

JORC Report 2015

The work of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission (“JORC”) is set out in two separate reports. First, a report entitled “Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission” is published to provide an overall account of the JORC, identifying the different levels of court within its responsibility. Secondly, an annual report is published to report on the work of the JORC during the year.

This JORC Report 2015 provides an account of the work of the JORC during 2015.

In an effort to contribute to the protection of the environment, we will only upload both Reports on our [Website](#).

Geoffrey Ma
Chief Justice
Chairman of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission

Membership of JORC

1. In 2015, the Chief Executive re-appointed two members of JORC and appointed a new member to JORC for a term of up to two years until 30 June 2017. The membership in 2015 is listed below –

Ex officio chairman and member

The Honourable Chief Justice Geoffrey MA Tao-li, GBM (Chairman)

The Honourable Rimsky YUEN Kwok-keung, SC, JP (Secretary for Justice)

Judges

The Honourable Mr. Justice Robert TANG Ching
(from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016)

The Honourable Mr. Justice Andrew CHEUNG Kui-nung
(from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2014)
(from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016)

Barrister and solicitor

Mr. Paul SHIEH Wing-tai, SC (barrister)
(from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016)

Mr. Huen WONG, JP (solicitor)
(from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2013)
(from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2015)

Mr. Stephen HUNG Wan-shun (solicitor)
(from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2017)

Persons not connected with the practice of law

Professor Joseph SUNG, SBS, JP
(from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2013)
(from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2015)
(from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2017)

Mrs Eleanor LING, SBS, OBE, JP
(from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2013)
(from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2015)
(from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2017)

Dr Christopher CHENG Wai-chee, GBS, OBE, JP
(from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2014)
(from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2016)

Secretary of JORC

2. Miss Emma LAU Yin-wah, the current holder of the Judiciary Administrator post, has been appointed as the JORC Secretary since 15 June 2005.

Work of JORC

1. Discussions and decisions on recommendations on judicial appointments were made usually through meetings and occasionally by circulation of papers. In the year 2015, two meetings were held at which 13 papers were discussed and 12 resolutions were passed making recommendations on judicial appointments, five recommendations relating to extension of term of office beyond the normal retiring age, three recommendations relating to further employment and transfer to permanent and pensionable terms ("PPT"), 22 recommendations on renewal of contract and one resolution on policy on further employment or transfer to PPT of service of Member, Lands Tribunal. In addition, two papers were circulated for consideration, resulting in the passage of two resolutions on renewal of contract and one resolution on further employment and transfer to PPT.

Recommendations on Judicial Appointments made in 2015

1. In the year 2015, JORC made a total of 12 recommendations on judicial appointments – 11 to the High Court and one to the District Court. Details are shown in the table below.

High Court			District Court
Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal	Judge of the Court of First Instance	Recorder of the Court of First Instance	Principal Family Court Judge
2	4	5	1

2. In addition, JORC made five recommendations relating to extension of term of office beyond the normal retiring age. Details are shown in the table below.

High Court	Magistrates' Courts	
Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal	Principal Magistrate	Magistrate
1	1	3

3. Moreover, JORC made four recommendations relating to further employment and transfer to permanent and pensionable terms. Details are shown in the table below.

Court of Final Appeal and High Court	Magistrates' Courts
Registrar of the Court of Final Appeal and Senior Deputy Registrar of the High Court	Magistrate
1	3

4. Furthermore, JORC made 24 recommendations on renewal of contract. Details are shown in the table below.

District Court / Lands Tribunal	Magistrates' Courts	
Member, Lands Tribunal	Principal Magistrate	Magistrate
1	1	22

Judicial Appointments made in 2015

High Court

1. On the recommendation of JORC, the Chief Executive appointed the following two persons as Justices of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court with effect from 21 September 2015 –

Name

The Honourable Mr. Justice POON Shiu-chor, Jeremy
The Honourable Mr. Justice PANG Wai-cheong, Derek

2. On the recommendation of JORC, the Chief Executive appointed the following four persons as Judges of the Court of First Instance of the High Court with effect from 24 April 2015 –

Name

Judge Bebe CHU Pui-ying
Judge David LOK
Judge Albert WONG Sung-hau
Judge Joseph YAU Chi-lap

3. On the recommendation of JORC, the Chief Executive appointed Mr. Robert John WHITEHEAD, SC as Recorder of the Court of First Instance of the High Court for three years from 30 April 2015 to 29 April 2018.

4. On the recommendation of JORC, the Chief Executive re-appointed the following four persons as Recorders of the Court of First Instance of the High Court for three years from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2019 –

Name

Mr. Jason POW, SC
Ms. Lisa WONG, SC
Mr. Russell COLEMAN, SC
Mr. Anthony HOUGHTON, SC

District Court

5. On the recommendation of JORC, the Chief Executive appointed His Honour Judge Bruno CHAN as Principal Family Court Judge with effect from 17 September 2015.

