<u>Appointments to Airport Authority Hong</u> <u>Kong</u>

The Government today (April 30) announced the appointment of the Chairman and three new members, as well as the reappointment of two serving members to the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AA) for a term of three years with effect from June 1, 2024.

Mr Fred Lam Tin-fuk is appointed as the AA Chairman. The three newly appointed members are Dr Dorothy Chan Yuen Tak-fai, Mrs Ann Kung Yeung Yun-chi and Mr Perry Yiu Pak-leung. The two reappointed members are Ms Sabrina Chao Sih-ming and Mr Edwin Tong Ka-hung.

Mr Jack So Chak-kwong has served as the AA Chairman since June 2015. The Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Mr Lam Sai-hung, expressed his heartfelt gratitude for Mr So's contribution in leading the AA in the past nine years and commended him for his unwavering commitment. Under Mr So's leadership, Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) saw steady growth over the years and achieved a number of important milestones. In particular, Mr So played a pivotal role in such major areas as the planning and construction of the Three-Runway System, development of Airport City, expansion of intermodal transport networks and enhancement of air services. During his tenure, HKIA won widespread recognition and remained as a world leader in both passenger and cargo transport. With his vision and foresight, Mr So led the AA to break new ground and pursue innovation, with a view to promoting the sustainable development of HKIA and consolidating Hong Kong's position as an international aviation hub.

Mr Lam Sai-hung also extended a warm welcome to Mr Fred Lam, who will assume office as the AA Chairman with effect from June 1, 2024. Mr Fred Lam has been the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the AA since 2014, and is conversant with the business of the AAHK and HKIA. He has also been appointed to various government advisory and statutory bodies, and has extensive experience in public services. Mr Lam Sai-hung looks forward to working closely with Mr Fred Lam to continue pressing ahead with the long-term development of HKIA by leveraging the opportunities arising from the completion of the Three-Runway System and the Airport City development, and to actively launch external publicity and explore business opportunities, thereby further enhancing Hong Kong's status as an international aviation hub. Mr Fred Lam will depart from the post of CEO of the AA as he takes up the AA chairmanship.

In addition, Mr Adrian Wong Koon-man will be leaving the AA on June 1, 2024. Mr Lam Sai-hung thanked Mr Wong for his valuable contributions to the AA and the development of HKIA.

Under the Airport Authority Ordinance, the Chairman and members of the AA are appointed by the Chief Executive. The appointments will be published in the Government Gazette on May 3.

The following is the full membership of the AA with effect from June 1, 2024:

Chairman:

Mr Fred Lam Tin-fuk

Members:

Dr Dorothy Chan Yuen Tak-fai

Ms Sabrina Chao Sih-ming

Mr Rock Chen Chung-nin

Mr Philip Chen Nan-lok

Ms Irene Chow Man-ling

Mrs Ann Kung Yeung Yun-chi

Mr Laurence Li Lu-jen, SC

Dr Lo Wai-kwok

Mr Edwin Tong Ka-hung

Dr William Wong Ming-fung, SC

Mr Stephen Yiu Kin-wah

Mr Perry Yiu Pak-leung

Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Director-General of Civil Aviation

Chief Executive Officer, Airport Authority (ex officio)

<u>Industrial accident in Sau Mau Ping</u> <u>reclassified as manslaughter</u>

Police today (April 30) arrested a 35-year-old man for manslaughter in relation to a fatal industrial accident in 2022.

In the morning on September 7, 2022, a tower crane inside a construction site on Anderson Road, Sau Mau Ping collapsed and crashed onto nearby temporary container offices, leading to the death of three men and injuries to six men.

The Kowloon East Regional Crime Unit conducted criminal investigations into the accident. After comprehensive investigations and seeking legal advice from the Department of Justice, Police arrested a 35-year-old man in Ngau Tau Kok and listed a 72-year-old outsourced registered structural engineer as wanted.

The arrested man is the then project manager of the principle contractor. He is being detained by the Police and will be charged with

<u>Transcript of remarks by CE at media</u> session before ExCo

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, at a media session before the Executive Council meeting today (April 30):

Reporter: Good morning, Mr Lee. Firstly, with regards to the plastic ban policy, has the Environment and Ecology Bureau failed in policy explanation given the confusion over the plastic ban on, for instance, display of sushi at supermarkets and also confusion over dine-in at some stores? And also is your Government still confident in pushing forward with the waste charging scheme in August, given the situation we have seen with the plastic ban so far? And the second question, with regards to the upcoming Golden Week as well, is the Government worried in particular about the weather issue affecting its highlight firework event for the city on the first day of the Golden Week holiday? And why isn't there a sort of special border arrangement as seen in previous holidays during this Golden Week holiday? Is there any particular reason for it and what sort of measures would the Government take to ensure that the city can handle the tourists coming into the city during this holiday period? Thank you.

