

Arts organisations urged to submit voter registration forms for HKADC nomination exercise

Registration of voters for the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) nomination exercise will close on July 19. The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) today (July 9) appealed to arts organisations specified as members of the nominating bodies to submit voter registration forms for their members as soon as possible so that they may nominate their representatives to the HKADC via polling at a later stage.

Established to promote the development of the arts in Hong Kong, the HKADC will see the departure of its council members on December 31, 2010, upon the expiry of their current term of office. The HAB is therefore conducting an exercise to nominate representatives of 10 arts interests for the next term of the HKADC commencing on January 1, 2011.

With the completion of the first phase of the nomination exercise, a total of 733 arts organisations were specified as organisational members of the nominating bodies and recorded in the Gazette G.N. 3329 published on June 11, 2010. On the same date, the nomination agent informed these arts organisations in writing that they may help their eligible members and employees register as voters in the second phase of the nomination exercise. Guidelines and forms for voter registration were enclosed in the letters. Arts organisations registered as nominating bodies in 2007 or before have also been reminded that they must submit voter registration forms for their members afresh this year.

A spokesperson for the HAB said, "We call upon arts organisations specified as members of the nominating bodies to help their members register as voters in the last week of the registration so that they may participate in the subsequent phases of the nomination exercise, including nomination of candidates, electioneering and voting for promoting arts development in Hong Kong."

Eligible arts organisations should submit completed voter registration forms to PR Concepts Asia Limited, the nomination agent appointed by the HAB, before 5pm on July 19, 2010. The related guidelines and forms are available for download at the website (www.voteforhkadc2010.hk).

This year's nomination exercise is conducted in four phases as follows :

Phase 1: Registration of eligible organisations / individual arts workers as members of the nominating bodies of the respective arts interests (March 30 to May 10, 2010)

Phase 2: Voter registration (June 11 to July 19, 2010)

Phase 3: Candidate nomination (early August to mid-August 2010)

Phase 4: Electioneering and polling (late August to mid-September 2010)

Ends/Friday, July 9, 2010

NNNN