SJ on meeting with Korean MPs

Following is a transcript of remarks to the media by the Secretary for Justice, Mr Wong Yan Lung, SC, after meeting with three Korean Members of Parliament (English portion):

Secretary for Justice: Out of courtesy to the Korean Members of Parliament who have taken the trouble to come to Hong Kong, I exceptionally agreed to meet with them to hear what they have to say.

I have listened carefully to their concerns. I did not engage in any discussion or negotiation on the case, although I did explain to them that under Article 63 of the Basic Law, the Department of Justice shall control criminal prosecutions free from any interference.

Hong Kong is a place where the rule of law is strongly upheld. This case is being processed in accordance with the Laws of Hong Kong and our established and announced prosecution policy.

The evidence is being carefully considered with as much expedition as is possible in the interests of justice.

As in all other cases, this case will be handled objectively and fairly, and resolved without fear or favour as soon as practicable.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

Ends/Monday, January 9, 2006 NNNN