As at today (June 6), more than \$161 million in donations had been collected through the account of "The Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporated - Donations" for the Sichuan earthquake victims.

A spokesman for the Home Affairs Department (HAD) said today that fund-raising activities had been widely supported by the community since the earthquake and that "The Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporated - Donations" accounts had received an endless flow of donations. The spokesman thanked Hong Kong people for their warm-hearted contributions in money and kind.

The HAD had passed \$137 million to five relief organisations - Hong Kong Red Cross, World Vision Hong Kong, Oxfam Hong Kong, United Nations Children's Fund and The Salvation Army - for emergency relief operations related to the Sichuan earthquake. Another \$18 million will be passed to these organisations next Tuesday (June 10).

The spokesman appealed to people to continue to support earthquake relief and reconstruction work by donating money through the following channels:

For cheque donations:

\* The 20 Public Enquiry Service Centres (PESCs) of the 18 District Offices of the HAD, and all Post Offices.

For cheque and cash donations:

- \* Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd. (HSBC) account number "004-502-256803-001"; or
- \* Bank of China (BOC) account number "012-875-0-039683-3".

Cheques should be addressed to "The Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporated – Donations" (or SHAI – Donations).

A list of donors who have contributed \$100,000 or more is attached to the Chinese version of the press release.

Ends/Friday, June 6, 2008