## HKSAR Government strongly opposes and condemns UK government officials and politicians for unreasonably smearing NSL again

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government today (July 14) strongly opposes and condemns government officials and politicians of the United Kingdom (UK) for unreasonably smearing the Hong Kong National Security Law (NSL), and attempting to "demonise" the 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. No country will watch with folded arms acts and activities that endanger national security. 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. No matter how the relevant countries harboured these absconders, and tried to exonerate them in various forms and means, they could not change the fact that the persons involved, who have fled overseas, are alleged to have continued to commit offences under the NSL that seriously endanger national security. 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. There are also numerous examples of extraterritorial application in the national security laws of other countries, including the UK. Government officials and politicians of the countries concerned have been stubbornly meddling with NSD's actions, which were conducted in accordance with the law. This shows to the whole world their double standards and exposes their manipulation to put politics above everything."

"The HKSAR Government solemnly urges the UK to discern fact from fallacy, stop immediately their wanton slanders and smears against the NSL and the implementation of the Law in the HKSAR, and refrain immediately from interfering with the internal affairs of the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong matters," the spokesman reiterated.

"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.