## <u>CE makes statement on issuance of fact</u> <u>sheet by Ministry of Foreign Affairs</u>

â€<In response to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' issuance of a fact sheet earlier that sets out a host of acts of the United States (US) in interfering in Hong Kong affairs and supporting anti-China, destabilising forces, the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, who is on a duty visit in the Mainland, made the following statement today (September 25):

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government firmly supports the Central People's Government, strongly opposing interference in Hong Kong affairs by any external forces. Over the past two years, the external forces including the US used the legislative amendment exercise of the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the enactment and implementation of the National Security Law as excuses to support individuals who are opposed to China to blatantly obstruct the HKSAR Government's governance and advocate "Hong Kong independence", "self-determination", seriously endangering national security. They also continuously slander our nation, vilify the HKSAR Government and smear the National Security Law through diplomatic and other domestic political means, which are shameful and despicable.

â€<I support the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' issuance of the fact sheet that sets out the host of acts of the US in interfering in Hong Kong affairs and supporting anti-China, destabilising forces. The fact sheet systematically sets out 102 items in five broad categories of interference of the US in Hong Kong affairs through such acts as enacting Hong Kong-related Acts, imposing sanctions, making unfounded charges against HKSAR affairs, shielding and supporting those who are opposed to China and colluding with some countries and teaming up with allies to exert pressure on China. These facts are indisputable. The international community and Hong Kong people will grasp clearly through the fact sheet the US hegemony acts that wantonly interfere in Hong Kong affairs and resent them.

â€<I noticed that a number of representatives of different countries spoke in support of our nation at the United Nations Human Rights Council session held recently and opposed to interference of other countries in Hong Kong affairs through various excuses. I am also grateful for the arrangements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to allow me and some Principal Officials of the HKSAR to present Hong Kong's situation clearly at the sessions.

â€<The Ministry of Foreign Affairs' fact sheet, once again, shows that the National Security Law enacted by the Central Authorities and implemented in Hong Kong last year as well as the improvement of the electoral system of the HKSAR by the Central Authorities this year are proper, reasonable and necessary. In fact, following the enactment of the National Security Law, stability has been restored in Hong Kong society, actions have been taken against offenders according to the law and anti-China forces have significantly diminished. The improvement of the electoral system ensures the

principle of "patriots administering Hong Kong", preventing people who are opposed to China to enter the political system of the HKSAR through elections. The acts of the Central Authorities help the HKSAR guard against interference of external forces, which are instrumental to the maintenance of national security and the long-term prosperity and stability in Hong Kong.

â€<Following the enactment of the National Security Law and improvement of the electoral system, Hong Kong continues to be a free and open international city, where the business environment remains intact and the rights of the overseas enterprises in Hong Kong are even better protected than before. As Hong Kong is better positioned to integrate into the overall development of the nation, overseas enterprises in Hong Kong will be presented with more opportunities than before. We will continue to welcome foreign enterprises, including US enterprises, to set up offices and regional headquarters in Hong Kong, and use the city as a base for accessing the massive Mainland market.