

CHAPTER 7

PREPARATION FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ELECTION

Section 1 – Appointment of Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers

7.1 The Honourable Mr Justice POON Shiu-chor, Jeremy, Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court, was appointed by the EAC as the RO for the 2012 CE Election. Mr Justice POON's appointment was gazetted on 23 December 2011.

7.2 As regards AROs, Mr CHAN Shui-fu, Andy, JP (Assistant Director of Home Affairs (1) of the HAD) and Miss FU Ha-man, Dora, JP (Assistant Director of Home Affairs (3) of the HAD) were appointed as the AROs, while Ms CHENG Pui-lan, Roxana (Deputy Solicitor General (Constitutional)), Mr MO Sik-keung, Gilbert (Deputy Law Draftsman (Bilingual Drafting and Administration)) and Ms CHENG Tai-ngar, Dorothy (Senior Assistant Law Officer (Civil Law)(Acting)) of the DoJ were appointed as the AROs(Legal). Their appointments were published in the Gazette on 23 December 2011.

Section 2 – Briefing for Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers

7.3 To assist the RO/AROs in familiarising themselves with the rules and operation of the Election, the REO prepared and issued an operational manual to them for reference. A briefing for the RO and AROs was held on 17 January 2012 at the EAC Conference Room at Harbour Centre, Wan Chai. The EAC Chairman, accompanied by the CEO/REO and representatives from

the CMAB, briefed the RO, AROs and AROs(Legal) on the electoral arrangements and reminded them of the salient provisions in the electoral legislation and guidelines.

Section 3 – The Nomination Period

7.4 The polling date and the nomination period were published in the Gazette on 7 October and 23 December 2011 respectively. Nomination forms were available from the REO from 23 December 2011 onwards. The nomination period lasted for 16 days from 14 February to 29 February 2012.

Section 4 – Nomination Forms Received and their Validity

7.5 A total of three nomination forms were submitted to the RO during the nomination period. After examining and verifying the information supplied in the nomination forms, the RO ruled that all the three nomination forms were valid at the close of nomination. The valid nomination forms were submitted by Mr HO Chun-yan on 14 February 2012, Mr TANG Ying-yen, Henry on 20 February 2012 and Mr LEUNG Chun-ying on 23 February 2012, and they were nominated by 188, 390 and 305 EC members respectively.

7.6 Since there were three validly nominated candidates by the close of nomination, the election was a contested one.

Section 5 – Briefing for Candidates

7.7 To draw the attention of the candidates and their agents to the major provisions of the relevant electoral legislation and the EAC Guidelines and the important points they should be aware of, a briefing session conducted by the

EAC Chairman was held on 4 March 2012 at the Hong Kong Central Library in Causeway Bay. Also present at the session were the CEO/REO, representatives from the DoJ, ICAC and the Hongkong Post.

7.8 After the briefing session, the RO determined, by means of drawing lots, the order of the candidates' names that would appear on the ballot paper and the designated spots to be allocated to the candidates for displaying their EAs.