

# Transcript of remarks by SLW on Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work at media session (with photos)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Mr Chris Sun, on Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work at a media session after officiating at the opening ceremony of the Hong Kong International Airport Career Expo 2023 jointly launched by the Airport Authority Hong Kong and the Labour Department this afternoon (August 4):

Reporter: Yesterday there's an NGO (non-governmental organisation) releasing a survey finding that more than 80 per cent of cleaners in Hong Kong did not fully follow the guidelines under the Heat Stress at Work Warning system. How would you comment on this phenomenon and does the Labour Department have any plans to make this guideline legally binding?

Secretary for Labour and Welfare: The very purpose of Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work is to provide a clear guidance to employers and also, of course, employees, so that the arrangements including work hours could be adjusted having regard to the weather condition in Hong Kong. This is the first time a revised guideline has been introduced.

The Labour Department has stepped up inspections, and for cases where we see a need for improvement, we will issue warnings. We will review the situation but clearly for this moment, having a guideline for us is the most balanced approach to deal with the challenge of climate change, and more days where we will see higher temperatures and with greater heat stroke risk. Right now we have no plan to legislate.

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





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## HAD opens temporary heat shelters

â€‹ The Home Affairs Department will continue to open 19 community halls/community centres as temporary heat shelters today (August 4).

The temporary heat shelters will remain open for people to take refuge from the heat when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force. From 10.30pm to 8am the next day, the temporary heat shelters will also provide bedding and a sleeping place for people in need. The shelters are manned by duty attendants.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2572 8427.

The heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Island:

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Central and Western –  
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall  
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex  
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –  
Causeway Bay Community Centre  
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –  
Wah Kwai Community Centre  
Wah Kwai Estate, Kellett Bay

Wan Chai –  
Wan Chai Activities Centre

LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –

Hung Hom Community Hall  
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices  
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –

Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre  
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –

Lai Kok Community Hall  
Lai Kok Estate, Cheung Sha Wan

Wong Tai Sin –

Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre  
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –

Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre  
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands –

Tung Chung Community Hall  
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, 39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –

Kwai Shing Community Hall  
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –

Cheung Wah Community Hall  
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –

Hang Hau Community Hall  
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, 38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau,  
Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –

Lung Hang Estate Community Centre  
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –

Tai Po Community Centre  
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –  
Lei Muk Shue Community Hall  
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –  
Butterfly Bay Community Centre  
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –  
Long Ping Community Hall  
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –  
Tin Yiu Community Centre  
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

In addition to the above heat shelters, a number of community halls/community centres can also be used for taking refuge from the heat during their operating hours. For their address details, please browse the following

document: [www.had.gov.hk/file\\_manager/en/documents/public\\_services/emergency\\_services/List\\_CH\\_CC\\_Day\\_E.pdf](http://www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/List_CH_CC_Day_E.pdf).

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## [Speech by FS at Lunch Reception in celebration of Singapore's 58th National Day \(English only\) \(with photos\)](#)

Following is the speech by the Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, at the Lunch Reception in celebration of Singapore's 58th National Day today (August 4):

Consul-General Ong (Consul-General of Singapore in Hong Kong, Mr Ong Siew Gay), æ½~é>²æ0±½²ç0tç%¹æ'³â“i (Acting Commissioner of the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Mr Pan Yundong), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I am honoured to join you all to celebrate the 58th National Day of Singapore.

The fact that we have so many distinguished guests here today from government and business; from Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas, speaks of the long history of close connections between Hong Kong and Singapore.

Singapore's National Day falls on August 9, but I am not surprised that we are marking this momentous occasion a few days early. After all, our Singaporean community has a proud reputation for being ahead of its time!

That said, it is never too early – on occasions such as this – to celebrate the friendship and manifold ties that connect us and our shared commitment to a brighter tomorrow for our people and our region.

Consul-General Ong, in his inspiring speech just now, mentioned a number of factors that Singapore and Hong Kong have in common. So true that both of us are small, open and externally-oriented economies with limited natural resources. The longstanding success of our two economies, and the vibrancy of our cities, are premised on our economic philosophy and the unique role we play in connecting and serving our region and the rest of the world. Over the years, we have thrived on free trade, foreign direct investments, competitive tax policies, friendliness to businesses and talent, and much more.

Openness and collaboration, of course, are also vital to the global economy at large. At a time when geopolitics and unilateralism disrupt the world order, it is all the more important that we remain committed to free trade and unimpeded investment, and to promoting multilateralism for the greater interest of all.

