

Transcript of remarks by CE at media session before ExCo (with video)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, at a media session before the Executive Council meeting today (May 30):

Reporter: Good morning, Mr Lee. The Government has opposed accusations that the Security Law is broad or vague or unclear. If that's the case, are you able to give Hong Kongers a straight answer as to whether it is legal to peacefully mourn individually June 4 in public this Sunday, yes or no. And you mentioned APEC, the APEC meetings in the US this November, but you're still facing US sanctions. If Washington does not lift them, would you still attend? Thank you.

Chief Executive: First of all, it is incorrect to say that the Hong Kong National Security Law is not clearly defined as regards offences. There are four types of offences that the Hong Kong National Security Law covers, and all the ingredients of the offences are clearly spelled out in the law itself. It will be up to the individuals to really look at the different elements of the offences, which are clearly stated. So it is unfounded to make accusation against the Hong Kong National Security Law. In actual fact, cases that are heard in court will also be judged in accordance with the law, which will also let the public understand the ingredients of the law.

In regard to any activities that take place in Hong Kong, the law enforcement agencies, particularly the Police, will deal with them in accordance with the law. And all the applicable laws in Hong Kong will apply, of course, and individuals have to act in accordance with the law. For any activity that contradicts the law, of course the Police will have to take action. And the Police will take action resolutely, particularly in regard to public order activities. Everybody should act in accordance with the law and think of what they do, so as to be ready to face the consequences.

In regard to APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation), APEC is an international organisation. It doesn't belong to any country or economy. According to APEC rules and conventions, the organiser has the responsibility to invite members to attend. Hong Kong, China has been a member of APEC, and has been taking part in APEC conferences in accordance with APEC rules and conventions. It is up to the organiser to act in accordance with these conventions. The Hong Kong Government will, of course, also act in accordance with the APEC rules and conventions in regard to invitation to attend the APEC conference.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)