<u>Opening ceremony for Sau Mau Ping</u> <u>Community Hall</u>

The Director of Home Affairs, Miss Janice Tse, today (September 25) officiated at the Kwun Tong District celebration event for the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China cum the opening ceremony of Sau Mau Ping Community Hall, marking the official commissioning of the community hall. The hall will provide a brand new venue for the public to organise and participate in community activities in the district.

Sau Mau Ping Community Hall is located at 100 Sau Ming Road at Sau Mau Ping Estate in Kwun Tong. The redevelopment of the hall is one of the important components of the Public Rental Housing Development at Sau Ming Road. At the entrance of the hall, there is a glass window with a height of two storeys to bring in natural light, as well as a display of photos of Sau Mau Ping in the past, allowing users to learn more about how Kwun Tong District transformed from an old district to a new one. The venue is equipped with a multi-purpose hall with a seating capacity of 400 people, a stage, a storeroom, dressing rooms and audio-visual and lighting devices, as well as a multi-purpose conference room with a seating capacity of 30 people. To achieve "single site, multiple uses" and maximise site utilisation, electric acoustic screens are installed in the hall and the multi-purpose conference room for dividing the venues into smaller areas for use by different organisations at the same time if necessary.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Miss Tse said that with a population of nearly 700 000, Kwun Tong District's demand for community facilities has been strong. The official commissioning of the Community Hall provides more space for residents' gatherings and interaction. The Community Hall also helped the community to fight the epidemic by serving as a testing venue a number of times. She thanked the Kwun Tong District Council (KTDC) for its staunch support for the project. She also expressed congratulations on the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and encouraged the district to grasp the country's development opportunities and pattern, enabling Hong Kong to capitalise on its unique advantage in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Other officiating guests at the opening ceremony included the Legislative Council member and the Chairman of the KTDC, Mr Wilson Or; the Hong Kong deputies to the National People's Congress, Dr Bunny Chan; the Senior Consultant of the Kowloon Sub-office of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Ms Lo Ning; the Deputy Director (Estate Management) of the Housing Department, Mr Ricky Yeung; the District Officer (Kwun Tong), Mr Steve Tse; the Vice-chairman of the KTDC, Mr Lui Tung-hai; and the Chairman of the Sau Mau Ping Area Committee, Mr Wong Chun-ping.

Apart from Sau Mau Ping Community Hall, there are three other community halls and five community centres in Kwun Tong District.