CHAPTER 5

BEFORE THE POLLING DAY OF THE ELECTION COMMITTEE SUBSECTOR ORDINARY ELECTIONS

Section 1 – Appointment of Nominations Advisory Committees

5.1   4 legal professionals were appointed as members of the Nominations Advisory Committees ("NACs") under the EAC (NAC) (EC) Reg to provide free legal advice for the prospective candidates, prospective nominees and designated bodies of the Religious subsector, and the ROs, when necessary, on matters relating to whether a candidate/nominee is eligible to be nominated. Members of the NACs, i.e. Mr Wong Ching-yue, Senior Counsel, Mr Anthony Chan, Mr Kevin Chan and Mr Jin Pao, barristers-at-law, were experienced members of the legal profession and were not affiliated with any political organisations.   Their appointment covering the period from 15 September 2016 to 16 November 2016, was published in the Gazette on 15 September 2016. During the above appointment period, the NACs received a total of 80 requests from prospective candidates/nominees and ROs for legal advice.

Section 2 – Appointment of and Briefings for Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers

5.2   25 directorate officers of the relevant bureaux and departments were appointed as ROs and their appointment was published in the Gazette on 7 October 2016.   The RO of the Legal subsector was also designated as the Chief RO to supervise the operation of the Central Counting Station ("CCS").

5.3   To provide assistance to the ROs in discharging their duties, the EAC appointed 25 Assistant Returning Officers ("AROs") who were senior officers

of the relevant bureaux and departments. In addition, the EAC appointed 24 AROs (Legal) for providing legal advice to the ROs on the polling day and during the count on various matters, particularly in determining the validity of questionable ballot papers. They were all legally qualified persons in the civil service and the majority of whom came from the Department of Justice ("DoJ") while the rest from the Official Receiver's Office. The list of ROs, AROs and AROs (Legal) is at **Appendix IV**.

5.4   The EAC Chairman held a briefing session for the ROs and AROs in the afternoon of 25 October 2016 at the Leighton Hill Community Hall. The briefing session was also attended by the Chief Electoral Officer ("CEO") and representatives of DoJ and ICAC. The EAC Chairman highlighted the major electoral arrangements for the ROs' and AROs' attention, including the nomination procedures, appointment of agents, polling and counting arrangements, requirements relating to the No Canvassing Zone ("NCZ") and No Staying Zone ("NSZ"), provisions in the legislation and the Guidelines governing EAs and election expenses, and handling of complaints. Representatives from the ICAC briefed the participants on the major provisions of the ECICO and the procedures for referring the related complaints to the ICAC.

5.5   The REO also conducted a briefing session on determining the validity of questionable ballot papers for the ROs and AROs on 5 December 2016 at the Central Library, Causeway Bay.

Section 3 – Nomination of Candidates

5.6   The nomination period started on 8 November 2016 and ended on 14 November 2016. The nomination period was gazetted on 7 October 2016 by the EAC. Persons running for candidature were required to submit their

nomination forms in person to the relevant ROs during the nomination period. By the close of nominations, the ROs of 35 subsectors (excluding the Religious subsector) received a total of 1 553 nominations.   Out of these 1 553 nominations, 4 were withdrawn (1 from the Medical subsector, 1 from Heung Yee Kuk subsector and two from the New Territories DCs subsector) and 10 were ruled invalid by the ROs concerned with details as follows:

Subsector	Number of Invalid Nomination(s)
Import and export	1
Education	1
Engineering	6
Higher education	1
Sports, performing arts, culture and publication	1

5.7   The remaining 1 539 nominations were ruled valid by the ROs.   Of these 1 539 validly nominated candidates,

(a)   300 were returned uncontested to fill 300 seats in 12 subsectors and 1 sub-subsector; and

(b)   1 239 were to contest for 733 seats in the remaining 25 subsectors/sub-subsectors.

As the number of validly nominated candidates for the Import and export subsector was less than the number of seats allocated to this subsector by 1, 1 seat was eventually not filled in respect of this subsector.   Details are set out in **Appendix V**.

