

Appointment of Directors of Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited

The Government today (April 2) announced the appointment of a new Director and the re-appointment of five serving Directors to the Board of Directors of Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited from April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2023.

The new Director is Mr Lau Kwok-fan. The five re-appointed Directors are Professor Ling Kar-kan, Mr Victor Ng Chi-keung, Dr Charleston Sin Chiu-shun, Ms Rosana Wong Wai-man and Mr Eric Yeung Chuen-sing.

The Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Mr Alfred Sit, welcomed the appointment and re-appointments to the Board of Directors. He said, "With their wealth of experience and expertise in a wide range of businesses and disciplines, the Board Directors will no doubt continue to steer Cyberport in nurturing its start-up community and promoting further development of Hong Kong into a leading innovation and digital technology hub."

Mr Sit also expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing Director, Mr Lau Chun-kong, for his invaluable contributions to Cyberport over the years.

The full membership of the Board with effect from April 1, 2021, is as follows:

Dr George Lam (Chairman)
Ms Karen Chan Ka-yin
Professor Christopher Chao Yu-hang
Ms Ivy Cheung Wing-han
Mr Duncan Chiu
Mr Lau Kwok-fan
Mr Michael Leung Kin-man
Professor Ling Kar-kan
Mr Victor Ng Chi-keung
Mr Hendrick Sin
Dr Charleston Sin Chiu-shun
Ms Rosana Wong Wai-man
Mr Eric Yeung Chuen-sing
Permanent Secretary for Innovation and Technology

MD announcement

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

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

The Marine Department today (April 2) reminded masters, coxswains and persons-in-charge of vessels navigating in Hong Kong waters to proceed at a safe speed and exercise extreme caution because restricted visibility of less than 2 nautical miles has been reported.

Appropriate sound signals shall be made when underway or at anchor. All vessels must comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collision at Sea.

Also, when radar is used without the benefit of adequate plotting facilities, the information obtained from the equipment is rather limited and should be construed accordingly.

Visibility reports are broadcast by the Vessel Traffic Centre (VTC) on VHF channels 02, 12, 14, 63 and 67.

In the event of an accident, a report shall be made immediately to the VTC at Tel: 2233 7801.

Government to gazette compulsory testing notice and specifications under Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation

The Government will exercise the power under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) and gazette a compulsory testing notice and specifications, which require any person who had been present at two specified premises during the specified period (persons subject to compulsory testing) to undergo a COVID-19 nucleic acid test, and continue to empower a registered medical practitioner to require any person whom he clinically suspects has contracted COVID-19 to undergo a test during a period of 14 days from April 3 to April 16, 2021.

Compulsory testing notice

Currently, in all districts in Hong Kong, if one or more new confirmed cases are found in the residential buildings (including buildings for both commercial and residential uses), or there are sewage samples tested positive, or there are other factors which implied possible infection risks, the buildings will be included in the compulsory testing notice.

Two premises fulfilling the above criteria are included in the compulsory testing notice today (April 1).

Details of the compulsory testing notice are as follows:

Any person who had been present at any specified premises listed in Annex 1 for more than two hours at any time during the period from March 19 to April 1, 2021 (including but not limited to visitors, residents and workers), have to undergo testing by April 4, 2021. If persons subject to compulsory testing have previously undergone testing between March 30 and April 1, 2021, they would be taken to have complied with the requirements set out in the compulsory testing notice.

A spokesman for the Food and Health Bureau reminds the public that in accordance with the compulsory testing notice issued earlier, all household members of close contacts are required to undergo compulsory testing. Any person who had lived with a person placed under quarantine pursuant to section 22 of the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) (person under quarantine) in the same residential unit on the date of commencement of quarantine or during the 14 days before that day, and who becomes aware of the quarantine of the person under quarantine when the relevant quarantine has not yet been completed, have to undergo testing within two days of he/she becoming aware of the person under quarantine has been placed under quarantine and report to the Government the result of the test by phone (at 6275 6901), fax (at 2530 5872) or email (ct@csb.gov.hk) within three days of undergoing the test.

