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Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Panel on Constitutional Affairs

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong

22 December 2017

Chairman Liao:

I would like to propose a special meeting regarding the upcoming Universal Periodic Review as soon as possible.

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a State-driven process supported by the Human Rights Council that reviews the human rights records of all UN Member States every four years. China (including Hong Kong and Macau) will have the UPR October to November of 2018. The public consultation by the Hong Kong Government is also tentatively scheduled early next year - February and March 2018. Given the schedule stated above, I believe it is timely and essential to have this meeting.

The last UPR review of China was in 2013. As Hong Kong is considered as part of the review of China, much of the focus is usually on China. For the upcoming review, I suggest that Hong Kong should intend to get more attention by increasing the number of its recommendations. By increasing the number of recommendations for Hong Kong through the UPR process, the capacity to improve human rights situation in the country also increases. This will show the dedication of the government in fulfilling its obligations in ensuring and protecting human rights in Hong Kong and its willingness to engage meaningfully in the process.

Several panel meetings concerning UPR have also been conducted in the past. I kindly request you to include this matter on the agenda for this panel. Thank you.

Member Hui Chi-fung