Bio-data of the Chairman and Members of JORC

Chairman

The Honourable Chief Justice Geoffrey MA Tao-li, GBM

Chief Justice Ma was appointed Chief Justice of the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal on 1 September 2010.

Chief Justice Ma joined the Judiciary as Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court in 2001. He was appointed Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court in 2002, and Chief Judge of the High Court in 2003.

Chief Justice Ma graduated with an LL.B from Birmingham University in 1977. He completed his Bar Finals in 1978. He was called to the English Bar (Gray's Inn) in 1978, the Hong Kong Bar in 1980, the Bar of the State of Victoria in Australia in 1983 and the Bar of Singapore in 1990. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1993. He was made an Honorary Bencher of Gray's Inn in 2004. He was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*) by the University of Birmingham in 2011. He was awarded the Grand Bauhinia Medal by the Government in June 2012 and was conferred an Honorary Fellowship by Harris Manchester College of the University of Oxford in November 2012.

Ex officio member

The Honourable Rimsky YUEN Kwok-keung, SC, JP

Mr. Yuen was appointed Secretary for Justice with effect from 1 July 2012. He was a barrister in private practice before joining the Government, specialising in commercial disputes. He also served as an arbitrator in international arbitrations and a mediator in commercial disputes.

Mr. Yuen was appointed Senior Counsel in 2003 and a Recorder of the Court of First Instance of the High Court in 2006.

Mr. Yuen had also been involved in various public duties, including Member of the Judicial Officers Recommendation Commission (which Mr. Yuen continues to serve in his capacity as Secretary for Justice), Non-Official Member of the Independent Commission against Corruption Advisory Committee on Corruption, Chairman of the Transport Advisory Committee, Non-executive Director of Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority and Council Member of the Hong Kong Institute of Education.

Members

The Honourable Mr. Justice Robert TANG Ching, SBS

Mr. Justice Tang was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1986 and became a Senior Counsel in 1997. He was a Recorder of the Court of First Instance from September 1995 until his appointment as a Judge of the Court of First Instance in April 2004. He was appointed a Justice of Appeal in January 2005 and a Vice President of the Court of Appeal in November 2006. He was appointed a Non-Permanent Hong Kong Judge of the Court of Final Appeal in September 2010. Since October 2012, he has been a Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal.

Whilst in private practice, Mr. Justice Tang was at various times, the Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association, the Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation Boards, the Independent Police Complaints Council, the Town Planning Appeal Board, the Takeovers and Mergers Panel, and the Securities and Futures Appeal Panel. He was also at various times, a member of the Judicial Service Commission, the Appeal Board on Public Meetings and Processions, the ICAC Complaints Committee and the Exchange Fund Advisory Committee of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, and a non-Executive Director of the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Andrew CHEUNG Kui-nung

Mr. Justice Cheung was conferred the Bachelor of Laws degree and the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws from the University of Hong Kong in 1983 and 1984 respectively. In 1985, he was conferred the Master of Laws degree from Harvard University. He was called to the Bar in Hong Kong in 1985 and admitted as Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 1995. Mr. Justice Cheung was in private practice before joining the Judiciary as a District Judge in 2001. He was appointed a Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court in 2003. Since 2011, he has been the Chief Judge of the High Court. Whilst a Judge of the Court of First Instance, Mr. Justice Cheung was the Probate Judge and later the Judge in charge of the Constitutional and Administrative Law List. He is the Chairman of the High Court Rules Committee, District Court Rules Committee, Criminal Procedure Rules Committee, Civil Justice Reform Monitoring Committee, and Working Group on Civil Matters and Working Group on Integrated Court Case Management System under the Committee on Information Technology. He is a member of the Chief Justice's Committee on Judicial Remuneration, Committee on Information Technology, Working Group on the Use of Chinese, Governing Body of the Hong Kong Judicial Institute and the Chief Justice's Working Group on Retirement Ages of Judges and Judicial Officers.

Mr. Paul SHIEH Wing-tai, SC

Mr. Paul Shieh SC received his secondary school education locally at St. Joseph's College. He then studied law at the University of Cambridge and obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree (with double firsts) in 1987. He obtained his Postgraduate Certificate in Laws from the University of Hong Kong in 1988 and was called to the Hong Kong Bar in the same year. He then attended the University of Oxford on the Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fellowship for Overseas Postgraduate Studies and obtained his Bachelor of Civil Law degree in 1989. He commenced practice as a barrister in Temple Chambers, Hong Kong in 1990 and was appointed Senior Counsel in 2003. He was a member of the Law Reform Commission from 2006 to 2012 and a Recorder of the Court of First Instance from 2005 to 2014. He was Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association from January 2013 to January 2015. Currently he is Chairman of the Appeal Review Committee of the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessments Authority and a member of the Quality Assurance Council of the University Grants Committee, a member of the Financial Reporting Review Panel under the Financial Reporting Council and a member of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (Financial Institutions) Review Tribunal. He is also a Solicitor and Advocate of the Supreme Court of Singapore.