5.8 For the Religious subsector, the RO received a total of 400 nominations from the 6 designated bodies. Out of these 400 nominations, 3 were ruled invalid by the RO (two from the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong and 1 from the Hong Kong Buddhist Association). The following table shows the number of valid nominations made by each of the 6 designated bodies:

Designated body	**Assigned number of members**	**Number of valid nominees**
Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong	10	318
Chinese Muslim Cultural and Fraternal Association	10	11
Hong Kong Christian Council	10	33
The Hong Kong Taoist Association	10	12
The Confucian Academy	10	11
The Hong Kong Buddhist Association	10	12
Total	60	397

For the Chinese Muslim Cultural and Fraternal Association, Hong Kong Taoist Association, Confucian Academy and Hong Kong Buddhist Association, the number of allocated seats was made up according to the preference and/or the order of priority as indicated by these designated bodies in the nomination forms. As for the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Christian Council, since they had not indicated which nominees were to be given preference, the RO determined which nominees of the body were to make up the allocated seats by drawing lots, which was held on 19 November 2016 in the presence of a representative from the relevant designated body and the nominees who attended the occasion. The result of the nominations was published in the Gazette on 22 November 2016 and is reproduced at **Appendix VI**.

5.9 Whether a nomination of candidate and nominee is valid shall be decided by the relevant ROs according to the relevant legislation. A candidate/nominee of the ECSS ordinary elections must be a registered Geographical Constituency ("GC") elector aged 18 or above and is a registered voter for the relevant EC subsector or has satisfied the RO concerned that he/she has a substantial connection with that subsector. Details on the eligibility for and disqualification from the nomination of candidates are set out in sections 17, 18, 18A and 18C of the Schedule to the CEEO. As for the selected nominees in the Religious subsector, the details are set out in sections 8 and 9 of the Schedule to the CEEO. In this election, 13 nominations were ruled invalid by the relevant ROs on the grounds that the candidates/nominees concerned were not registered GC electors, or that the candidates concerned were not registered voters for the relevant EC subsectors and the ROs were not satisfied that they had a substantial connection with the subsectors concerned. The relevant ROs have recorded their decisions and the reasons for ruling the nominations invalid in the nomination forms for public inspection during the public inspection period.

5.10 The list of all validly nominated candidates for each subsector/sub-subsector, the list of nominees for the Religious subsector who were declared to be members of the EC, and the result of all uncontested subsectors/sub-subsectors were published in the Gazette on 22 November 2016.

Section 4 – Briefings for Candidates

5.11 The EAC Chairman has held two briefing sessions for candidates on 17 and 18 November 2016 at the Kowloonbay International Trade and Exhibition Centre ("KITEC"). Before the briefing sessions, the ROs of all contested subsectors/sub-subsectors met the candidates and their agents at the same venue and determined, by means of drawing lots, the order of the names of

candidates on the ballot papers and the list of designated spots to be allocated to the candidates for display of their EAs. Later, the EAC Chairman briefed the candidates on the important points to be noted when conducting electioneering activities. The CEO and representatives of the DoJ, ICAC and the Hongkong Post also attended the briefings. Major topics covered in the briefing sessions included the appointment and roles of each type of agents, polling and counting arrangements, requirements for the conduct of electioneering activities, prevention of corrupt and illegal conduct, requirements pertaining to EAs and election expenses, and matters requiring attention in the use of personal data of voters for electioneering purposes.

5.12 The EAC Chairman reminded all candidates and their agents to abide by the requirements laid down in the electoral legislation and the Guidelines, and to cooperate with the departments concerned to ensure that the election would be conducted in an open, fair and honest manner. He has emphasised that the EAC and the departments concerned would strictly enforce the law and the Guidelines.

Section 5 – Introduction to Candidates

5.13 The poll card, together with the "Introduction to Candidates", Guide on Voting Procedure, location map of the polling station and the ICAC leaflet on clean election are to be sent to each voter and AR at least 5 days before the polling day[5] in accordance with section 31 of the EAC (EP) (EC) Reg by the REO. The Introduction to Candidates contains the name, photograph, election platform and other details of each of the candidates to facilitate voters making an informed choice when casting their votes for particular candidates. For the sake of environmental protection, these documents were printed on recycled

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[5]   In the elections, the delivery of the last batch of poll cards and relevant polling information was completed 4 days before the polling day.   Please refer to paragraph 14.9 for details.

paper or paper made from wood-pulp derived from sustainable forests. Environmentally friendly ink was also used in the printing.

5.14   As no poll was required for the 13 uncontested subsectors/sub-subsectors, a notice of uncontested election, including the relevant Introduction to Candidates, were sent to the voters of these subsectors/sub-subsectors, informing them that they were not required to go to the poll.

