deep Water Bay Beach

Discovery Bay Golden Beach

Hap Mun Bay Beach***

Hung Shing Yeh Beach

Kadoorie Beach Kiu Tsui Beach*** Kwun Yam Beach Lo So Shing Beach

Lower Cheung Sha Beach

Middle Bay Beach Repulse Bay Beach

Shek 0 Beach

Silverstrand Beach South Bay Beach St Stephen's Beach Stanley Main Beach Tong Fuk Beach Trio Beach***

Turtle Cove Beach

Upper Cheung Sha Beach

Grade 2 beaches are:

Anglers' Beach Hoi Mei Wan Beach

Approach Beach Lido Beach

Big Wave Bay Beach Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach

Butterfly Beach Pui O Beach

Casam Beach Silver Mine Bay Beach

Castle Peak Beach Ting Kau Beach

*: The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced today that Hung Shing Yeh Beach will reopen tomorrow (October 20). In addition, LCSD has also announced earlier on the reopening of Butterfly Beach, Castle Peak Beach, Kadoorie Beach, Cafeteria Old Beach, Cafeteria New Beach and Golden Beach in Tuen Mun District; Anglers' Beach, Hoi Mei Wan Beach, Approach Beach and Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach in Tsuen Wan District; Lo So Shing Beach in Islands District; and Repulse Bay Beach in Southern District. Meanwhile, other gazetted beaches in Southern, Tsuen Wan, Islands and Sai Kung Districts will remain closed until further notice.

**: Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.

***: The Sai Kung Sewage Treatment Works recently damaged by typhoon is under repair. The public is advised to avoid water contact recreational activities at Kiu Tsui Beach, Trio Beach and Hap Mun Bay Beach where water quality may be temporarily affected until further notice.

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. Latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the department's websites on Beach Water Quality (www.beachwq.gov.hk or www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

STH's opening remarks at press briefing on preparation work of Government for commissioning of HZMB

Following is the opening remarks by the Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Frank Chan Fan, at a press briefing today (October 19) on preparation work of the Government for the commissioning of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge:

Good afternoon. I am pleased to announce that the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge will commence operation on October 24 at 9am. The opening ceremony will be held one day earlier on October 23 at 9am at the passenger clearance building of the Zhuhai Port.

The Bridge is not just a mega transport infrastructure jointly built by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. The Central Authorities also attach great importance to it. With the unfailing efforts of the engineering teams, and as demonstrated by the outcome of the joint trial last month, the Bridge is now ready for commissioning.

The Hong Kong Port of the Bridge is situated in Lantau and next to the Hong Kong International Airport. It will serve as the focal point between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, thereby further consolidating Hong Kong's position as a regional aviation and logistics hub.

The Bridge, apart from being a new land-based boundary crossing between Hong Kong and Guangdong, is also the first land transport link between Hong

Kong and Macao.

With the Bridge, the travelling time between Hong Kong and the Western Pearl River Delta region will be shortened significantly, thereby bringing the Western Pearl River Delta region within three hours' drive from Hong Kong. For instance, the travelling time between Zhuhai and Hong Kong International Airport is about four hours at present. It will be shortened to roughly about 45 minutes. Similarly, the travelling time between Zhuhai and Kwai Tsing Container Terminal will be shortened from 3.5 hours to only 75 minutes.

It is envisaged that the collaboration between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in terms of trade, finance, logistics and tourism will be strengthened. Hong Kong will assume a more proactive role in the development of the Greater Bay Area.

Similar to many other infrastructures, the utilisation rate of the Bridge will increase gradually given more time and experience.

In light of the development of the Greater Bay Area, the Bridge will be instrumental in enhancing the flow of people, goods and capital, as well as technological collaboration within the region. The Government will closely monitor the utilisation rate of the Bridge and actively explore measures in conjunction with our counterparts with a view to optimising the utilisation and benefits of the Bridge.

The mission to construct the Bridge has been accomplished. Our next mission is to make the best use of the topside development at the artificial island and to capitalise on the strategic advantage of the Bridge.

The Policy Address 2018 has proposed to enhance the function of Lantau as a "Double Gateway" connecting Hong Kong to the world and other cities in the Greater Bay Area. We have invited the Airport Authority Hong Kong to study and submit a proposal for the topside development at Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities Island. The Government has previously conducted public consultation on the topside development and has received preliminary ideas and direction.

With a view to building an Aerotropolis as a next step, we will progressively take forward the topside development as well as the airport and aviation-related businesses, so as to create synergy with the operation and development of the Hong Kong International Airport. All these are part and parcel of the Lantau Tomorrow Vision. Thank you.

Tung Chung 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 (October 19) that Tung Chung Swimming Pool in Islands District has been temporarily closed for cleaning and superchlorination following the discovery of a small amount of faeces in the pool.

It will be reopened at 9.45pm today.

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.