<u>Hospital Authority response to media</u> <u>enquiries on a recent blood donation</u> <u>drive incident</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

In response to media enquiries, the spokesperson of Hospital Authority (HA) today (June 26) gave the following response:

The Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service (BTS) has initiated investigation regarding the arrangement of a recent blood donation drive.

The HA is responsible for the daily operation and staff of the BTS. The HA received a complaint alleging a particular staff member's inappropriate behaviour which had upset the blood donors on site. The HA expressed regret that the blood donation event was eventually suspended.

The HA reiterates that public hospital healthcare staff should demonstrate professionalism to provide equitable service to all citizens indiscriminately. If the investigation findings confirm any unprofessional behaviour, the HA will follow up seriously in accordance with established human resources procedures.

The HA thanks members of the public for their enthusiastic support and extends apology for the incident. BTS pledges to continue its professional services for ensuring an adequate blood supply and safeguarding donors and blood safety.