<u>Inland Revenue Department to largely</u> <u>resume normal public services</u>

Further to the announcement on April 1, the Inland Revenue Department announced today (April 20) that, save for the public search counter services of the Business Registration Office (BRO), the department will resume normal public services from tomorrow (April 21). Details of the opening hours of the offices can be found on the department's webpage at www.ird.gov.hk/eng/cu_ol.htm.

In order to reduce the flow of people in the community, public search services of the BRO in respect of application for business registration documents over the counter will continue to be suspended. The department encourages applicants to apply for business registration documents via GovHK at www.gov.hk/en/business/registration/businesscompany/index.htm, which is available 24 hours a day. For successful online applications for electronic extracts of information on the business register or duplicates of valid business registration certificates, the applicants can download the information or documents in PDF format instantly.

The department reminds visitors that when they enter or remain in the department's premises, they should wear masks and comply with the infection control measures, including the use of the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application, temperature checks and crowd control arrangements. Any visitor who fails to comply with the infection control measures will not be served and will be asked to leave the department's premises.

To reduce social contact, the department appeals to the public to use electronic services to handle tax affairs as much as possible. A list of such services can be found on the department's webpage at www.ird.gov.hk/eng/ese/index.htm.

For enquiries, please call the department's hotline at 187 8088 during office hours.