

CHAPTER 3

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Section 1 : The Consultation Period and Public Forums

3.1 Pursuant to the provision of section 19 of the EACO, the EAC conducted a public consultation exercise on its provisional recommendations from 23 July 2018 to 21 August 2018. During this period, members of the public could send their written representations to the EAC to express their views on the EAC's provisional recommendations on the boundaries and names of the DCCAs.

3.2 The public consultation exercise was widely publicised by the EAC through Announcements in the Public Interest on radio and TV, press releases, newspaper advertisements, posters, the EAC's website and Government Gazette.

3.3 On the first day of the consultation period (i.e. 23 July 2018), the EAC held a press conference to launch the exercise, and invited the public to give their views on the EAC's provisional recommendations. In order to ensure that its final recommendations can fully take into account the public opinions, the EAC appealed to the public to actively participate in the consultation and express their views, no matter whether for or against the provisional recommendations.

3.4 In the preparation for the public forums in the last delineation exercise, the EAC has increased the number of forums from two in the past to three. However, according to the record, the forum held on Hong Kong Island was attended only by 10-odd persons. And among them, only six expressed their views and only one was about the DCCAs of Hong Kong Island. By comparison, there were more people attending the other two forums held in Kowloon and the New Territories. For the better use of resources, no forum was arranged on Hong Kong Island this time but the time of the forums held in Kowloon and the New Territories was extended from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. so that sufficient time was allowed for the public to express their views.

3.5 The two public forums were conducted at the Lai Chi Kok Community Hall on 1 August 2018 and the Sha Tin Lung Hang Estate Community Centre on 3 August 2018 respectively, where members of the public could attend and express their views to the EAC directly. Audio-visual aids showing the maps were used to facilitate the participants to better understand the content of the provisional recommendations.

Section 2 : Number of Representations Received

3.6 During the consultation period, the EAC has received a total of 6 285 written representations, of which, five representations were withdrawn. Besides, a total of 263 persons attended the forums conducted at the Lai Chi Kok Community Hall (130 persons) and the Lung Hang Estate Community Centre (133 persons). A total of 65 oral

representations were received in the two forums.

3.7 Certain representations expressed views on the arrangements of public forums. These views were noted by the EAC for reference in the future review on the relevant arrangements. Besides, there were views in some representations that were not related to the delineation of boundaries or names of the DCCAs but to matters such as boundaries of the administrative districts, allocation of the elected seats and arrangements for polling stations, etc. For the representations related to boundaries of the administrative districts and allocation of the elected seats, the EAC has referred the relevant representations to the Government. As for views relating to polling stations, the EAC has referred them to the REO.

3.8 All the written representations as arranged according to the administrative districts are reproduced in **Volume 3** of this report. Summaries of the written and oral representations are shown in **Appendix II** of this volume.