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Press release

Independent Police Complaints Council endorsed findings of Special Committee

(HONG KONG – 22 May 2014) The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) has completed its investigation into the complaints made against the IPCC Chairman, an IPCC Member and the Secretary-General arising from the statements they made regarding the participation of retired and off-duty police officers in a rally at Sai Yeung Choi Street South on 4 August 2013. Findings of Special Committee have been endorsed by the Council.

Between August and September 2013, IPCC received 66 complaints concerning statements made by IPCC Chairman Jat Sew-Tong, IPCC Member Eric Cheung and Secretary-General Ricky Chu in several media interviews they conducted between 6 August 2013 and 14 August 2013. These complaints questioned statements made by IPCC Chairman, Eric Cheung and Secretary-General in relation to the participation of retired and off-duty police officers in a rally held at Sai Yeung Choi Street South on 4 August 2013. Given the public concern over the matter, a Special Committee comprising 3 IPCC Members, namely Mr Simon Ip Shing-hing, Mr Clement Tao Kwok-lau and Ms Mary Wong, was established to investigate into these complaints. Those being complained against were not involved in the investigation.

After reviewing the complaints and examining all the relevant information including the media interview records, the public statement issued by the Police on the rally and the relevant police internal guidelines, the Special Committee concludes that there is no evidence to substantiate any of the complaints. The findings of the Special Committee have been endorsed by the full Council and are now available on the IPCC website at http://www.ipcc.gov.hk/en/public communications/special reports.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.