<u>Government announces appointments to</u> <u>Communications Authority</u>

The Government today (March 21) announced that the Chief Executive has appointed Mr Jenkin Suen to succeed Ms Winnie Tam Wan-chi as the Chairperson of the Communications Authority (CA) for a term of two years with effect from April 1, 2025.

The Chief Executive has also reappointed the Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development as the Vice-chairperson of the CA. In addition, four incumbent members, i.e. Mr Nicholas Chan Hiu-fung, Mr Patrick Law Fu-yuen, Mr Michael Hui Wah-kit and Professor Leung Siu-fai have been reappointed, while Professor Anthony Fung Ying-him and Dr Patrick Tsie Kai-yiu have been appointed as new members. The tenure of the appointments is two years with effect from April 1, 2025.

Commenting on the appointments, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau, said, "I am pleased that Mr Jenkin Suen has been appointed as the Chairperson of the CA. I believe with Mr Suen's legal background and wealth of experience in public services, he will be able to lead the CA to discharge its statutory functions as the communications and broadcasting regulator in Hong Kong, with the objectives of safeguarding the interests of the public and promoting the sustainable development of the telecommunications and broadcasting sectors. I would also like to welcome Professor Anthony Fung and Dr Patrick Tsie as new members of the CA. With their extensive experience and professional knowledge in the broadcasting and telecommunications fields respectively, they will surely provide valuable insights for the work of the CA. I am also grateful that Mr Nicholas Chan, Mr Patrick Law, Mr Michael Hui and Professor Leung Siu-fai have accepted reappointment to continue to contribute to the work of the CA.

"I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Ms Winnie Tam for her outstanding contributions during her tenure. Since taking up the chairmanship in 2018, Ms Tam has guided the CA in effectively fulfilling its regulatory functions and roles with remarkable achievements. On the broadcasting front, during her tenure, the CA has relaxed a number of requirements under the broadcasting codes of practice to keep pace with the times, thereby creating a more conducive environment for the sustainable development of the broadcasting industry. In addition, the CA has continued to handle complaints in a fair, impartial and unbiased manner to safeguard public interest. On the communications front, with the rapid advancements in communications technologies over the past few years, the CA has continued to stay ahead in formulating policies to promote communications infrastructure and technology development while maintaining fair competition in the industry, contributing to a solid foundation for Hong Kong as a regional communications hub. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the outgoing members Professor Vincent Lau Kin-nang and Mr Simon Wong Kwong-yeung for their contributions to the CA over the past six years," Mr Yau added.

Brief profiles of the newly appointed Chairperson and non-official members are as follows:

Mr Jenkin Suen

Mr Suen was appointed as Senior Counsel in 2019 and is a barrister and an arbitrator in Des Voeux Chambers. He also sits as a Recorder of the Court of First Instance of the High Court. He is currently the Chairman of the Copyright Tribunal and the Pharmacy and Poisons Appeal Tribunal, the Deputy Chairman of the Administrative Appeals Board, and a member of the Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation Boards and the Air Transport Licensing Authority. He was previously the Chairman of the Appeal Tribunal Panel (Buildings).

Professor Anthony Fung Ying-him

Professor Fung is the Dean of Social Science and the Director of the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is currently a co-opted member of the Broadcast Complaints Committee under the CA, as well as a member of the Standing Committee on Language Education and Research and the Steering Committee on Strategic Development of Information Technology in Education. He has formerly served as a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Community Relations of the Independent Commission Against Corruption as well as the Radio Television Hong Kong Board of Advisors.

Dr Patrick Tsie Kai-yiu

Dr Tsie was formerly the Senior Director of Technical Marketing at Qualcomm International, and has previously served as a member appointed on an ad personam basis of the Telecommunications Regulatory Affairs Advisory Committee of the Office of the Communications Authority.

The membership of the CA from April 1, 2025, will be as follows:

Chairperson

Mr Jenkin Suen

Vice-chairperson

Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Non-official members

Dr Hubert Chan Chung-yee Mr Nicholas Chan Hiu-fung

Ms Amy Fung Dun-mi

Professor Anthony Fung Ying-him

Mr Michael Hui Wah-kit

Mr Patrick Law Fu-yuen

Professor Leung Siu-fai

Dr Patrick Tsie Kai-yiu Ms Wendy Yuen Miu-ling

Official member

Director-General of Communications

Import and Export (Amendment) Bill 2025 gazetted

The Government published the Import and Export (Amendment) Bill 2025 in the Gazette today (March 21) to make technical amendments to the Import and Export Ordinance (Cap. 60) and other relevant pieces of legislation for the implementation of Phase 3 services of the Trade Single Window (TSW).

A spokesman for the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau said, "The Government is implementing the TSW in three phases to provide a one-stop electronic platform for the trade to lodge business-to-government trade documents for trade declaration and cargo clearance. The Bill aims to provide the legal basis for Phase 3 of the TSW, such that the trade can make use of the system to submit Import and Export Declaration (TDEC), Cargo Manifest as well as applications for Certificate of Origin (CO) and Permit for Dutiable Commodities (DCP)."