5.15   To assist voters with visual impairment in reading the contents of the election platforms in the Introduction to Candidates, the REO has appealed to candidates to provide a computer-typed text version of their messages to be included in the Introduction to Candidates for uploading onto the website of the 2016 ECSS Ordinary Elections ("election website").   About 15% of the candidates heeded the advice and provided the REO with a text version of the abovementioned electoral information for uploading onto the election website so that voters with visual impairment could read the information in the Introduction to Candidates with the aid of computer software.

Section 6 – Polling and Counting Arrangements

Recruitment of Polling and Counting Staff

5.16   The REO has invited serving civil servants from various departments to serve as electoral staff for this election.   Around 3 800 staff members of various bureaux and departments were appointed as Presiding Officers ("PROs"), Deputy Presiding Officers ("DPROs"), Assistant Presiding Officers ("APROs"), Polling Officers ("POs"), Polling Assistants, Counting Supervisors ("CSs"), Assistant Counting Supervisors, Counting Officers and Counting Assistants on the polling day.

5.17 Those who were appointed as PROs, DPROs and APROs were civil servants at officer rank or above while other polling staff were civil servants of other ranks. To avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interests, they would not be deployed to work in the polling stations where they would cast their votes. Each appointee was also required to disclose if he/she had any close relationship with any candidate, and if so, he/she would not be assigned to work in any of the polling stations concerned. This arrangement would help maintain the neutrality and independence of the electoral arrangements and avoid the perception of collusion which might compromise the integrity of the election.

5.18 In deploying staff to the polling stations, the REO would take into account the operational need of each polling station, the working experience of the relevant staff members in previous elections and the location of their residence.

Briefing for Presiding Officers

5.19 Given the important role played by PROs and DPROs in the elections, the REO provided a polling management training session for them on 15 November 2016 at the Leighton Hill Community Hall to enhance the quality of their polling management. Topics included important provisions in the EAC (EP) (EC) Reg, quality polling services, complaints handling, crisis management and keys to building a team. There was also a session in which experienced PROs shared their experience. Besides, as the elections involved more than 20 subsectors/sub-subsectors, the compilation of statistics on voter turnout and relevant returns was more complicated. In view of the previous experience gained in the 2016 LegCo General Election, the REO has enhanced the training to PROs on this aspect and reminded them about the points to note in handling the statistical figures so as to prevent the recurrence of statistical errors.

Training for Polling and Counting Staff

5.20   To equip the general counting staff with the necessary knowledge for discharging their duties, the REO has organised 10 briefing sessions with hands-on practice on the counting procedures for polling staff in November 2016 at the Southorn Stadium.   Topics included counting procedures, contingency arrangements and mock counting demonstration and exercise. Besides, the REO organised 6 practical training courses for counting staff assigned to operate the Optical Mark Recognition ("OMR") machines and use the relevant computer system for vote counting so as to provide them with hands-on practice in discharging the related duties.   In addition, counting staff were required to attend an on-site rehearsal of counting duties at the AsiaWorld-Expo ("AWE") on the day before the polling day to ensure the smooth conduct of the count.

5.21   The REO has organised 3 training sessions on 23, 25 and 29 November 2016 at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium and the Lady Trench Training Centre respectively to equip all PROs, DPROs, APROs and other polling staff with the necessary knowledge to discharge their duties on the polling day. Topics included polling procedures, the latest polling arrangements and contingency arrangements.   In addition, the REO organised 3 workshops to provide staff tasked to perform statistical compilation duties with hands-on practice in handling statistical compilation duties.

5.22   The REO has also organised general briefings for staff of the Dedicated Polling Stations ("DPSs") on the operation of DPSs.   The briefings were conducted at the Lady Trench Training Centre on 30 November 2016.

Identifying Venues as Polling Stations and Counting Station

5.23   The REO has identified 110 venues as polling stations for 231 769 voters of the 25 contested subsectors/sub-subsectors to cast their votes.   These venues included schools, community centres and indoor games halls, etc. at convenient locations.   About 2 100 voters were assigned to each polling station on the average.   Depending on the geographical area and number of registered voters within each of the 18 districts, about 4 to 10 polling stations were set up in each district.   The basic criterion adopted for identifying these venues was that they should have enough space to accommodate the number of allocated voters.   All the 110 polling stations were accessible to people with disabilities.

5.24   Voters were allocated polling stations according to their residential addresses.   Under the combined voting arrangement, a voter of a subsector who was also an AR of a corporate voter of another subsector would vote at the same polling station.

