

CE appoints Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, today (June 24) signed the instrument of appointment of the Honourable Mr Justice Andrew Cheung Kiu-nung as the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal with effect from January 11, 2021, and reported the appointment to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) for the record, completing the relevant legal procedures for the appointment of the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal.

According to Article 48(6) of the Basic Law, the Chief Executive shall appoint or remove judges of the courts at all levels in accordance with legal procedures. With regard to the appointment of the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal, Mrs Lam, in accordance with Article 88 of the Basic Law, accepted in March this year the recommendation of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission on the appointment of Mr Justice Cheung as the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal, and obtained the endorsement of the appointment by the Legislative Council last week. Mrs Lam has also reported the appointment to the NPCSC for the record in accordance with Article 90(2) of the Basic Law.

"I am pleased to formally appoint Mr Justice Cheung as the next Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal to succeed Chief Justice Geoffrey Ma Tao-li, who will be retiring in January next year. The rule of law and judicial independence are core values of Hong Kong. With his exceptional qualities, distinguished leadership and vision, coupled with his reputation in the Judiciary and the legal sector, I have no doubt that Mr Justice Cheung will lead the Judiciary to ensure the continuation of the rule of law and judicial independence under 'One Country, Two Systems'," Mrs Lam said.