



Press release

The IPCC enhances public awareness through social media

The IPCC Channel on YouTube and The IPCC Perspective on Now TV

(HONG KONG – 20 February 2014) The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) today released its eleventh issue of the *IPCC Newsletter*. The cover story recapitulates the setting up of an IPCC Channel on YouTube and collaboration with Now TV to produce a TV programme named *The IPCC Perspective*. Other contents include the Council's recent activities and the upcoming IPCC symposium, an article by the ex-Chairman of the Publicity and Survey Committee Ir Albert Cheng, and one real complaint case highlighting the IPCC's role in advising on police procedures.

Mr Jat Sew-Tong, Chairman of the IPCC, said, "Setting up an IPCC Channel on YouTube is one action taken by the Council as part of its functions under the Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance (IPCCO) to promote public awareness of its work. Another initiative is its collaboration with Now TV to produce a TV programme, *The IPCC Perspective*. Both are efforts to enhance the transparency of the IPCC and boost confidence in the police complaints system."

The IPCC Channel on YouTube allows the public to view archived footage of the IPCC from different periods. At present the channel includes two TV drama series *The IPCC Files* and *The IPCC TV series*, made in collaboration with RTHK, two corporate videos produced in 2003 and 2008, and footage of media interviews conducted with the IPCC Chairman and public activities attended by the Secretary-General. The setting up of the IPCC Channel reflects the intention to increasingly make use of social media to introduce the IPCC's work and functions and to communicate with the public, especially through videos.

Mr Jat Sew-Tong continued, "This year the IPCC will work with Now TV to produce *The IPCC Perspective*, an interactive TV programme divided into two segments: complaint cases adapted from real life, and a Q and A segment. Four stories adapted from real cases were edited into 30-second video clips and are being introduced on various channels of Now TV in

February. Following the videos, viewers are invited to submit questions and opinions regarding the stories. The consolidated questions answered by IPCC representatives, with related IPCC information, will be broadcast as a 30-minute programme on 18 March from 9:30pm to 10:00pm on Now Entertainment. *The IPCC Perspective* will then be uploaded to the IPCC Channel on YouTube.”

Meanwhile, the IPCC is organising a symposium in collaboration with the Centre for Comparative and Public Law and the Centre for Criminology from the University of Hong Kong, with a view to engage the stakeholders and gather opinions about the police complaint system in Hong Kong. Mr Jat Sew-Tong said, “The IPCC was incorporated as a statutory body on 1 June 2009. Five years after the enactment of the IPCCO, 2014 is an appropriate time to take stock of what the IPCC has achieved and reflect on its way forward. The symposium, to be held in May 2014 at the University of Hong Kong, aims to gather views from the public and stakeholders regarding the two-tier police complaints system and the future direction of the IPCC.”

Mr Daniel Mui, Deputy Secretary-General of the IPCC, shared a real complaint case that identified room for improvement in police procedures when dealing with a situation in which cash was found at a bank’s automated teller machine (ATM), and highlighted the IPCC’s role in advising on police procedures with a view to preventing the recurrence of similar complaints. In this instant case, the IPCC and CAPO continued to pursue the facts even after the complainants had withdrawn the complaint. The IPCC was of the view that there was room for improvement in the existing guidelines and procedures for handling cash found at ATMs. The Police agreed and commenced a review of relevant procedures. CAPO is to keep the IPCC informed of any significant progress in the review.

The eleventh issue of the *IPCC Newsletter* is now available on the IPCC’s website at: http://www.ipcc.gov.hk/en/reports_newsletter.html

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Notes to editor:

About the Independent Police Complaints Council

The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is an independent body established under the Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance (IPCCO) (Cap. 604) to observe, monitor and review the handling and investigation of reportable complaints (RCs) against the Police by the Commissioner of Police (CP). The IPCC has become a statutory body since the commencement of IPCCO on 1 June 2009.