5.25   A CCS with a total area of about 17 000 m^2 was set up at Halls 6, 8, and 10 of the AWE.

Polling Arrangements

5.26   On the day before the polling day, the polling staff set up the polling stations at the designated venues.   Voting compartments, ballot boxes and ballot paper issuing desks were provided in the polling stations.

5.27   Outside each polling station, areas were designated by the RO as NCZ and NSZ to provide voters with a hindrance-free access to the polling station.   A notice was put up at a conspicuous spot at or near the polling station to notify the public of the delineation of the NCZ and NSZ.

5.28   Each ballot paper issuing desk at a polling station was given a complete booklet of ballot papers in respect of each individual subsector/sub-subsector for issue to eligible voters of this ECSS Ordinary Elections.   Each ballot paper clearly bore the name of the relevant subsector/sub-subsector at the upper-right corner and was printed in different colours for different subsectors/sub-subsectors to facilitate easy distinction.   A voter was required to mark the ballot paper by shading the ovals printed next to the names of the candidates of his/her choice.

5.29   Apart from overseeing the nomination and related matters for the assigned subsector, each RO was also responsible for overseeing the operation of 4 to 6 polling stations on the polling day.   The PRO, assisted by the DPRO and APROs, was responsible for ensuring the smooth and efficient operation of the polling station under his/her charge during the poll and to work closely with the RO concerned.

Polling Hours

5.30   Same as in the past ordinary elections, the poll started at 7:30 am on the polling day and ended at 10:30 pm on the same day, except for the DPSs set up in penal institutions which had shorter polling hours as detailed in paragraph 5.31 below.

Special Polling Arrangements for Imprisoned, Remanded and Detained Voters

5.31   To enable voters who were imprisoned or remanded by the Correctional Services Department ("CSD") to vote on the polling day, 7 DPSs were set up in the penal institutions of the CSD.   Owing to security reasons, the poll at these DPSs was conducted from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.   In addition, DPSs were set up at two police stations for voters who were remanded or detained by

the LEAs (other than the CSD) on the polling day and expressed their wish to vote. Since the LEAs might arrest persons who happened to be voters, any time on the polling day, the DPSs set up at the police stations were open from 7:30 am to 10:30 pm as with the ordinary polling stations ("OPSs").

5.32   The venue setup of all the DPSs was basically the same as that of the OPSs, except that some of the polling materials were specially designed for security reasons.

5.33   The REO has issued poll cards and other related electoral documents such as the Introduction to Candidates to all imprisoned voters at their penal institution addresses. Mailing labels were also provided to candidates upon request for mailing of election mails to this group of voters at penal institutions if the concerned voters had consented to provide the addresses of penal institutions as their correspondence addresses for receiving EAs.

The Fast Response Team

5.34   In line with the practice adopted since the 2008 LegCo General Election, Fast Response Teams ("FRTs") comprising experienced personnel were appointed to conduct random checks on the operation of the polling stations and the performance of the polling staff so as to ensure that the stipulated electoral procedures and requirements were strictly followed.

5.35   A total of 5 FRTs were set up for this election. Apart from conducting inspection of the operation of the polling stations and advising PROs to take remedial or enhancement measures where necessary, the FRTs were also tasked to deal with enquiries from the ROs and PROs on electoral arrangements and to render immediate advice and assistance to them. The FRTs had to report to the Central Command Centre ("CCC") on any major irregularities and

problems observed, and to make recommendations on the follow-up actions. The FRTs were also required to handle emergency cases relating to polling stations as directed by the CCC.

Counting Arrangements

5.36   In view of the varied number of seats for the contested subsectors/sub-subsectors ranging from 15 to 60 and the large number of candidates on each ballot paper (ranging from 16 to 104 candidates for different contested subsectors/sub-subsectors) for the ECSS elections, the REO based on reference to the Voting Validation and Counting Automation System ("VVCAS") used in previous ECSS ordinary elections, has commissioned a contractor to develop a new VVCAS for this election and hired OMR machines and other related services to facilitate the counting of votes.   To ensure the smooth operation of the OMR system, the ballot papers were specially designed so that they could be read by the OMR machines and could accommodate numbers and names of up to 178 candidates.   To facilitate the OMR reading of the choices marked on the ballot paper, voters were asked to shade the ovals by the felt pen provided at the polling station, and place the marked ballot paper in the envelope provided also by the polling station to ensure that the vote cast was confidential and the ballot paper was intact and unfolded.   To ensure the reliability and integrity of the VVCAS, services of 3 independent quality assurance contractors were engaged by the REO to assess respectively the reliability and information technology risks of the system program, and to monitor the whole counting process.   A total of 13 sets of OMR machines were used for conducting the count in this election.