The Government will set up mobile specimen collection stations at the following locations tomorrow (April 2) for residents and workers subject to compulsory testing:

- Carpark at 2/F of Continental Mansion, 294 King's Road, North Point
- Basketball court, G/F, next to Bik Lai House, Yau Lai Estate, Yau Tong

The service period of the mobile specimen collection stations at Wong Tai Sin Square, Granville Road in Tsim Sha Tsui East, Sha Tsui Road Playground in Tsuen Wan, On Hing Playground in Yuen Long, Tin Shui Sports Centre in Tin Shui Wai, Kin Sang Community Hall in Tuen Mun and Tung Chung North Park will be extended to April 11 (Sunday). The service period of the mobile specimen collection station at Maple Street Playground in Sham Shui Po will be extended to April 15 (Thursday). The service period of the mobile specimen collection stations at King George V Memorial Park, Kowloon, Arthur Street Temporary Playground in Yau Ma Tei, MacPherson Playground in Mong Kok and Tai Po Community Centre will be extended to April 18 (Sunday).

The opening dates and operating hours of the mobile specimen collection stations in various districts providing free COVID-19 nucleic acid testing services for the general public are stated in Annex 2. Apart from mobile specimen collection stations, persons subject to compulsory testing can also choose to attend any of the community testing centres in all districts to receive testing free of charge. Persons with "LeaveHomeSafe" COVID-19 exposure notification or SMS notification from the Centre for Health Protection reminding them to undergo testing as soon as possible may receive free testing at community testing centres or mobile specimen collection stations (if service scope is applicable).

Persons subject to compulsory testing may choose to undergo testing via the following routes:

1. To visit any of the mobile specimen collection stations (see the list and target groups (if applicable) at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html) for testing;
2. To attend any of the community testing centres (see the list at www.communitytest.gov.hk/en/);
3. To obtain a deep throat saliva specimen collection pack from any of the 121 post offices, vending machines set up at 20 MTR stations or 47 designated general outpatient clinics (GOPCs) of the Hospital Authority and return the specimen to one of the designated specimen collection points (see the distribution points and times, and the specimen collection points and times, at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html);
4. To undergo testing at any of the GOPCs of the Hospital Authority as instructed by a medical professional of the Hospital Authority;
5. To self-arrange testing provided by private laboratories which are recognised by the Department of Health (DH) and can issue SMS notifications in respect of test results (see the list at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories RTPCR.pdf); or
6. To use a specimen bottle distributed to the relevant specified premises by the Centre for Health Protection (if applicable), and return the specimen bottle with the sample collected as per relevant guidelines.

The spokesman cautioned that testing received at accident and emergency departments of the Hospital Authority or during hospital stays, or testing provided by private laboratories which cannot issue SMS notifications in respect of test results, does not comply with the requirements of the aforementioned compulsory testing notice.

"If persons subject to compulsory testing have symptoms, they should seek medical attention immediately and undergo testing as instructed by a medical professional. They should not attend the mobile specimen collection stations or the community testing centres."

Persons subject to compulsory testing must keep the SMS notification containing result of the test for checking by a law enforcement officer when the officer requires the persons to provide information about their undergoing the specified test. Furthermore, persons subject to testing under the compulsory testing notices should, as far as reasonably practicable, take appropriate personal disease prevention measures including wearing a mask and

maintaining hand hygiene, and, unless for the purpose of undergoing the specified test, stay at their place of residence and avoid going out until the test result is ascertained as far as possible. Any enquiries on compulsory testing arrangements may be addressed to the hotline at 6275 6901, which operates daily from 9am to 6pm. If persons subject to compulsory testing plan to conduct testing at any of the community testing centres, they can check the centre's appointment status in advance. The hotlines of the community testing centres are available at www.communitytest.gov.hk/en/info/.

Relevant specifications for compulsory testing for persons clinically suspected to have contracted COVID-19

According to expert advice, compulsory testing for symptomatic patients can effectively slow down the transmission of the virus by early identification, early isolation and early treatment. To keep the epidemic situation under control, the Government considers it necessary to continue to solicit help from medical practitioners in identifying possibly infected persons as soon as possible.

During the period of 14 days from April 3 to April 16, 2021, registered medical practitioners may, by a written direction, require a person whom the medical practitioner attends to in the course of professional practice and clinically suspects to have contracted COVID-19 to undergo a COVID-19 nucleic acid test. Persons who receive the written direction (persons who are subject to testing under written directions) should undergo a test within two days after the issue date of the written direction (the testing deadline).

Persons who are subject to testing under written directions may choose to undergo testing via the following routes:

(1) To use the specimen bottle provided by the registered medical practitioner who issued the written direction to collect a deep throat saliva specimen and submit the specimen bottle to designated specimen collection points by the testing deadline (see the specimen collection points and time at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html). Having reported the case to the DH, the registered medical practitioner who issued the written direction will be notified of the test result; or

(2) To self-arrange testing provided by private laboratories recognised by the DH (see the list at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories_RTPCR.pdf) by the testing deadline and submit the test result to the medical practitioner who issued the written direction or his clinic staff by electronic mail, fax, or by hardcopy within four days after the testing deadline.

