

CHAPTER 7

PREPARATION FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ELECTION

Section 1 – Appointment of Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officers

7.1 The Honourable Madam Justice Carlye CHU Fun-ling, Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court, was appointed by the EAC as the RO for the 2017 CE Election. Madam Justice CHU's appointment was gazetted on 23 December 2016.

7.2 As regards AROs, Ms CHOR Kin-lan, Anna, JP (Assistant Director of Home Affairs (1) of the Home Affairs Department ("HAD")) and Mr Howard YAM, JP (Assistant Director of Home Affairs (3) of the HAD) were appointed as AROs, while Ms CHENG Pui-lan, Roxana, BBS (Deputy Solicitor General (Constitutional Affairs)), Miss LEE Sau-kong (Senior Assistant Solicitor General (Special Duties)) and Ms CHENG Tai-ngar, Dorothy (Senior Assistant Solicitor General (Acting)) of the DoJ were appointed as AROs (Legal). Their appointments were published in the Gazette on 23 December 2016.

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 for their reference. A briefing for the RO and AROs was held on 11 January 2017 at the EAC Conference Room at Harbour Centre, Wan Chai. The EAC Chairman, accompanied by the CEO 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 10 June and 23 December 2016 respectively. Nomination forms were available from the REO from 23 December 2016 onwards. The nomination period lasted for 16 days from 14 February to 1 March 2017.

Section 4 – Nomination Forms Received and their Validity

7.5 A total of 3 nomination forms were submitted to the RO during the nomination period. After examining and verifying the information provided in the nomination forms, the RO ruled that all the 3 nomination forms were valid at the close of nomination. The valid nomination forms were submitted by Mr TSANG Chun-wah, John on 25 February 2017, Mr WOO Kwok-hing on 27 February 2017 and Mrs LAM CHENG Yuet-ngor, Carrie on 28 February 2017, and they were nominated by 165, 180 and 580 EC members respectively.

7.6 Since there were 3 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 5 March 2017 at the Lecture Theatre, Hospital

Authority Building, 147B Argyle Street, Kowloon. Also present at the briefing were the CEO, 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.