

# HKSAR Government strongly opposes and condemns overseas and international organisations for slandering and smearing National Security Law and related law enforcement actions

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government today (July 15) strongly opposed and condemned overseas and international organisations for wantonly attacking, slandering and smearing the Hong Kong National Security Law (NSL) and actions taken by the National Security Department of the Hong Kong Police Force (NSD) in accordance with the law.

"Endangering national security is a very serious offence. The HKSAR Government should fight against it in full force and pursue the liability of persons concerned to the end. The HKSAR law enforcement agencies have been taking law enforcement actions based on evidence and strictly in accordance with the law in respect of the acts of the persons or entities concerned, and have nothing to do with their political stance, background or occupation. The eight persons concerned who have fled overseas are alleged to have continued to commit offences under the NSL that seriously endanger national security. The Police have the responsibility to take all necessary measures in accordance with the law to arrest the persons related to the cases and bring them to justice. The actions by NSD are reasonable, rational, legal, and indeed necessary," a spokesman for the HKSAR Government stressed.

"The scope of application of the NSL fully aligns with the principles of international law, international practice and common practice adopted in various countries and regions. Such practice is both necessary and legitimate, and is also in line with those of other countries and regions around the world. The national security laws of various countries also have extraterritorial effect under the principles of 'personality' and 'protective jurisdiction'. It is a common practice of the Police and other law enforcement agencies to release information of fugitive offenders who have allegedly committed serious offences and are wanted, and appeal to members of the public to assist in bringing fugitive offenders to justice. This is also squarely in line with the international practice. Foreign powers with ulterior motives in the name of overseas and international organisations, claiming to be acting for various purposes, have been meddling with NSD's actions which were conducted in accordance with the law, which amounts to manipulation to put politics above everything."

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"The HKSAR Government solemnly urges the organisations concerned to discern fact from fallacy and stop being manipulated by people with ulterior motives, immediately refrain from wantonly slandering and smearing the NSL and the implementation of the Law in the HKSAR. The HKSAR Government will

continue to implement the NSL resolutely, fully and faithfully, thereby preventing, suppressing and imposing punishment for acts and activities endangering national security in accordance with the law, so as to allow Hong Kong to advance from stability to prosperity steadily," the spokesman said.