

## Appointment of non-permanent Hong Kong judge of the Court of Final Appeal

Chief Justice Geoffrey Ma Tao-li today (March 21) welcomed the acceptance by the Chief Executive of the recommendation of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission on the appointment of the Honourable Mr Justice Robert Tang Ching, permanent judge of the Court of Final Appeal, as a non-permanent Hong Kong judge of the Court of Final Appeal for a term of three years with effect from October 25, 2018. The Chief Justice noted that the Government would be seeking the endorsement of the Legislative Council of the recommended appointment.

The Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal Ordinance (Cap 484) provides for a list of non-permanent Hong Kong judges and a list of judges from other common law jurisdictions. Currently, there are three non-permanent Hong Kong judges and 12 non-permanent common law judges. The maximum number of non-permanent judges is 30. In hearing and determining an appeal, the Court of Final Appeal is constituted by five judges, i.e. the Chief Justice, three permanent judges and one non-permanent Hong Kong judge or one non-permanent common law judge.

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