Chief Executive: In regard to waste charging, in particular, the use of plastic bags to do graded charging, it is already in the law. The Government is seriously looking into ways to implement it. That is why we have introduced this drill to 14 targeted premises to see how it is being implemented, what problems are being encountered, and what are the response and opinions of the people who are going through the drill. To me, a policy that affects each and every citizen of our almost 7.5-million population is a serious matter that needs to be examined so that while we want to ensure the environment is well protected, we also want to proceed steadily so that people will be able to change their behaviour in a steady manner. Also very important is, because it's affecting everybody, how people think and feel about it. So I have asked the Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration to oversee this drill to listen to their views, and we will examine the feedback to decide how we will proceed. In regard to plastic bags, the Environment and Ecology Bureau has indicated the stock is guite enough for its present use, so they have made arrangements to deal with that matter. We will, as soon as possible, review the overall implementation details in the drill and also examine the views and opinions expressed by the people involved and come to a decision. When we come to that stage, we will inform the public as soon as possible.

As regards our preparation for the Golden Week, we have been fully geared. The Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau has on more than one occasion organised interdepartmental meetings to ensure that full preparation has been made in different areas. These include ensuring that at the boundary control points, including the airport, there will be sufficient manpower and special arrangements so as to ensure that the crossing at the boundary control points will be smooth, orderly, and will be handled as quickly as possible. We will be making special transportation arrangements; in some areas we'll be increasing the supply of public transport by some 40 per cent. The command centre will be in operation 24 hours so as to address different issues that may come out. There will also be a special arrangement for some pickup locations for cross-boundary transportation, and on some particular days, the last train that will go to Lo Wu will also be extended. The announcement of all these measures have been made very clearly.

And of course we want the experience to be a pleasant one, so we are very glad that those who are involved in the service industries are all geared up to ensure that they will provide special services to ensure that they will make good use of the opportunity, and also ensure that there will be a good experience. The Tourism Commission, together with the relevant bodies, will also be turning out on those days to ensure that things will be worked out in an orderly and smoothly manner.

We have made a number of promotion activities such as the pyrotechnic display. Of course we want to do the best to ensure that it will be most welcome and enjoyed by everybody, tourists and Hong Kong people. We will do our best. But, of course, weather is always unpredictable. We will inform the public about the decision we make as soon as possible, as circumstances permit. But there are a wide range of activities that have been arranged to welcome visitors during the Golden Week, and a lot of them will proceed regardless of weather conditions. Of course, we will do our best to ensure that visitors will have a good experience.

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

Red flags lowered at Repulse Bay Beach and South Bay Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (April 30) that since the water off Repulse Bay Beach and South Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island, is now suitable for swimming, the red flags have been lowered.

The red flags were hoisted at the beaches earlier on after a red tide was found.

Hong Kong Customs prepares for Labour Day Golden Week of Mainland (with photos)

Hong Kong Customs has drawn up a series of measures to prepare for the arrival of Mainland visitors during the Labour Day Golden Week of the Mainland to ensure smooth passenger and vehicular flows at each control point. Customs has also stepped up patrols at popular shopping spots in various districts and distributed pamphlets at land boundary control points and popular shopping spots, with a view to safeguarding and promoting rights of local consumers and visitors, and creating a good travel experience for visitors.

The Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms Louise Ho, inspected operations of the Lo Wu Control Point and the Express Rail Link West Kowloon Control Point, and met frontline staff there this morning (April 30) to learn about and direct the arrangements at the control points for the Labour Day Golden Week of the Mainland. Ms Ho said the department will flexibly deploy manpower to ensure smooth operations and strengthen passenger clearance at each control point for faster and smoother clearance of travellers. The department will also maintain close liaison with the Mainland Customs and Macao Customs to share the latest real-time situation of each control point, so that necessary co-ordination and arrangements can be made.

With the Labour Day Golden Week of the Mainland approaching, Customs has enhanced its promotion of consumer protection to Mainland residents. A series of new promotional videos were produced on Customs official accounts on Mainland social platforms, including WeChat and Douyin, to unveil common unfair trade practices and remind Mainland tourists to stay alert when shopping and avoid falling into consumer pitfalls of unfair trade practices. They were also reminded to pay attention to relevant import and export requirements as well as prohibited and controlled items to avoid contravention of the law.

Moreover, Customs has launched a special operation since April 27 to step up patrols during the Labour Day Golden Week of the Mainland at popular

shopping spots in various districts and to remind traders to comply with the requirements of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TDO), with a view to safeguarding rights of local consumers and visitors.

Apart from patrolling popular shopping spots, Customs officers will also drive publicity at dried seafood and ginseng shops, medicine shops and jewellery shops in different tourist shopping areas such as Yau Tsim Mong and Causeway Bay. Retail shops and workers in the tourist industry will be reminded to comply with the requirements of the TDO.

Customs officers will also distribute pamphlets at land boundary control points and popular shopping spots to remind visitors that they should have a good understanding of a product's specifications and make comparisons before purchase. They should patronise shops with a good reputation. They are also reminded to check carefully the total price and unit price of the goods before making payment, and to retain the transaction receipts and related records, which can be used as the basis for follow-up action in case a complaint is lodged in the future.

Customs has long been concerned about visitors being misled to make purchases by unfair trade practices and has established a Quick Response Team to handle urgent complaints lodged by short-haul visitors. The complaints will be promptly referred to investigators to handle with priority.

Under the TDO, any trader who adopts unfair trade practices, including making false trade descriptions in relation to goods, misleading omissions, aggressive commercial practices as well as bait and switch practices, commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for five years.

Members of the public may report suspected violations of the TDO to the Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk) or online form (eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/ced002).









