<u>SLW expresses sorrow over deaths and</u> <u>injuries of SWD staff member and other</u> <u>victims in traffic accident</u>

The Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Dr Law Chi-kwong, today (December 19) said he was deeply saddened to learn of the death of a Workman II of the Fanling Probation and Community Service Orders Office of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in a serious traffic accident on the Fanling Highway yesterday (December 18).

"On behalf of the Labour and Welfare Bureau and the SWD, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to her family. The department will make every effort to provide assistance for the family as appropriate," Dr Law said.

Dr Law also extended his deepest condolences to the families of the other five deceased victims and people injured in the accident, noting that the SWD would render appropriate assistance according to their welfare needs.

The SWD has assigned a social worker for the family of each deceased victim and for each injured victim, providing them with psychological counselling, emotional support and financial assistance, including assistance in burial services. The department will also co-ordinate donations from charities for victims of the traffic accident.

Members of the public who are emotionally affected by the accident may call the SWD's 24-hour hotline (2343 2255). The department will provide emotional counselling and support services for people in need.