MEMORANDUM FOR THE
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE

This paper informs Members of the progress of major heritage issues and activities since 1 February 2015.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Declaration of Monuments

2.   In recognition of the heritage significance of the Signal Tower in Tsim Sha Tsui, Race Course Fire Memorial in Happy Valley and the façade of the Old Mental Hospital in Sai Ying Pun, it is planned to declare these three historic buildings as monuments under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53). The proposal will be discussed under a separate agenda item vide the Board Paper AAB/7/2015-16.

Preservation of Historic Buildings and Structures

3.   The latest position on the preservation of historic buildings and structures which the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) has discussed is set out at **Annex A**.

Restoration and Maintenance Programmes

4.   The progress of the restoration and maintenance projects being handled by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) is detailed at **Annex B**.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Archaeological Licences

5.   On Members' recommendations, the following licences were granted during the period from 1 February to 15 May 2015:

(a) Ms Ellen Ann Cameron for conducting an archaeological impact assessment for the Nga Tsin Wai Village redevelopment project;

(b) Ms Liu Mao for conducting an archaeological watching brief for the replacement and rehabilitation of water mains Stage 4 Phase 2 – mains on outlying islands project (licence renewal); and

(c) Dr Liu Wensuo for conducting backfilling as part of the conservation measures for the archaeological features unearthed and potential archaeological work for tentative small-scale excavation works at To Kwa Wan Station area of the Shatin to Central Link.

Progress of the archaeological projects with licences issued is summarised at **Annex C**.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

Statistics

6.   Statistics on publicity and educational activities organised by the Commissioner for Heritage's Office (CHO) of the Development Bureau and the AMO from 1 February to 15 May 2015 are at **Annex D**.

Programmes and Activities Organised/To Be Organised by CHO

7.   The following activities will be organised by the CHO in the coming months:

(a) Roving photo exhibitions on "Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme" from June to December 2015;

(b) King Yin Lei Open Days from July 2015 to January 2016; and

(c) "Heritage Fiesta 2015" featuring art and cultural historic buildings from October to November 2015 with the related photo exhibitions.

8. CHO has continued to keep the public informed of developments on the heritage front and the Government's heritage conservation work through:

(a) The dedicated government website on heritage conservation (www.heritage.gov.hk), which has received 2 313 998 visits as at 30 April 2015 since its launch in January 2008; and

(b) A bimonthly newsletter "活化@Heritage" featuring topics of public concern and reporting on the Government's heritage conservation initiatives.

Educational Programmes Organised by AMO

9. Major education activities organised by the AMO from 1 February to 15 May 2015 include:

(a) 384 guided tours were organised at various heritage trails, heritage sites, the Heritage Discovery Centre (HDC) and Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery with a total attendance of 11 106. Details are at **Annex E**;

(b) 26 workshops and 7 lectures / seminars were arranged during the period with a total of 1 449 participants.   Details of the lectures and workshops are at **Annex F**; and

10. AMO was also the venue sponsor for "Fundamentally Hong Kong? Delta Four 1984 – 2044" the 14th Venice Architecture Biennale Hong Kong Response Exhibition" organised by The Hong Kong Institute of Architects and Hong Kong Arts Development Council, staged at HDC from 10 March to 10 May 2015.

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Leisure and Cultural Services Department
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