With that in mind, it was heartening to hear Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong reaffirm Singapore's support for Hong Kong's accession to RCEP (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership) during our Chief Executive's recent visit. Hong Kong would be proud to contribute to the world's largest free trade bloc.

And there is much more that our two economies can do for better global governance. One example is for us, as international financial hubs, to advocate standards on global tax policy in an effort to preserve our competitiveness and prevent regulatory arbitrage.

In many different areas, our joint efforts will be mutually beneficial, and do greater good to the global community. During our Chief Executive's recent visit to Singapore, seven MoUs (memoranda of understanding) were signed, opening doors to closer collaboration in areas such as trade, financial services, fintech and innovation and technology. In particular, we are pleased to note that our two cities are strengthening co-operation on green transformation, in areas ranging from research to green finance and green technology.

Achieving carbon neutrality is essential to the sustainable future of mankind. Over the next 30 years, Asia will need about US\$66 trillion in green financing, according to estimates. Just think of the scale, and that alone

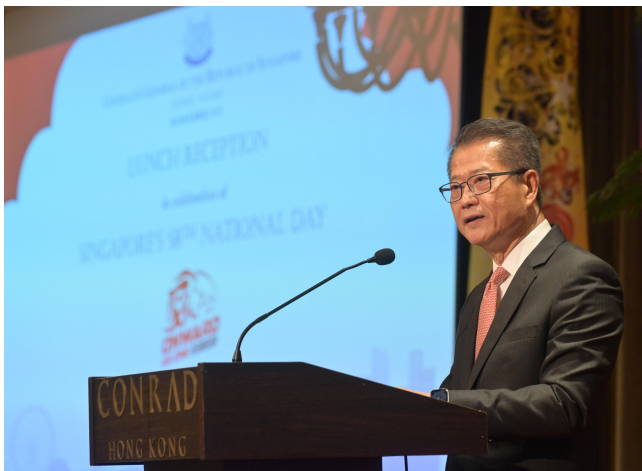
presents a huge room for collaboration.

As the centre of economic gravity is shifting from West to East, the energetic rise of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Southeast Asia, which are both huge markets as the Consul-General noted earlier, also offers boundless promise. Both Hong Kong and Singapore are indeed right on the doorstep of the respective markets, each playing to their own strengths and offering a full suite of expertise and services to tap into these emerging markets. There is much room for us to share our expertise, experience and contact for the benefit of our business and people.

Indeed, our collaboration extends well beyond business. Consider, for example, Singapore's talented JJ Lin – and the popularity of his live shows at Central Harbourfront in March. From pop music to movies, food to entertainment, we look forward to expanding arts and cultural exchanges between our two cities.

Ladies and gentlemen, as Singapore celebrates its National Day, I'm pleased to extend our heartiest congratulations to the people of Singapore, for the success, achievements and continuing progress in the proud history of your nation, setting itself as an example for many economies in the world.

On this note, I would like to invite you to join me now in a toast: To the continuing prosperity of the Republic of Singapore and its people, and to the flourishing friendship between our two cities. Cheers!



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## [Update on dengue fever](#)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (August 4) reported the latest number of dengue fever (DF) cases, and urged the public to maintain strict environmental hygiene, mosquito control and personal protective measures both locally and during travel.

From July 28 to yesterday (August 3), the CHP recorded two imported DF



cases. The patients had been to Indonesia and the Philippines respectively during the incubation periods.

As of yesterday, 22 imported cases of DF had been recorded in 2023. In 2022, 26 imported cases of DF were recorded.

The latest surveillance data shows that there is an increase in DF cases noted in some places in Asia (such as Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand) and South America compared to the same period last year, and the trend is rising. Members of the public, while travelling abroad, should stay vigilant and carry out effective mosquito prevention and control measures. Detailed information on the latest DF situation in Hong Kong, as well as neighbouring and overseas countries and areas, has been uploaded to the CHP's website ([www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/df\\_imported\\_cases\\_and\\_overseas\\_figures\\_eng.pdf](http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/df_imported_cases_and_overseas_figures_eng.pdf)).

"Apart from [general measures](#), travellers returning from areas affected by DF should apply insect repellent for 14 days upon arrival in Hong Kong. If feeling unwell, seek medical advice promptly and provide travel details to the doctor," a spokesman for the CHP said.