5.37   Ballot papers cast at all polling stations were delivered to the CCS for counting after the close of poll.   The CCS is comprised of the Ballot Box Reception Area and the Ballot Box Deposit Area where ballot boxes and electoral documents delivered from various polling stations were received and

temporarily stored, 25 counting zones where the actual counting of votes on the ballot papers for contested subsectors/sub-subsectors took place, the OMR zone for scanning ballot papers, the Manual Key Entry zone for manually inputting the votes on valid questionable ballot papers, and the Questionable Ballot Paper Determination zone for the ROs to determine the validity of questionable ballot papers and release the preliminary results of vote counting. Each counting zone was composed of a sorting section, a general section and a visual screening section, overseen by 1 to 3 CSs depending on the number of voters in each subsector/sub-subsector.

5.38   The counting process started with the opening of ballot boxes and sorting of ballot papers.   Since there were ballot papers of different subsectors/sub-subsectors in each ballot box, they would need to be sorted by subsectors/sub-subsectors at the sorting section.   The sorted ballot papers were then delivered to different counting zones dedicated to process ballot papers of different subsectors/sub-subsectors, where they were received by the general section of the respective subsectors/sub-subsectors and delivered to the visual screening section for staff to conduct visual screening in order to separate ballot papers required to be processed manually from the OMR readable ballot papers. The latter group of ballot papers was delivered to the OMR zone where they were scanned by OMR machines.   When the ballot papers were scanned by the OMR machines, the computer system would at the same time read and record the choices marked in the shaded ovals on the ballot papers.   For questionable ballot papers, their validity was determined by the ROs.   Choices marked on the questionable ballot papers ruled valid were keyed into the VVCAS manually. Upon the completion of the counting work of a subsector/ sub-subsector, counting staff of the command centre would consolidate the votes and election results through the VVCAS.

5.39   Apart from the counting zones, there were also an area in Hall 6 for candidates and their election/counting agents to observe the declaration of election results, a press area for the media to cover the election news and a public area for members of the public to observe the count.   As in previous elections, candidates and their election/counting agents were allowed to stand around the counting tables or in the working zones to observe the count from a close distance.

5.40   Based on the experience in the 2011 ECSS Ordinary Elections, the following measures were adopted in this election to streamline and speed up the vote counting process:

   (a)   setting up ballot paper enquiry desks to sort ballot papers rejected by the OMR machines according to the reasons for rejection, and separating clearly invalid ballot papers (such as unmarked ballot papers) from other questionable ballot papers to expedite the determination of validity of questionable ballot papers by the ROs;

   (b)   increasing the number of Assistant Counting Supervisors deployed to each general section of a counting zone from 1 in 2011 to two in this election.   The additional Assistant Counting Supervisor would monitor the whole process of ballot papers sorting at the respective counting zone and verify the various forms for vote counting with a view to enhancing the supervision of the vote counting process and ensuring the accuracy of calculations on the vote counting forms as well as expediting the consolidation of counting results;

   (c)   increasing the number of visual screening tables at the CCS from 53 in 2011 to 77 in this election to speed up the delivery of

sorted OMR readable ballot papers to the OMR zone for handling; and

(d) increasing the number of staff touring the counting zones to check on the vote counting work and to render advice and assistance immediately to individual counting teams where necessary.

Compilation of Voter Turnout Statistics

5.41 Each polling station was required to send the hourly voter turnout statistics to the REO Statistical Information Centre ("SIC") by fax on the polling day. The SIC made available to the public the voter turnout statistics through press releases. Such information was also uploaded onto the election website on the polling day.

5.42 A total of 90 telephone lines and 68 fax lines were set up for the SIC and Helpdesks at the CCC to collect hourly voter turnout statistics and handle enquiries from polling stations.

