

United Nations Sanctions (Amendment) Bill 2018 to be gazetted

The United Nations Sanctions (Amendment) Bill 2018 will be gazetted on May 25 (Friday).

The Bill seeks to amend the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) (UNSO) to enable regulations made under the UNSO to impose sanctions directly against persons (including groups, undertakings and entities) whom the Security Council of the United Nations (UNSC) decides to sanction.

"Given that the existing UNSO only provides for the implementation of sanctions against places, the sanction measures against Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, Al-Qaida, and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities set out in the UNSC Resolution 2368 cannot be implemented by regulations made under the UNSO," a government spokesman said.

"We propose to amend the long title and section 2 of the UNSO to enable regulations made under the UNSO to implement sanctions against persons, groups, undertakings and entities, so that sanctions imposed by the UNSC against terrorists groups can be implemented," the spokesman added.

The Bill will be introduced into the Legislative Council for first and second readings on June 6.