<u>Appointment ceremony of Immigration</u> <u>Department Youth Ambassador Programme</u>

The Director of Immigration, Mr Benson Kwok, officiated at the appointment ceremony of the Immigration Department Youth Ambassador Programme (the Programme) today (November 11) held at the Office of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) in Beijing. The Programme aims to identify and nurture more young talent who are committed individuals with aspirations and a willingness to strive hard for the future of the country and Hong Kong. Meanwhile, the appointed Youth Ambassadors will assist the Immigration Department (ImmD) in disseminating its information and latest developments through their own social networks to people.

During the one-year term, eight Youth Ambassadors will receive diversified training offered by the ImmD, including visits, workshops, exchange programmes, trial work placement days and internships. The ImmD anticipates that the Programme will enable the Youth Ambassadors to gain an in-depth understanding of the operations of the HKSAR Government and the business scope of the ImmD, and to broaden their horizons for a further solid grounding so as to pave the way for their different future positions in society. This may also give a fresh impetus to a youth force that demonstrates the love for our country as well as Hong Kong.

At the appointment ceremony, Mr Kwok appealed the Youth Ambassadors to seize the training opportunities, continue to learn and enhance their understanding of the ImmD's policies and procedures, become "experts" of the ImmD to better promote and introduce the department's work to members of the public. Meanwhile, they can also act as the bridge between Beijing and Hong Kong and representatives of young people in Hong Kong to air their views and facilitate exchange and collaboration between the youth of the Mainland and Hong Kong, as well as tell everyone the good stories of Hong Kong.