Contingency Measures

5.43 The following arrangements were planned or adopted by the REO to cater for inclement weather or emergencies:

(a) postponement or adjournment of the poll in 1 or more polling stations, or of the count in the CCS;

(b) extension of polling hours because of flooding, power failure or other emergencies;

(c)   designation of alternative venues as reserve polling stations in the event that the original polling stations, for one reason or another, could no longer function properly or be accessed by voters;

(d)   setting up 12 emergency depots to provide logistic support to respective polling stations in each district;

(e)   setting up a fallback venue at the KITEC for the central counting of votes in case the AWE has been rendered inoperable by unexpected events;

(f)   using the Mass Transit Railway ("MTR") to deliver the ballot boxes to the CCS for vote counting in the event of traffic being held up by an unexpected incident on the normal land transport link to the AWE;

(g)   formulating a contingency plan for switching the counting process from computer to manual mode at short notice in case necessary, and providing counting staff with the relevant training, so as to cater for the unlikely event of breakdown of the VVCAS; and

(h)   preparation of public announcement notices in the event that any of the contingency arrangements as set out in paragraph 5.43(a), (b), (c), (e) or (f) above had to be implemented.

Publicity

5.44   The major events of this election were extensively covered by the media. Apart from issuing press releases on the various key events of this election, the REO also implemented the following publicity measures for the election:

(a) producing two sets of Announcements in the Public Interest ("APIs") for broadcast on local TV and radio channels to publicise the 2016 ECSS Ordinary Elections.   One set of the APIs was broadcast from 1 to 14 November 2016 to announce the nomination period and invite nominations.   Another set, broadcast from 14 November to 11 December 2016, was to encourage voters to turn up for voting and to illustrate the proper procedures for casting a vote.   To enhance awareness of the election among ethnic minority communities, a radio API introducing the voting procedures and calling on voters to vote was also broadcast in ethnic minority languages;

(b) placing two newspaper advertisements in local newspapers to reinforce messages of the APIs.   The advertisement on nomination was placed in 6 newspapers on 8 November 2016.   Another advertisement, which encouraged voter turnout and illustrated how to cast a vote properly, was placed in a total of 15 newspapers on 8, 9 and 11 December 2016;

(c) setting up a dedicated website to provide information on the election, such as the ECSS Elections Guidelines, Introduction to Candidates, introduction of the VVCAS, voter turnout, election results, publicity materials, etc.   To facilitate voters of ethnic minorities and those who were illiterate in Chinese or English, election briefs and voting procedures in seven minority languages, Korean and Japanese were uploaded onto the election website.   Similar information was also sent to 8 support centres for ethnic minorities to enhance awareness of this election;

(d)   printing posters to reinforce messages of the APIs and distributing the posters to 373 designated bodies of different subsectors, primary and secondary schools, tertiary institutions, hospitals and departments, etc.;

(e)   placing posters in the advertisement space of the MTR East Rail, West Rail and Ma On Shan Lines from 18 November to 11 December 2016 to encourage voter turnout and to illustrate the proper procedures for casting a vote.   Posters were also placed in the advertisement space of the MTR Island, Tsuen Wan, Kwun Tong, Tseung Kwan O and Tung Chung Lines from 19 November to 11 December 2016;

(f)   inviting media to cover of the briefing sessions held for the candidates by the EAC Chairman at the KITEC on 17 and 18 November 2016;

(g)   setting up 4 mock polling stations at the Leighton Hill Community Hall, Henry G. Leong Yau Ma Tei Community Centre, Tseng Choi Street Community Hall and Tai Po Community Centre from 8 to 10 December 2016 to facilitate the familiarisation of the proper procedures for casting a vote by registered voters and ARs.   The EAC Chairman also met the media on 7 December 2016 at the mock polling station set up at the Leighton Hill Community Hall to introduce the electoral arrangements for the 2016 ECSS Ordinary Elections and explain the voting procedures; and

(h)   printing a publicity leaflet to introduce the details of the mock polling stations and explain the proper procedures for casting a vote and mailing the leaflet to each registered voter and AR along with the poll card.

5.45   To promote the importance of clean elections, the ICAC has launched a series of educational and publicity activities on the theme of "Abide by the Rules, Support Clean Elections" for this election which included:

(a)   conducting briefing sessions to explain major provisions of the ECICO to candidates, helpers and designated bodies of the subsectors;

(b)   producing a "Clean Election Information Booklet" to spell out the points-to-note and legislative requirements for conducting electioneering activities for candidates and election agents;

(c)   printing the leaflet "Guidelines for Voters" for distribution to voters through the assistance of the REO;

(d)   publishing feature articles on clean elections in the newsletters and journals of various professional bodies and chambers of commerce, and uploading e-banners onto their online platforms to enhance promotion;

(e)   launching a thematic website to provide relevant information to the public; and

(f)   providing Clean Election Enquiry Hotline service for answering public enquiries on the ECICO.