

## **Agenda of today's LegCo meeting revised**

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The agenda of the Legislative Council (LegCo) meeting, scheduled for today (June 19) at 11am in the Chamber of the LegCo Complex, has been revised. The President has given permission for Mr Au Nok-hin and Mr Lam Cheuk-ting to ask, under Rule 24(4) of the Rules of Procedure (RoP), urgent oral questions on the Police's handling of large-scale demonstrations and assemblies.

Meanwhile, Mr Kwong Chun-yu will move an adjournment motion under RoP 16(2). The motion states: "That this Council do now adjourn for the purpose of debating the following issue: in response to the Police's handling of the public assembly held in the areas around the Legislative Council Complex on June 12, 2019 (including clashes with members of the public and journalists, categorisation of the assembly as a riot, and large-scale arrest of and search operations against the participants after the assembly) and the views expressed by the public on the matter, the countermeasures to be adopted by the Police in respect of large-scale public assemblies that are very likely to take place shortly."

For the latest agenda items of today's LegCo meeting, please refer to the LegCo Website:

[www.legco.gov.hk/yr18-19/english/counmtg/agenda/cm20190619.htm](http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr18-19/english/counmtg/agenda/cm20190619.htm).

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## **Flag-raising ceremony suspended**

Owing to the maintenance works on the flag poles and the podium at the Golden Bauhinia Square, Wan Chai, the flag-raising ceremony scheduled at 8am today (June 19) will be suspended.

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## **Murder and suicide in Ma On Shan**

Police are investigating a murder and suicide case in Ma On Shan yesterday (June 18) in which a 61-year-old man and his 59-year-old wife died.

At about 5.27pm yesterday, Police received a report that a man and a woman suspectedly fell from height in a housing estate on Ning Tai Road, Ma On Shan.

Police officers sped to the scene and found the 61-year-old man and the 59-year-old woman lying unconsciously on the podium. Both of them were certified dead at scene.

Initial investigation revealed that the woman's neck had been strangled with a rope before she fell from height.

A nylon rope in suspected connection with the case was seized inside a unit.

Post-mortem examinations will be conducted later to ascertain the causes of their deaths.

Active investigations by the District Crime Squad of Sha Tin District are underway.

Anyone who witnessed the incident or has any information to offer is urged to contact the investigating officers on 3661 2727.

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## **[HKETO, Brussels supports Hong Kong musical talent at Rome Chamber Music Festival \(with photos\)](#)**

With the support of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Brussels (HKETO, Brussels), talented young Hong Kong cello player Calvin Wong took part in the 16th Rome Chamber Music Festival, which ran from June 13 to 17 (Rome time).

Wong was one of 25 young artists chosen to study and perform with festival artists at the beautiful Palazzo Barberini in Rome, Italy this year. A famous example of Baroque architecture, the palazzo is also home to the national gallery of fine arts – the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Antica. After taking part in public rehearsals from June 13 to 15, Wong performed the Octet in E-flat major Op.20 by Felix Mendelssohn with other musicians on June 16 and 17.

Founded in 2003, the festival presents a diverse programme of masterworks performed by prominent artists and aspiring music talents over a five-day period.

This was the sixth time that a young Hong Kong musician was selected for

the festival's Young Artist Programme.

The HKETO, Brussels has always supported and promoted Hong Kong's creative industries and enabled many Hong Kong talents to perform in Europe. The CY Leo Electronic Trio from Hong Kong, comprising a harmonica virtuoso, a pianist and an electronic musician, was invited to perform at this year's Chinese New Year receptions hosted by the HKETO, Brussels in The Hague, Paris and Brussels. The HKETO, Brussels also enabled a Hong Kong art curator to take part at a roundtable event organised at the international contemporary art fair Arco in Madrid, Spain in March. As regards the Hong Kong film industry, the HKETO, Brussels has this year assisted in the showcasing of Hong Kong films at three well known European film festivals, namely the CinemAsia Film Festival in Amsterdam, the Netherlands; the Brussels International Fantasy, Fantastic, Thriller and Science Fiction Film Festival in Belgium; and the Far East Film Festival in Udine, Italy. The HKETO, Brussels also supported the Hong Kong comic industry's participation at the 46th Angoulême International Comics Festival, France, in January 2019, as well as supporting the Hong Kong Pavilion, jointly organised by the Hong Kong Publishing Federation and the Hong Kong Printers Association, at the Bologna Children's Book Fair 2019 held in Italy in April.



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## [Transcript of remarks by CE at media session](#)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, at a media session this afternoon (June 18):

Reporter: Mrs Lam, on Wednesday you personally said the distressing scene in Admiralty area was a blatant, organised riot and in no way an act of loving Hong Kong. So today are you backtracking on what you said on Wednesday, or are you deciding to stick with the Police Commissioner's statements? And number two, just now you said Hong Kong needs a government to deliver on social and economic policies, but do you realise that you are now leading a

lame-duck government? And if you had a choice, would you choose to step down and not seek another term? Thank you.

Chief Executive: First of all, the statement that I made on Wednesday evening was entirely based on the assessment and report on the ground. In other words, the Chief Executive has not, and should not, made her own assessment of the situation on the ground. There is no difference between myself and the Commissioner of Police, especially after his clarification last evening that the term "riot" was referring to the behaviour of some of those protesters, especially those who were using violence and trying to storm into the Legislative Council building. So throughout, whether it is on Wednesday evening or today standing here, my position is totally aligned with the Commissioner of Police.

