

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### **Section 1 : The Responsibility of the Electoral Affairs Commission**

1.1 Under section 4(a) of the Electoral Affairs Commission Ordinance (“EACO”) (Cap 541), one of the functions of the Electoral Affairs Commission (“EAC” or “Commission”) is to consider and review the boundaries of district council constituencies for the purpose of making recommendations on the boundaries and names of constituencies for a District Council (“DC”) ordinary election.

1.2 The Commission is required under section 18 of the EACO to submit a report to the Chief Executive (“CE”) on its recommendations for DC constituencies not more than 36 months from the preceding DC ordinary election. As the last DC ordinary election was held on 18 November 2007, the EAC should submit its report and recommendations to the CE by 17 November 2010. Due to the reason as set out in paragraph 1.4 below, the aforesaid statutory deadline has been extended to April 2011.

1.3 Under section 21 of the EACO, the CE in Council shall consider the Commission’s report as soon as practicable after receiving the report. Subject to the CE in Council’s approval and the completion of the negative vetting procedure of the Legislative Council (“LegCo”),

the boundaries and names proposed by the Commission would be adopted for the DC ordinary election to be held in November 2011.

## **Section 2 : Increase in the number of elected seats**

1.4 Delineation of the DC constituencies is based on the total number of elected seats for the next DC ordinary election. The Administration focused in the first half of 2010 on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive and for forming the Legislative Council in 2012, including the participation of elected DC members in the two elections, following which the Administration proceeded to deal with the number of elected DC seats for the next DC ordinary election. To allow the Commission adequate time to formulate DC constituencies delineation proposals, the CE has approved the extension of the submission deadline to April 2011 pursuant to section 18(4) of the EACO.

1.5 After undertaking an overall review on the number of elected seats for each DC having regard to the population forecast in Hong Kong in mid-2011, the Administration proposed to increase seven elected seats for the 2011 DC Election as follows:

- (a) one more seat for each DC in Kwun Tong, Yau Tsim, Mong, Kwai Tsing, North and Sai Kung; and
- (b) two more seats for Yuen Long DC.

1.6 The Administration consulted the LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs on the proposed addition of seven elected seats for the 2011 DC Election on 19 July 2010. A resolution was moved at the LegCo meeting on 20 October 2010 for approval of the District Councils Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 3) Order 2010 (“the Order”) to implement this proposal. The Order was approved by the LegCo on 1 December 2010 and published in the Gazette on 3 December 2010.

1.7 Following the LegCo’s approval for the Order, the total number of elected seats in the 2011 DC Election was increased by seven from 405 to 412 and the total number of district council constituency areas (“DCCAs”) to be delineated was increased to 412 as one DC member is to be elected from each constituency. The number of DCCAs to be delineated by district is set out in **Appendix I**.

### **Section 3 : Scope of the Report**

1.8 The scope and content of this report are based on the requirement stipulated under section 18 of the EACO. The report is published in three volumes. **Volume 1** primarily describes how the proposed delineation of the boundaries of DCCAs was worked out and sets out the Commission’s recommendations on the boundaries and the names of the DCCAs with the reasons for its recommendations. **Volume 2** contains the maps of all the districts showing the proposed boundaries and names of the DCCAs in each district and the related boundary descriptions. **Volume 3** records all written representations.