For example, if the written direction is issued on Monday, the person subject to testing under the written direction should undergo a test via one of the above options on or before Wednesday, the testing deadline. If the test result of the specimen is preliminary positive, the specimen will be referred to the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch of the DH for a confirmatory test. Confirmed cases will be followed up and announced by the

Centre for Health Protection of the DH.

"Persons who are subject to testing under written directions are suspected to be infected and should not attend the mobile specimen collection stations or the community testing centres for testing. To reduce transmission risk, relevant persons who underwent testing are advised to stay at home and avoid going out when waiting for test results."

Any person who fails to comply with the testing notices commits an offence and may be fined a fixed penalty of \$5,000. The person would also be issued with a compulsory testing order requiring him or her to undergo testing within a specified time frame. Failure to comply with the order is an offence and the offender would be liable to a fine at level 4 (\$25,000) and imprisonment for six months.

Relevant officers of different government departments are empowered to perform certain functions under the relevant Regulations under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599), including requesting individuals to provide information and assistance when necessary. Any person who fails to comply with the relevant request commits an offence and would be liable to a fine at level 3 (\$10,000). Collection and use of any personal data for conducting COVID-19 tests must meet the requirements under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486). Government departments or testing service providers which handle the relevant information may provide the data to DH or other relevant departments for anti-epidemic purpose as necessary. The workflow does not involve the provision of any personal data to organisations or persons outside Hong Kong.

The spokesman said, "The Government urges all individuals who are in doubt about their own health conditions, or individuals with infection risks (such as individuals who visited places with epidemic outbreaks or contacted confirmed cases), to undergo testing promptly for early identification of infected persons."

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme statistics

The COVID-19 Vaccination Programme has been implemented for the 35th day since February 26, 2021.

So far, about 520 300 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered for members of the public (please see Annex 1). Among them, about 466 300 persons have received their first dose, with about 315 000 persons receiving the Sinovac vaccine and about 151 300 persons receiving the BioNTech vaccine. About 54 000 persons have received their second dose of the Sinovac vaccine.

In the last 24 hours ending at 8pm today (April 1), the following vaccination and booking figures were recorded:

(i) About 5 200 persons received their first dose of the Sinovac vaccine, including about 3 300 persons vaccinated at eight Community Vaccination Centres (CVCs) and about 1 900 persons at private doctors and clinics participating in the programme;

(ii) about 10 000 persons received their second dose of the Sinovac vaccine, including about 3 700 persons vaccinated at the CVCs and about 6 300 persons at private doctors and clinics;

(iii) the overall percentage of people who have received the Sinovac vaccine at the eight CVCs is about 94 per cent; and

(iv) about 3 100 persons have made online bookings for receiving their first and second doses of the Sinovac vaccine.

In the last 24 hours ending at 0.00am today, there were two cases of ambulance transfers to hospitals. Among them, one person was discharged and one person was admitted for observation (please see Annex 2).

As background information, in the last 24 hours ending at 0.00am today, there were 59 cases of stroke or myocardial infarction that required admission to the Intensive Care Unit, Acute Stroke Unit and Cardiac Care Unit of public hospitals. The state of new cases admitted to the wards concerned is provided as a cross reference to enhance fuller public understanding of cases of the kind recorded on vaccine recipients.

[HKSAR Government strongly objects to Hong Kong Policy Act Report released by US State Department](#)

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government today (April 1) expressed strong opposition to the remarks contained in the so-called Hong Kong Policy Act Report issued by the United States (US) Department of State.

The HKSAR is an inalienable part of the People's Republic of China (PRC), is a local administrative region that enjoys a high degree of autonomy under "one country, two systems" and comes directly under the Central People's Government (CPG). To uphold and implement the principle of "one country, two systems" meets the interests of the Hong Kong people, responds

to the needs of maintaining Hong Kong's prosperity and stability and serves the fundamental interests of the nation. The CPG has time and again made it clear that it will unswervingly implement the policy of "one country, two systems." The so-called Hong Kong Policy Act and sanctions imposed by the US Government are clearly an interference in the internal affairs of the PRC, in the pretext of human rights, democracy and autonomy.

