<u>HYAB launches new round of HYAB-United</u> <u>Nations Volunteer Internship Programme</u>

The Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB), in partnership with the United Nations Volunteers, the Agency for Volunteer Service (AVS), the Hong Kong Volunteers Association and the Peace and Development Foundation, today (December 27) launched a new round of the HYAB — United Nations Volunteer Internship Programme (formerly known as the United Nations Volunteers — Hong Kong Universities Volunteer Internship Programme). Local undergraduate students are welcome to apply.

The Government attaches great importance to youth development. In the 2024 Policy Address, the Chief Executive emphasised that the Government would sustain its efforts in strengthening support for youth development. This includes continuing to implement various exchange and internship programmes on the Mainland and overseas to encourage young people to gain a deeper understanding of national development and global development trends. The HYAB - United Nations Volunteer Internship Programme provides local undergraduate students with valuable opportunities to undertake six-month volunteer internships in the overseas field units of various United Nations (UN) agencies. The interns will be able to develop their personal capacities and expand their horizons, as well as contribute to the international community as a Chinese youth volunteer. So far, 130 students have participated in the Programme. The selected university students for the Programme in 2024 undertook internships in various UN agencies located in Kazakhstan, Laos, Nepal and Thailand, including the UN Development Programme, the UN Children's Fund, and the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. They participated in making contributions to various international fields and were greatly rewarded from the experience.

The new round of the Programme will offer a total of 20 internship placements in different UN agencies located in the Belt and Road region, including Kazakhstan, Laos, Nepal, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Vietnam. The volunteer internships will cover specific areas such as health and education, the environment and innovation management, and will run from July to December 2025. Applicants should be full-time undergraduate students of local universities. The HYAB will provide full funding, including round-trip air tickets and monthly living allowances, and offer suitable pre-departure training for participants in collaboration with the AVS.

â€<Details of the Programme are available at the designated webpage (www.avs.org.hk/eng/UNV). Interested young people should submit applications by noon on January 24, 2025.