Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs

Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality: Implementation Progress

Purpose

This paper informs Members of the progress regarding the implementation of the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality since the discussion at the meeting of the Panel on Constitutional Affairs held on 16 October 2009.

Background

2. At the meeting of the Panel held on 7 July 2009, we briefed Members on the draft Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality drawn up by the Administration to provide guidance to relevant Bureaux and Departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access to public services in key areas concerned.

3. Under the Guidelines, relevant Bureaux, Departments and public authorities would draw up and publicise checklists of measures that would assist in promoting racial equality and equal access to key public services to enhance the transparency of their work.

4. At the Panel meeting on 16 October 2009, we provided to Members draft checklists covering the areas of education, vocational training and community services – communications and technology respectively. We also undertook to provide further updates when further draft checklists are available.

Progress on Implementation

5. Subsequent to the Panel meeting on 16 October 2009, relevant Bureaux, Departments and public authorities have prepared the remaining draft checklists to cover medical and health, employment, community services – social welfare, and community services – public enquiry and declaration services respectively. Copies of the checklists are at **Annexes A to D**.

6. We will continue to seek the views of relevant ethnic minority groups and organisations on the draft checklists through channels such as the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony and Ethnic Minorities Forum. We will finalise the Guidelines and all the checklists after we have received the comments from concerned parties.

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