

# CS strongly supports and welcomes passage of Decision on improving electoral system of HKSAR by NPC

In regard to the Decision on improving the electoral system of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) passed by the National People's Congress (NPC) today (March 11), the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, made the following statement:

I strongly support and warmly welcome the passage of the Decision by the NPC. It lays a solid foundation for improving the electoral system of the HKSAR, which is of a pressing need. With comprehensive implementation of the fundamental principle of "patriots administering Hong Kong", national sovereignty, security and development interests can be safeguarded, the Central Authorities' overall jurisdiction over the HKSAR effectively implemented, the constitutional order as set out in the Constitution and the Basic Law safeguarded, law and order restored, the steadfast and successful implementation of "one country, two systems" ensured, and the long-term stability and safety of Hong Kong achieved.

It is natural and essential to require people vested with governing powers to be patriotic, which is also part and parcel of basic political ethics and a principle that applies everywhere in the world. Truly implementing the "patriots administering Hong Kong" principle can ensure effective governance underpinned by the Constitution, the Basic Law and the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Sharing the same goal, the governing team of the HKSAR Government will stand together to garner consensus in society to build a harmonious community, improve people's livelihoods, promote economic development and address deep-seated problems for the betterment of people, with the aim of making contribution to the country and Hong Kong, and enhancing Hong Kong's long-term prosperity and stability.

The HKSAR Government fully respects the Central Government taking the lead to improve the electoral system and will fully co-operate and support the relevant follow-up work, including strengthening explanation to the public, striving to complete the local legislative procedures as soon as possible, and ensuring that the important elections taking place in the coming 12 months will be conducted in a smooth and orderly manner.