Existing and planned measures on the promotion of racial equality

Security Bureau

The Security Bureau (SB) is responsible for security-related policies, including the maintenance of law and order, exercising immigration and customs control, rehabilitating offenders, providing emergency fire and rescue services, and antidrug work.

10 advisory and statutory bodies, pilot scheme office as well as exhibition centre under SB provide various public services, including:-

- 1. The Registration of Persons Tribunal
- 2. Immigration Tribunal
- 3. HKSAR Passports Appeal Board
- 4. Civil Celebrant of Marriages Appointment Appeal Board
- 5. Pilot Scheme Office for Provision of Publicly-funded Legal Assistance for Non-refoulement Claimants
- 6. Security and Guarding Services Industry Authority
- 7. Long-term Prison Sentences Review Board
- 8. Release Under Supervision Board
- 9. Post-Release Supervision Board
- 10. Hong Kong Jockey Club Drug InfoCentre

For enquiries concerning the existing and planned measures on the promotion of racial equality, please contact Ms Ella CHOI (Chief Executive Officer (Administration)) via the following channels -

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Security Bureau May 2024

<u>The Registration of Persons Tribunal, Immigration Tribunal, HKSAR Passports</u> Appeal Board and Civil Celebrant of Marriages Appointment Appeal Board

Services Concerned

• The Registration of Persons Tribunal, Immigration Tribunal, HKSAR Passports Appeal Board and Civil Celebrant of Marriages Appointment Appeal Board deal with appeals made under respective regulations. Hearings or meetings will be arranged to deal with the appeals.

Existing Measures

- The 4 Tribunals/Boards use Chinese and/or English in the provision of its services.
- The 4 Tribunals/Boards provide interpretation service during hearing upon request.

Assessment of Future Work

- The 4 Tribunals/Boards will review its services from time to time and make improvements where necessary.
- The 4 Tribunals/Boards will collect data on service users who need interpretation service on a voluntary and confidential basis.

<u>Pilot Scheme Office for Provision of Publicly-funded Legal Assistance for Non-</u> refoulement Claimants (PSO)

Services Concerned

• The office provides publicly-funded legal assistance for non-refoulement claimants referred by the Immigration Department.

Existing Measures

- The office makes arrangements for interpretation and / or translation services of different languages to facilitate lawyers' provision of legal assistance to non-refoulement claimants.
- The office provides in different languages the Information Sheet to Claimants on the service offered under the scheme.
- The office provides in different languages the Directional Guide to facilitate claimants to visit the office.

Assessment of Future Work

• The office will maintain and review the existing measures for further enhancement where necessary.

Additional Measures Taken/To Be Taken

• The office will update the Information Sheet to Claimants and the Directional Guide as and when necessary.

Security and Guarding Services Industry Authority (SGSIA)

Services Concerned

- The Authority considers and determines applications for Security Company Licence (SCL) according to Security and Guarding Services Ordinance (SGSO) (Cap. 460).
- The Authority conducts hearing to consider and determine applications from the Commissioner of Police for a revocation or suspension of Security Personnel Permit under SGSO.

Existing Measures

- An application for a SCL may be made only by a company. Our service is neutral with regard to race and is delivered in both English and Chinese.
- The Authority will provide the people of diverse race with free telephone interpretation service in eight languages through the Telephone Interpretation and Enquiry Service (TELIS) of the Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents (CHEER), if necessary.
- During hearing, interpretation service is provided to respondents that cannot communicate in either Chinese or English.

Assessment of Future Work

• The Authority will collect statistics on the use of interpretation service by the people of diverse race for a better understanding of their need and will review the effectiveness of current measures in helping them for our public services, where necessary.

<u>Long-term Prison Sentences Review Board, Release Under Supervision Board</u> <u>and Post-Release Supervision Board</u>

Services Concerned

• Long-term Prison Sentences Review Board, Post-Release Supervision Board and Release under Supervision Board perform their statutory functions as prescribed by the Long-term Prison Sentences Review Ordinance (Cap. 524), Post-Release Supervision of Prisoners Ordinance (Cap. 475) and Prisoners (Release under Supervision) Ordinance (Cap. 325) respectively.

Existing Measures

• As most of the communications between the three boards and the persons-in-custody are via the Correctional Services Department (CSD), the Board Secretariat has been working closely with CSD to ensure the persons-in-custody understand the contents of the correspondence issued by the three boards. In addition, the written representations received by the Board Secretariat in foreign languages are at present translated to either Chinese or English for further handling.

Assessment of Future Work

• The Board Secretariat will, from time to time, work together with CSD to assess the effectiveness of our communications with the persons-in-custody and explore possible and practicable enhancement in the communications.

Hong Kong Jockey Club Drug InfoCentre

Services Concerned

• The Hong Kong Jockey Club Drug InfoCentre (DIC) serves as the hub and focal point for anti-drug activities by hosting educational interactive exhibitions and various activities to enhance anti-drug preventive education and publicity in Hong Kong.

Existing Measures

• The permanent exhibition, guided group tours and the programme of interactive theatre are delivered in both Chinese and English. Upon request, the DIC would also provide guided tours in certain languages (e.g. Urdu) targeting the ethnic minorities. Certain anti-drug publicity materials would also be available in languages of diverse race.

Assessment of Future Work

• We will continue to implement the existing measures and assess our service delivery from time to time in view of comments received to ensure neutrality with regard to race.

Additional Measures Taken/To Be Taken

• The exhibit content in languages including Bahasa Indonesia, Hindi, Urdu, Nepali, Thai and Tagalog will be provided to enhance the accessibility of the DIC to non-Chinese speaking groups in 2024. QR codes will be displayed in DIC to provide visitors with instant access to these languages.