<u>Government announces list of fifth-</u> <u>cycle designated quarantine hotels and</u> <u>additional hotel under fourth cycle</u>

The Government announced today (July 30) the list of designated quarantine hotels for the fifth cycle of the Designated Quarantine Hotel (DQH) Scheme. A total of 37 hotels will provide about 10 000 rooms in the new cycle, which runs from September 1 to November 30. The Government may adjust the number of rooms available in this cycle as and where necessary.

A Government spokesman said, "The Government issued letters to some 2 000 hotels and guesthouses with valid licences on July 16 to invite applications for enlisting as DQHs in the fifth cycle. We have received 44 applications.

"Upon assessment, 37 hotels, including 33 in the fourth cycle, were selected as DQHs to join the fifth cycle (see list in Annex 1) to provide about 10 000 rooms of various types and rates for selection by arrivals in Hong Kong from places other than the Mainland and Macao."

The spokesman added, "In view of the strong demand for rooms under the fourth cycle, more hotel rooms have been made available under this new cycle in anticipation of a possible increase in market demand."

In addition, the Government has today added one more DQH under the fourth cycle which will end on August 31, increasing the total number of DQHs to 35 in this cycle. The updated list of DQHs in the fourth cycle is in Annex 2.

To further prevent the importation of COVID-19 cases and reduce contact between arrivals and the local community, the Government fully implemented the DQH Scheme and the Designated Transportation Scheme on December 22, 2020, requiring all arrivals from specified places to undergo compulsory quarantine at DQHs. The first and second cycles of the DQH Scheme, each involving 36 hotels, ended on February 19 and April 20 respectively. The third cycle of the DQH Scheme involving 30 hotels ended on June 19.

The updated list of DQHs in the fourth cycle and related details, and the list of DQHs in the fifth cycle and related details, including room rates, will be uploaded onto the thematic webpage at www.designatedhotel.gov.hk.