



新界鄉議局海外顧問委員會(歐洲聯絡處)

Heung Yee Kuk N.T. Overseas Advisory Committee (Liaison Office, Europe)

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Heung Yee Kuk Oversea Advisors,
HYK Oversea (Europe) Committee Member,
Society President, Chairman, Leaders,
Fellow Overseas Chinese Citizen.

Ref: Regarding Hong Kong SAR Government Security Bureau discretionary handling for Hong Kong permanent residents retaining their status while absent from Hong Kong due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

A virtual meeting was held on 7-Oct-2020 between the Hong Kong N.T. Heung Yee Kuk, HKSAR Security Bureau, HKSAR Immigration Department and Heung Yee Kuk Oversea (Europe) Office to discuss the above matters.

Representatives from the Security Bureau explained that any non-Chinese citizen with Hong Kong permanent resident status (3-stars) must return to Hong Kong at least once within a 36 months period in order to maintain their status. The requirement is dictated by HKSAR immigration regulations and cannot be changed, bypass nor extend.

It is further clarified that when such a person ceases to be a permanent resident, although he or she no longer have the benefit to participate in Hong Kong elections but remains the Right to Land in Hong Kong. He or She continue to enjoy the right to enter Hong Kong freely to live, study or work without any restriction.

On the issues regarding accompanied minors who are born after 1997 and must return to Hong Kong every year for a duration of 7 years to qualify as permanent resident, the immigration department confirmed that special arrangements will apply during the Covid-19 crisis period. The immigration department will provide more details on a later date.

As mandated by our decree; endeavour to work for the betterment of all overseas Chinese citizen, Heung Yee Kuk Oversea office will continue to pursue this matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

Regards,

Hong Kong Heung Yee Kuk Oversea (Europe) Office,
President: To Ming Lam,
Vice President: Paul Yuk Yue Lai,
Executive Director: Jacky Sheung Sang Kong (BEM)