The public should take heed of the following advice on mosquito control:

- Thoroughly check all gully traps, roof gutters, surface channels and drains to prevent blockage;
- Scrub and clean drains and surface channels with an alkaline detergent compound at least once a week to remove any deposited mosquito eggs;
- Properly dispose of refuse, such as soft drink cans, empty bottles and boxes, in covered litter containers;
- Completely change the water of flowers and plants at least once a week. The use of saucers should be avoided if possible;
- Level irregular ground surfaces before the rainy season;
- Avoid staying in shrubby areas; and
- Take personal protective measures such as wearing light-coloured long-sleeved clothes and trousers and apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothing or uncovered areas of the body when doing outdoor activities.

As DEET-containing insect repellents are effective and the public should take heed of the tips below:

- Read the label instructions carefully first;
- Apply right before entering an area with risk of mosquito bites;
- Apply on exposed skin and clothing;
- Use DEET of up to 30 per cent for pregnant women and up to 10 per cent for children\*;
- Apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent; and
- Re-apply only when needed and follow the instructions.

\* For children who travel to countries or areas where mosquito-borne diseases are endemic or epidemic and where exposure is likely, those aged 2 months or

above can use DEET-containing insect repellents with a DEET concentration of up to 30 per cent.

The public should call 1823 in case of mosquito problems and may visit the following pages for more information: the DF page of the [CHP](#) and the [Travel Health Service](#), the latest [Travel Health News](#), [tips for using insect repellents](#), and the CHP [Facebook Page](#) and [YouTube Channel](#).

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## [Appointment of Commissioner for Sports \(with photo\)](#)

The Government announced today (August 4) that following an open-cum-in-service recruitment exercise, Mr Sam Wong Tak-sum will take up the appointment as the Commissioner for Sports in the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau (CSTB), on August 22, 2023. He will be responsible for the formulation of sports policy and its relevant initiatives, and the promotion and implementation of the Government's five policy objectives of sports development, namely to promote sports for all, support elite sports, promote Hong Kong as a centre for major international sports events, enhance professionalism in the sports sector and promote sports as an industry. He will oversee the implementation of such work.

Concerning Mr Wong's appointment, the Secretary of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Mr Kevin Yeung, said, "Mr Wong is passionate about sports. He represented Hong Kong in world-class windsurfing competitions and repeatedly made remarkable achievements. He then became a windsurfing coach to nurture young talent and held a number of key positions in various local national sports associations and institutes. With his dedication to sports, a strong background in athlete training, and substantial experience in the sports sector, I trust that Mr Wong will be able to bring new impetus to the Government on promoting and implementing the five policy objectives of sports development. I look forward to a new chapter of the Sports and Recreation Branch in the CSTB under his leadership the further promotion of our sports development."

Mr Wong said that he was honoured to be appointed the Commissioner for Sports. He hopes to leverage what he has learned in the sports sector over the years and contribute to Hong Kong's sports development.

Brief biographical notes of Mr Wong are set out below:

Mr Sam Wong Tak-sum

Mr Wong was an athlete and a coach before he rose to executive



positions. He has been working in the sports sector for over 30 years.

Mr Wong became a full-time windsurfer at the Hong Kong Sports Institute in 1990. He represented Hong Kong to take part in the Olympic Games, the Asian Games, the World Windsurfing Championships and the Asian Windsurfing Championships, and claimed a number of awards throughout the years. In 2000, he retired and became a coach of the Hong Kong Windsurfing Team. His success in nurturing many top windsurfers earned him the "Coach of the Year" award for five consecutive years. In 2008, Mr Wong joined the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China as Department Manager and was entrusted with the task of taking forward the Hong Kong Athletes Career and Education Programme. During his tenure, a wide range of services on education, career and life skills development were provided to retired athletes, and support was given to over 1 000 retired athletes to help them pursue a second career after retirement.

In 2017, Mr Wong entered the field of sports administration with his appointment as the Executive Director of the Hong Kong Amateur Hockey Club and endeavoured to promote youth and women's ice hockey. He was appointed as the Executive Director of the Hong Kong, China Table Tennis Association in 2022 to undertake the mission of promoting table tennis in Hong Kong.

Since 2009, Mr Wong has been appointed to serve a number of public duties, including as a member of the Sir David Trench Fund Committee, member of the Sports Commission and member of the Pilot Scheme on Subvention for New Sports. In 2021, he was awarded the Medal of Honour by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government in recognition of his contributions to the sports sector.

Mr Wong received a Bachelor's degree in Sports Administration from the University of Canberra, Australia, in 1999 before attaining a Master of Arts degree in Guidance and Counselling from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2014.