At present, the Government Electronic Trading Services (GETS) is the only electronic platform for the submission of TDEC, Cargo Manifest and applications for CO and DCP, which are governed by different pieces of legislation. To implement Phase 3 of the TSW, the Government proposes to make technical amendments to relevant existing legal provisions to replace GETS by the TSW for the submission of those trade documents, and to remove GETS-related provisions from the legislation.

In addition, the Bill makes necessary legislative amendments for some of the Phase 3 services, including the introduction of value-added service provider and its regulatory framework, allowing the trade to submit preshipment TDEC and Cargo Manifest on a voluntary basis, the introduction of electronic road Cargo Manifest and the digitalisation of return of licences service. The Bill also includes provisions on transitional arrangements to allow parallel run of TSW Phase 3 and GETS for a certain period of time to provide sufficient time for the trade to migrate to the new system.

"The implementation of the TSW is a major business and operational process reengineering exercise. It overhauls and enhances the document submission workflows between participating government agencies and the trade. At the same time, it enhances the efficiency of cargo clearance in Hong Kong

and helps maintain Hong Kong's status as an international trade centre and a logistics hub. The Government is developing the information system of Phase 3, with the target of rolling out the services by batches from 2026 onwards," the spokesman added.

The Bill will be introduced into the Legislative Council for first and second readings on April 2.

Gazettal of Bankruptcy and Companies Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2023 (Commencement) Notice 2025

The Government published in the Gazette today (March 21) the Bankruptcy and Companies Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2023 (Commencement) Notice 2025 (the Commencement Notice).

Enacted by the Legislative Council in July 2023, the Bankruptcy and Companies Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2023 (the Amendment Ordinance) seeks to provide a legal basis for the Official Receiver's Office's Electronic Submission System (ESS), streamline the publication requirements of insolvency and related notices, and introduce miscellaneous amendments.

Provisions of the Amendment Ordinance relating to the first phase of ESS and the streamlined publication requirements of insolvency and related notices already took effect in December 2023. The Commencement Notice seeks to appoint July 14, 2025, as the commencement date for the remaining provisions relating to the second phase of ESS.

The Commencement Notice will be tabled at the Legislative Council on March 26, 2025, for negative vetting.

Appointments to Family Council

The Government announced today (March 21) the reappointment of Ms Melissa Kaye Pang as the Chairperson of the Family Council, as well as the reappointment of 10 incumbent non-official members and the appointment of

five new non-official members to the Council for a term of two years with effect from April 1, 2025.

The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, Miss Alice Mak, welcomed the appointments and reappointments. She said, "The Government will continue to support the work of the Council and would like to thank the outgoing members for their contributions and dedication to the work of the Council during their term of service."

The membership list of the Council for the new term is as follows:

Chairperson

Ms Melissa Kaye Pang

Ex-officio members

Dr Donald Li Kwok-tung, Chairperson of the Elderly Commission Dr Eliza Chan Ching-har, Chairperson of the Women's Commission Mr Kenneth Leung Yuk-wai, Vice-Chairperson of the Youth Development Commission

Non-official members (reappointments)

Dr Gigi Hsin Pang Che-kwan

Mr Lam Sum-lim

Ms Lau Oi-sze

Mr Law Fai

Mr Perry Lou Yiu-tong

Mr Warren Luk Hua

Mr Solomon Wong Bing-kin

Miss Koby Wong Lok-yin

Mr Yau Siu-hung

Mr Jeremy Young Chit-on

Non-official members (new appointments)

Ms Kathy Chung Lai-kam

Mr Ho Ting-hong

Mr Victor Kwok Hoi-kit

Mrs Helena Pong Tung Ching-yee

Dr Loletta So Kit-ying

Official members

Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs or her representative Secretary for Labour and Welfare or his representative Secretary for Education or her representative

Since its establishment in 2007, the Council has served as a cross-sector and cross-bureau platform for advising the Government on family-

related policies and promoting a culture of loving families as well as the family core values of "Love and Care", "Respect and Responsibility" and "Communication and Harmony" in the community.

Compensation levels for work injuries and occupational diseases to increase from April 17

The Labour Department (LD) today (March 21) announced that the levels of compensation for employees injured at work or suffering from prescribed occupational diseases under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO) or family members of deceased employees, persons suffering from pneumoconiosis or mesothelioma or family members of persons who die as a result of these diseases, and persons suffering from occupational deafness, will be increased on April 17.

The Legislative Council on March 20 passed three resolutions to increase the levels of 18 compensation items under the ECO, the Pneumoconiosis and Mesothelioma (Compensation) Ordinance (PMCO), and the Occupational Deafness (Compensation) Ordinance (ODCO). The amendments were gazetted today and will become effective on April 17.

"Under the established mechanism, the levels of compensation under the ECO, the PMCO and the ODCO are adjusted every two years where appropriate. Adjustments for most compensation items, if required, are normally made in light of the wage movement as reflected by the Nominal Wage Index or the price movement as reflected by the Consumer Price Index (A) during the relevant period, whereas the levels of some compensation items are adjusted after taking into account other relevant factors," a spokesman for the LD said.

As a result of the adjustments this time, the levels of 18 compensation items under the three Ordinances will be increased by 3.8 per cent to 86.3 per cent (see details in the Appendix).

"The increased levels of compensation will enhance the protection for employees injured at work or sufferers of occupational diseases as well as family members of deceased employees or persons who die of work injuries or occupational diseases," the spokesman added.