<u>Government appoints directors to HKEX</u> Board

The Government announced today (February 16) that the Financial Secretary has appointed Mr Chan Kin-por and Mr Peter Yan King-shun as members of the Board of Directors of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEX) in place of Mrs Laura Cha May-lung and Mr Benjamin Hung Pi-cheng; and re-appointed Mrs Susan Chow Woo Mo-fong as a member of the Board of Directors of the HKEX. The terms of the appointments and re-appointment are around two years, from the conclusion of the 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the HKEX until the conclusion of the 2026 AGM.

The Government expressed gratitude to Mrs Cha and Mr Hung for their contributions during their tenure of service.

The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, said, "During her chairmanship of the HKEX, with the support of the Government, Mrs Cha has proactively enhanced the HKEX's fundraising capabilities, including launching new listing regimes for innovative and specialised technology companies as well as special purpose acquisition companies, facilitating overseas companies and "China concept stocks" to list in Hong Kong, deepening and expanding the mutual market access with the Mainland financial markets, improving the trading mechanism for Hong Kong Dollar-Renminbi dual-currency securities products, etc. She has made remarkable accomplishments and achieved outstanding results for the development of Hong Kong's securities market and as an international financial centre. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to Mr Hung for his dedicated service and valuable contributions during the last six years."

Mr Chan added, "For the three appointees, they are all familiar with the financial market, and are leaders in their respective professional fields. They also have vast experience in public services. I look forward to their collaborative efforts with other Board members to assist the HKEX in developing an increasingly diversified market development strategy, providing enhanced services to corporations on fundraising, accelerating the adoption of more innovative technological applications, and further strengthening its risk management framework. I am confident that the Board of Directors of the HKEX will continue to promote the development of Hong Kong into a more vibrant, upscale, broader and deeper international fundraising platform."

The above appointments are made in accordance with section 77 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance. The Board of Directors of the HKEX comprises a maximum of six directors appointed by the Financial Secretary, a maximum of six directors elected by shareholders, and the Chief Executive of the HKEX. The other incumbent directors appointed by the Financial Secretary are Ms Nisa Leung Wing-yu, Mr Carlson Tong Ka-shing and Mr Joseph Yam Chikwong.

Cluster of Rhinovirus/Enterovirus cases and Influenza A cases in New Territories West Cluster

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

â€<The spokesperson for the New Territories West Cluster made the following announcement today (February 16):

Six patients (aged 34 to 64) in a female ward for severe intellectual disability at Siu Lam Hospital have presented with respiratory symptoms since February 9. Appropriate viral tests were arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Rhinovirus/Enterovirus. The patients concerned are being treated in isolation are in stable condition.

Meanwhile, three patients (aged 68 to 74) and a staff member in a female psychogeriatric ward at Castle Peak Hospital have presented with respiratory symptoms since February 8. Appropriate viral tests were arranged for the patients, and their test results were positive for Influenza A. The patients concerned are being treated in isolation and are in stable condition. The staff member has recovered and resumed duty.

Admission to the wards concerned in the two hospitals has been suspended and restricted visiting has been imposed. Infection control measures have been stepped up according to established guidelines. The hospitals will continue to closely monitor the conditions of the patients in the wards concerned.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow up.

Fatal traffic accident in Pat Heung

Police are investigating a fatal traffic accident in Pat Heung today (February 16) in which a 27-year-old man died.

At 12.48pm, the 27-year-old man was riding a bicycle downhill along Lam Kam Road towards Yuen Long. The cyclist reportedly lost control and fell onto the ground.

Sustaining head injuries, the man was rushed to Pok Oi Hospital in

unconscious state and was certified dead at 1.37pm.

Investigation by the Special Investigation Team one of Traffic, New Territories North is underway.

Anyone who witnessed the accident or has any information to offer is urged to contact the investigating officers on 3661 3800.

<u>Eight landlords of subdivided units</u> <u>under regulated tenancies convicted of</u> <u>contravening relevant statutory</u> <u>requirements</u>

Eight landlords of subdivided units (SDUs) who contravened Part IVA of the Landlord and Tenant (Consolidation) Ordinance (Cap. 7) (the Ordinance) pleaded guilty and were fined a total of \$9,300 today (February 16) at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts.â€⁻Since the Ordinance has come into force, a total of 125 SDU landlords have been convicted of contravening the Ordinance.

