<u>Appointment of permanent judge of the Court of Final Appeal</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Judiciary:

The Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal, Mr Andrew Cheung Kuinung, today (May 12) welcomed the acceptance by the Chief Executive of the recommendation of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission on the appointment of the Honourable Mr Justice Johnson Lam Man-hon, Vice-President and Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court, as a permanent judge of the Court of Final Appeal. The Chief Justice noted that the Government would be seeking the Legislative Council's endorsement of the recommended appointment.

The Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal Ordinance (Cap. 484) provides that in hearing and determining an appeal, the Court of Final Appeal is constituted by five judges, i.e. the Chief Justice, three permanent judges and one non-permanent Hong Kong judge or one non-permanent common law judge.