<u>Government announces list of fourth-</u> <u>cycle designated quarantine hotels</u>

The Government announced today (May 20) the list of designated quarantine hotels for the fourth cycle. A total of 31 hotels will provide about 8 500 rooms in the new cycle, with the contract period running from June 20 to August 31. The Government can 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 with valid hotel or guesthouse licences on May 4 to invite application for enlisting as designated quarantine hotels in the fourth cycle. We have received applications from 48 hotels.

"Upon assessment, 31 hotels, including 30 in the third cycle, were selected as designated quarantine hotels for the fourth cycle (see the list in the Annex) to provide about 8 500 rooms of various types and rates for selection by arrivals in Hong Kong from places other than the Mainland and Macao."

The spokesman added, "We will continue to provide more hotels offering lower room rates in this new cycle after considering the market demand. The number of hotels offering room rates at \$500 or below will increase from 13 to 17."

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

The list of designated hotels in the fourth cycle and related details including room rates will be uploaded to the thematic webpage at www.designatedhotel.gov.hk.