

Appointment of the Chief Judge of the High Court

The following is issued on behalf of the Judiciary:

The Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal, Mr Geoffrey Ma Tao-li, today (May 22) welcomed the acceptance by the Chief Executive of the recommendation of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission (JORC) on the appointment of the Honourable Mr Justice Jeremy Poon Shiu-chor, Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court, as the Chief Judge of the High Court. The Chief Justice noted that the Government would be seeking the endorsement of the Legislative Council of the recommended appointment.

The High Court of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is a court of unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction, subject to the provisions of the High Court Ordinance (Cap. 4). The High Court consists of the Court of Appeal and the Court of First Instance. The Court of Appeal and the Court of First Instance are constituted by judges including the Chief Judge of the High Court, who is the president of the Court of Appeal.

Mr Justice Poon stated that he is honoured by the Chief Executive's acceptance of JORC's recommendation on the appointment. He noted that the Government would be seeking the Legislative Council's endorsement and said that if appointed, he would do his utmost to discharge his duties as the Chief Judge of the High Court.