<u>Government responds to media enquiries</u> <u>on matters relating to meeting of</u> <u>Standing Committee of National</u> <u>People's Congress</u>

On media enquiries relating to the 30th session of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress (NPCSC), the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government responded as below today (August 20):

The Central Authorities always care about the development of the HKSAR and the well-being of Hong Kong people. As the highest state organ, the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee make decisions on Hong Kong matters based on the interests of the city. The HKSAR Government fully supports and executes any such decisions. In fact, the two important moves by the NPCSC over the past year or so, namely the enactment of the National Security Law in Hong Kong in June last year for promulgation and implementation in Hong Kong, and the passage of the amended Annex I and Annex II to Basic Law in March this year to improve the electoral system of the HKSAR, have not only helped Hong Kong resolve imminent problems, but also demonstrated the Central Authorities' determination to uphold the "One Country, Two Systems" principle. It is evident that Hong Kong's rule of law remains unchanged, while its status as an international financial centre is as robust as ever. With the ample opportunities brought about by the development of the nation, we believe that enterprises will be very confident in doing business and investing in Hong Kong.

To enable different sectors of the community in Hong Kong to better understand the national strategy and support for Hong Kong in various aspects presented in the 14th Five-Year Plan announced by the National People's Congress in March this year, the Central Authorities will arrange a delegation to visit Hong Kong next week to introduce the 14th Five-Year Plan to different sectors through various meetings. The HKSAR Government welcomes and is grateful for the arrangement. The HKSAR Government also welcomes overseas enterprises to continue to leverage Hong Kong's advantages and to join hands with the city to seize the opportunities brought about by the 14th Five-Year Plan and the development of the nation, with a view to enhancing access to the Mainland and Asian markets. As always, the HKSAR Government will steadfastly safeguard the legitimate rights of all the enterprises in Hong Kong.