Mr. Albert Wong Kwai-huen, BBS, JP

Mr. Huen Wong has practised as a solicitor since 1985. He was a Senior Crown Counsel of the Legal Department in 1988 before he joined the private practice and later became the China Managing Partner of a London based and a New York based international law firms until 2011 when he became a consultant. Mr. Wong is the Past President and currently a council member of the Law Society of Hong Kong. He is also the Past Chairman and currently a council member of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre. Mr. Wong is currently the President of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association, the Chairman of the Copyright Tribunal and a Deputy Chairman of the Board of Review (Inland Revenue Ordinance). Mr. Wong is a Member of the Hospital Authority and the Competition Commission. He also serves as a member of the Appeal Tribunal of the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers and the Disciplinary Panel of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He is a member of the PCLL Academic Board of the City University and Chinese University of Hong Kong, a member of the Court of the City University of Hong Kong and a Senior Professor of Practice of the Shue Yan University.

Mr. Stephen HUNG Wan-shun

Mr. Stephen Hung has been a member of Council of the Law Society of Hong Kong (“the Law Society”) since 2003. Mr. Hung was elected Vice-President in May 2012, President in August 2014, and was re-elected President in May 2015 until June 2016. He is currently the Immediate Past President of the Law Society, and also the Chairman of the Law Society’s Legal Education Committee.

As a representative of the Law Society, Mr. Hung serves on the PCLL Academic Board of the University of Hong Kong, Chinese University of Hong Kong, and City University of Hong Kong; and Steering Committee on the Provision of Legal Advice for Litigants in Person.

In his own capacity, Mr. Hung serves on the Higher Rights Assessment Board, the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority, the Law Reform Commission, Sub-committee on Causing or Allowing the Death of a Child, and the Lump Sum Grant Steering Committee.

Mr. Hung is an Adjunct Professor of Law of Hong Kong Shue Yan University.

Mr. Hung was admitted as a solicitor in Hong Kong in 1995. He is currently a Partner of Messrs. Li & Partners.

Professor Joseph SUNG, SBS, JP

Professor Joseph J.Y. Sung, Mok Hing Yiu Professor of Medicine, has been Vice-Chancellor and President of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) since 2010. Professor Sung graduated from the University of Hong Kong in 1983 with the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB, BS) degrees. He was conferred a PhD in biomedical sciences by the University of Calgary in 1992, and Doctor in Medicine (MD) by CUHK in 1997. In 2011, Professor Sung was elected to the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) as an Academician in recognition of his contributions in the field of gastroenterology. Professor Sung also holds fellowships and memberships from many professional societies and associations: he is a Fellow of Hong Kong College of Physicians (FHKCP), Fellow of Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (FHKAM), Fellow of Royal College of Physicians (FRCP Edinburgh, London, Glasgow), Fellow of American College of Gastroenterology (FACG), Fellow of Royal Australian College of Physicians (FRACP), Fellow of Royal College of Physician (FRCP Thailand), and Fellow of American Gastroenterological Association (FAGA).

Mrs Eleanor Ling , SBS, OBE, JP

Mrs Ling has over 30 years of management experience with Jardine Matheson which she joined upon her graduation from the University of Hong Kong until her full retirement at the end of 2013. In parallel to her commercial career, Mrs Ling has been active in public service including serving as a Member of the (then) Judicial Service Commission (1992 to 1997). She is a Member of the Law Reform Commission, a Member of the Higher Rights Assessment Board and a Member of the Ethics Committee of the HK Medical Council. She is also a Governor of the Maggie's Cancer Caring Centre Foundation, Vice Chairman of Musica Viva Limited, Member of the Council of the City University of Hong Kong and a Vice-Patron of the Community Chest of Hong Kong.

Mr. Christopher CHENG Wai-chee, GBS, OBE, JP

Mr. Cheng is the Chairman of Wing Tai Properties Limited, an Independent Non-executive Director of the following listed public companies: New World Services Holdings Limited, New World China Land Limited, Kingboard Chemical Holdings Limited and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited.

Mr. Cheng has a keen interest in the public services. He is currently a member of the Council of The University of Hong Kong (Chairman of its Human Resources Policy Committee) (till 31 July 2015) and a steward of the Hong Kong Jockey Club. He also serves as a member of the Board of Overseers at Columbia Business School, the Board of Temasek Foundation CLG Limited, and a member on the President's Council on International Activities of the Yale University.

Mr. Cheng is the former Chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce. He was formerly a Non-executive Director of Securities and Futures Commission, Chairman of Standing Committee on Judicial Salaries & Conditions of Service and a member of the Hong Kong Government Exchange Fund Advisory Committee (Chairman of its Governance Committee) and Public Service Commission. Mr. Cheng was conferred the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences *honoris causa* by The University of Hong Kong and Doctor of Business Administration *honoris causa* by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.