Hong Kong National Security Law

"We strongly object to the comments in the Report smearing the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (National Security Law). National security is a matter within the purview of the Central Authorities. It is the legitimate right and duty of every country to safeguard its national security. Whether it is in a unitary or federal system, legislation on national security is invariably carried out by the central authorities rather than a local government. Enacting laws on national security with extraterritorial effect is also squarely in line with international practice. Smearing the National Security Law out of political motivation is clear hypocrisy in adopting double standards," the spokesman said.

The National Security Law upholds the rights and freedoms of Hong Kong people as well as the high degree of autonomy of the HKSAR. The National Security Law clearly stipulates that the HKSAR shall protect the rights and freedoms enjoyed by residents under the Basic Law and the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as applied to Hong Kong in accordance with the law. However, certain rights and freedoms recognised in the ICCPR are not absolute: the ICCPR stipulates that certain rights and freedoms may be subject to restrictions as prescribed by law if it is necessary in the interests of national security, public safety, public order or the rights and freedoms of others, etc.

"The National Security Law has clearly stipulated four categories of offences that endanger national security. It clearly sets out the elements of the offences, penalties, mitigation factors and other consequences. There is no question of law-abiding persons inadvertently violating the law. The arrests made by the Police are based on evidence and strictly according to the laws in force.

"The National Security Law, like any law in the HKSAR, applies equally to every person in Hong Kong; no one is above the law. We are appalled by remarks in the Report that seemed to suggest that people with certain political background should be immune to legal sanctions. We must emphasise that no one has any privilege to break the law without facing legal consequences.

"The right of peaceful assembly is fully protected under the Basic Law. However, such freedoms are not absolute. As the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal at the Ceremonial Opening of the Legal Year 2020 stated that, "we see clear limits in the law to the exercise of rights. The enjoyment or

insistence on one's rights does not, for example, provide any excuse to harm other people or their property, or to display acts of violence."

"Since the implementation of the National Security Law, stability has been restored to society and national security has been safeguarded in the HKSAR. Our people can continue to enjoy their basic rights and freedoms in accordance with the law. A stable environment is vitally important to the business activities of both local and overseas enterprises in Hong Kong."

General Election of the Legislative Council

On the postponement of the General Election of the Legislative Council (LegCo), the health and the well-being of the people are the overriding concerns of any responsible government. The HKSAR Government has repeatedly stressed that the postponement of the 2020 LegCo General Election is entirely based on public health grounds. According to the Decision made by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) on August 11, 2020, the sixth-term LegCo of the HKSAR will continue to discharge its duties for no less than one year until the commencement of the seventh-term LegCo. The decision also states clearly that the seventh-term LegCo of the HKSAR will have a term of four years after it has been formed in accordance with the law.

The NPCSC's Decision on the qualification of LegCo members of the HKSAR on November 11, 2020, clearly establishes that a member of the LegCo of the HKSAR does not fulfil the legal requirements and conditions on upholding the Basic Law and pledging allegiance to the HKSAR of the PRC if the member advocates or supports "Hong Kong independence", refuses to recognise the PRC's sovereignty over Hong Kong and the exercise of the sovereignty, solicits intervention by foreign or external forces in the HKSAR's affairs, or carries out other activities endangering national security. When the member is so decided in accordance with law, he or she is immediately disqualified from being a LegCo member. The Decision is applicable to the members of the sixth-term LegCo whose nominations were decided to be invalid in accordance with law by the HKSAR during the nomination period of the election for the seventh-term LegCo of the HKSAR originally scheduled for September 6, 2020. Four members of the sixth-term LegCo have submitted nomination to run for the seventh-term LegCo General Election that was originally scheduled for September 6, 2020. Their nominations were invalidated by Returning Officers before the end of the nomination period, and they hence lost the qualification for running for the election and were immediately disqualified from being LegCo members. The NPCSC's Decision is a constitutional, lawful and reasonable arrangement. It is necessary and complies with the relevant stipulations of the Basic Law.

Judicial Independence

The Report also expressed concerns on judicial independence in the HKSAR. That the courts of the HKSAR can exercise independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication free from any interference, has been enshrined under the Basic Law as set out in Articles 2, 19 and 85. Article 92

of the Basic Law also clearly stipulates that judges and other members of the judiciary of the HKSAR shall be chosen on the basis of their judicial and professional qualities. The constitutional duty of judges, in the exercise of their judicial power, is to apply the law and nothing else. Such duty does not change when judges decide cases arising from or involving political controversies.