The second point, also related to governance, we have a lot of social and economic issues that we have committed to, let alone introducing more new initiatives to develop the economy and to improve the livelihood of the people of Hong Kong. In the next three years, while it is difficult, as I said the difficulty lies now perhaps not in the matter of ability and competence but in the trust amongst the people of Hong Kong, myself and my team will try our very best to rebuild their trust so that we can continue to implement these social and economic policies. As I said, my commitment is to doing all this important work in the next three years.

Reporter: Thank you, Mrs Lam. You describe the protesters as being those who love Hong Kong, people who are part of families, they normally remain silent, but we know that they've made their demands very clear. They say they'd like you to resign and they want the extradition bill to be withdrawn completely. You say that you've listened to them very, very carefully, but can you tell them why today you are apparently ignoring their wishes because you are not resigning and this bill is not being withdrawn. Why?

Chief Executive: I have been listening very carefully and attentively to the views expressed over this period, especially during the last two Sundays when a lot of people went out to the streets. I have responded to both. One was on June 15, I have announced that we will suspend the legislative exercise, and immediately that afternoon we put a stop to the legislative exercise by informing the Legislative Council that the bill will no longer proceed to second reading debate. I'm standing here to make a further commitment in recognition of the anxieties and the fears that have been caused by this bill in the last few months. I said, and I undertook, that if we do not have that level of confidence to address those anxieties and fears and differences in opinion, we will not proceed with the legislative exercise again. As some legislative members have pointed out, every legislative council has a term. The current term of the Legislative Council will expire in July next year. If, under a situation when we have no timetable, we will make sure that we could address those concerns and anxieties before we move forward, it is very unlikely that the bill will be able to make the deadline of the end of this term. Should that happen, the Government will accept the reality.

As far as the other demand, I've said that I want another chance to

deliver the many initiatives that will help Hong Kong's economy and improve the livelihood of the Hong Kong people. I myself and my political team will continue to work very hard to achieve those objectives and to meet the aspirations of the Hong Kong people.

Reporter: Mrs Lam, in your speech you said you want to mend the rift in society. You said you want people to trust the Government again. The legal definition of "riot" is that for people taking part in an unlawful assembly and that there is a breach of peace that would be a riot. I know the CP what he said. I know what you said you agreed with him. Trying to re-instil the trust in people, can you just say once and for all that everybody who took part in the June 12 protest would not be charged for rioting because that's the demand for people who took part in the rally on Sunday? The mending the rift part, would you take some advice from some people, let's say Anson Chan, who want you to set up a commission of inquiry to look into alleged police brutality, so as to ease people's concerns about how the Police could kind of hide behind the scene? Because none of the officers actually had a number while they were allegedly attacking the protesters. Can you set up that inquiry so that there can be an investigation? Thank you.

Chief Executive: Let me first answer the second question. Hong Kong has very well established mechanisms to deal with complaints against the Police. We have the CAPO, the Complaints Against Police Office, and we have an Independent Police Complaints Council, the IPCC. We should make the full use of these institutions to address any complaints that people, including the protesters, have against the actions of the Police during those events. And if I remember correctly, the Commissioner of Police has told us that there were a number of such complaints being lodged already.

The second question actually is about lawfulness. Anybody who has committed an offence has to be brought to justice. I believe this is a common aspiration of Hong Kong people and also one of the core values of a place which is so proud of the rule of law. On June 12, if some participants, some protesters, have resorted to violence and there is sufficient evidence to prove that they have used violence, then of course the Police needs to take action. The action includes investigation, collecting evidence and then consulting the Department of Justice on the prosecution.

Maybe the term "riot" has given rise to a lot of concern, so the Commissioner of Police has come out last evening to explain that the term "riot" was used to refer to certain people's behaviour during that day over a particular period. For other participants, peaceful participants and peaceful protesters, on the same day, on June 12, in the same place, that is around Queensway, but they have not used violence, then the Commissioner of Police's assurance is of course they will not be prosecuted for an act of riot because they have not participated or taken part in such acts of riot. And he went on to provide an assurance to the majority of the people who were peaceful, peaceful protestors, during June 12.

Reporter: Sorry, that's not the legal definition...

Chief Executive: The legal definition has to be addressed by the legal people.

Reporter: Your inability to say the word "retract", to me at least, will continue to sow distrust in Hong Kong society, but you say that you want another chance here. Critics –not myself – but critics have said that you are a habitual liar, and that you need to cry today to be believed. To any person, that would be devastating to hear. How do you feel about that?

Chief Executive: I do not accept that sort of description. Throughout my public service career, integrity and character are very important virtues – of myself and indeed for any public officer. I have explained in response to several questions on how we have dealt with this bill that has caused a lot of anxiety and worries in society. We have immediately stopped the bill on June 15, and I have furthermore undertaken that, because this bill over the last few months has caused so much anxieties, worries and differences in opinion, I will not- this is an undertaking- proceed again with this legislative exercise if these fears and anxieties could not be adequately addressed. For those who know the legislative rules of procedures, the current Legislative Council term will come to an end in July next year, and if the bill – because we have no timetable, we need more time to address those anxieties –did not make Legislative Council by July next year, it will expire, it will no longer have a validity and the Government will accept that reality. I think I have made this position clear and loud.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)