

Blanket Approval for Acceptance of Advantages by Politically Appointed Officials

Under paragraph 5.8 of the Code for Officials under the Political Appointment System, Politically Appointed Officials (PAOs), namely,

- (a) Secretaries of Department;
- (b) Directors of Bureau;
- (c) Director of the Chief Executive's Office;
- (d) Deputy Directors of Bureau; and
- (e) Political Assistants,

shall if necessary seek guidance from the Chief Executive (CE) as to the acceptance and retention of gifts, advantages or other benefits.

In addition to the general permission given by CE under the Acceptance of Advantages (Chief Executive's Permission) Notice 2010, CE has given blanket approval for PAOs to accept –

- (i) official gifts¹ valued at \$400 or below each;
- (ii) official gifts valued between \$401 and \$1,000 each, which are inscribed with the name of the PAO concerned, or are received by the PAO at an official function as the guest of honour or an officiating guest; and
- (iii) invitations to functions and performances valued at \$2,000 or below per head for the PAO and accompanying spouse. This permission does not apply to Political Assistants.

¹ "Official gift" means a gift offered to the PAO which in any way relates to his or her office as a PAO.