

Metrication Ordinance (Amendment of Schedules) Order 2019 gazetted

The Metrication Ordinance (Amendment of Schedules) Order 2019 was gazetted today (November 22).

The Order, made pursuant to section 4 of the Metrication Ordinance (Cap. 214), seeks to amend the Schedules to the Ordinance to give effect to the newly revised International System of Units (SI), thereby aligning the measurement system of Hong Kong with the international measurement system.

The SI is the metric system of measurement that has been adopted by most economies, including Hong Kong. In November 2018, the 26th General Conference on Weights and Measures passed a resolution to redefine four SI base units, namely the kilogram, the ampere, the kelvin and the mole. The objective of the revision is to guarantee the stability and universality of the units by linking them to fundamental physical constants. The revision is purely technical in nature with very little impact on the general public.

The Order will be tabled before the Legislative Council on November 27. Subject to the negative vetting of the Legislative Council, it will come into effect on April 1, 2020.