The Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang, will officiate at the opening ceremony of the 12th Annual Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) at 9am next Monday (September 17) at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Grenville Cross, SC, (the conference host), and the President of the IAP, Mr François Falletti, will also speak at the opening ceremony.

Other guests attending the opening ceremony include the Secretary for Justice, Mr Wong Yan Lung, SC; the Commissioner of Police, Mr K S Tang; the Commissioner of the ICAC, Mr Timothy Tong; the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen; the Chief Judge of the High Court, Mr Justice Ma; the former Secretary for Justice, Dr Elsie Leung; the Chairman of the Bar Association, Mr Rimsky Yuen, SC; the Chairman of the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, Mr Minoru Shikita; the Director General of the International Judicial Co-operation Department of the Supreme People's Procuratorate, Dr Ye Feng and the Prosecutor General of the Macao SAR, Dr Ho Chio Meng.

The annual conference and general meeting, which runs from September 16 to 20, will be hosted by the Director of Public Prosecutions. It will be attended by 450 Attorneys General, Ministers of Justice, chief prosecutors and prosecutors from approximately 100 jurisdictions representing every region of the world.

The theme of the conference will be "Relations with Others: Accountability, Transparency and Independence." It will examine the ways in which prosecutors relate to others in the community.

The success of the bid by the Prosecutions Division of the Department of Justice to host the conference was announced by the IAP in Paris, France, in September, 2006.

The Prosecutions Division of the Department of Justice joined the IAP as its 75th organisational member in 2001.

The IAP is a non-governmental and non-political organisation, and is the first and only world organisation of prosecutors. It was established in 1995 at the United Nations Offices in Vienna. The IAP is committed to developing close co-operation among the prosecutors of the world and to promoting high standards of criminal justice.

The IAP is associated with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, as well as with the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation and the Council of Europe.

The IAP includes individual and organisational members from more than 120 countries. The organisational members are drawn from every region of the world, and represent more than 200,000 prosecutors.

Since the Prosecutions Division joined the IAP, it has played a full role in its affairs.

Ends/Friday, September 14, 2007

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