The offences of these landlords include (1) failing to submit a Notice of Tenancy (Form AR2) to the Commissioner of Rating and Valuation within 60 days after the term of the regulated tenancy commenced; and (2) failing to provide the tenant with a rent receipt. One of the landlords who contravened four offences under (1) above was fined \$3,200.

The Rating and Valuation Department (RVD) earlier discovered that the landlords failed to comply with the relevant requirements under the Ordinance. Upon an in-depth investigation and evidence collection, the RVD prosecuted against the landlords.

A spokesman for the RVD hopes that these convictions will send a strong message to SDU landlords that they must comply with the relevant requirements under the Ordinance, and also remind SDU tenants of their rights under the Ordinance. He also stresses that the RVD will continue to take resolute enforcement action against any contraventions of the Ordinance. Apart from following up on reported cases, the RVD has been adopting a multipronged approach to proactively identify, investigate and follow up on cases concerning landlords who are suspected of contravening the Ordinance. In particular, the RVD has been requiring landlords of regulated tenancies to provide information and reference documents of their tenancies for checking whether the landlords concerned have complied with the requirements of the Ordinance. If a landlord, without reasonable excuse, refuses to provide the relevant information or neglects the RVD's request, the landlord commits an

offence and is liable to a fine at level 3 (\$10,000) and to imprisonment for three months. Depending on the actual circumstances and having regard to the information and evidence collected, the RVD will take appropriate actions on individual cases, including instigating prosecutions against suspected contravention of the Ordinance.

The RVD spokesman appeals to members of the public to come forward and report to the RVD promptly any suspected cases of contravening the relevant requirements. This would help curb illegal acts as soon as possible. Reporting can be made through the telephone hotline (2150 8303), by email (enquiries@rvd.gov.hk), by fax (2116 4920), by post (15/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon), or in person (visiting the Tenancy Services Section office of the RVD at Room 3816-22, 38/F, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong, and please call 2150 8303 to make an appointment). Furthermore, the RVD has provided a form (Form AR4) (www.rvd.gov.hk/doc/en/forms/ar4.pdf) on its website to facilitate SDU tenants' reporting to the RVD.

The RVD reminds that pursuant to the Ordinance, a regulated cycle of regulated tenancies is to comprise two consecutive regulated tenancies (i.e. the first-term tenancy and second-term tenancy) for an SDU, and the term of each regulated tenancy is two years. A tenant of a first-term tenancy for an SDU is entitled to be granted a second-term tenancy of the regulated cycle, thus enjoying a total of four years of security of tenure. Since the first batch of regulated tenancies already approached their second-term tenancies, the RVD has started a new round of publicity and education work in order to assist SDU landlords and tenants to understand the important matters pertaining to the second-term tenancy, and procedures that need to be followed about two months prior to the commencement of the purported secondterm tenancy. In addition, the RVD has started issuing letters enclosing relevant information to the concerned landlords and tenants of regulated tenancies by batches, according to the expiry time of their first-term tenancies, to remind them about their respective obligations and rights under the Ordinance. These landlords and tenants may also visit the dedicated page for the second-term tenancy on the RVD's website (www.rvd.gov.hk/en/tenancy_matters/second_term_tenancy.html) for the relevant information, including a concise guide, brochures, tutorial videos and frequently asked questions, etc. SDU landlords and tenants are also advised to familiarise themselves with the relevant statutory requirements and maintain close communication regarding the second-term tenancy for handling the matters properly and in a timely manner according to the Ordinance.

For enquiries related to regulated tenancies, please call the telephone hotline (2150 8303) or visit the RVD's webpage (www.rvd.gov.hk/en/our_services/part_iva.html) for the relevant information.

Appeal for information on missing girl in Tin Shui Wai (with photo)

 \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} Police today (February 16) appealed to the public for information on a girl who went missing in Tin Shui Wai.

 \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} Chan Tin-sum, aged 16, went missing after she left her residence in Tin Shui Estate on February 8 afternoon. Her family made a report to Police on the same day.

 \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} \hat{A} She is about 1.55 metres tall, 45 kilograms in weight and of thin build. She has a pointed face with yellow complexion and long straight black hair. She was last seen wearing a black and white jacket and black trousers.

Â Â Â Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing girl or may have seen her is urged to contact the Regional Missing Persons Unit of New Territories North on 3661 3127 or 6273 5787 or email to rmpuntn-1@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.

