

Open recruitment for post of Equal Opportunities Commission Chairperson

The Government launched an open recruitment exercise for the post of the Chairperson of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) today (September 27). The new term of office of the EOC Chairperson will start in April 2024. An advertisement of the post, which sets out the requirements for potential candidates and other details, has been published in newspapers today. Applicants must have:

- (a) permanent residency of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region;
- (b) a good general education;
- (c) a strong commitment to promoting equal opportunities and building an inclusive, barrier-free and harmonious society;
- (d) at least 15 years of relevant experience in public administration, professional practice or private sector management at a senior level; experience in leading and managing a sizable public or private organisation would be an advantage;
- (e) a clear vision, impeccable integrity, good leadership qualities particularly in steering a diverse governing board, mature management and public relations skills;
- (f) a solid track record in public or community service in Hong Kong; and
- (g) strong language and communication skills, including good command of Chinese and English.

All applications should, by way of mail or email (eoc_recruitment@cmab.gov.hk), reach the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau by October 18, 2023. The address is Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (Team 5), 12/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong.

Under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the appointment authority for the EOC Chairperson rests with the Chief Executive. A Selection Board will recommend the most suitable candidate to the Chief Executive for appointment. The Board is chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, and its members comprise, Mr Chan Kin-por, Mr Frank Chan, the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs and the Director of Administration.

Established by the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the EOC is an independent statutory body responsible for implementing the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance. Its functions include working towards the elimination of discrimination, promoting equality of opportunities and harmony, working towards elimination of harassment and vilification, handling complaints, assisting aggrieved parties by means of conciliation as well as providing other forms of assistance, and formulating codes of practice, in the areas of sex, marital status, pregnancy, breastfeeding, disability, family status and race.

The EOC Chairperson leads the EOC to perform statutory functions and powers under the four anti-discrimination ordinances. He or she is also responsible for the administration and management matters of the EOC office.