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## *Security Bureau*

In the past year, we have been working on 49 pledges, of which :

- we have completed 21;
- we are on schedule on 18;
- one is under review;
- we are taking measures to speed up the progress on one which is behind schedule; and
- we are pressing ahead with eight on-going commitments.

The following sets out the detailed report for each main programme area.

<b>Internal Security</b>
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<i>Year</i>	<i>Pledge</i>	<i>Present Position</i>
<b>Action Completed</b>		
1997	1. To deploy over 600 additional police officers in front-line operational duties in 1997-1998.	Over 600 additional front-line Police posts were created in 1997-1998.
1997	2. In 1998, to enhance the capability and credibility of our law enforcement agencies by providing funding for the expansion of the use of video-interviewing of suspects to enhance the admissibility of confession statements.	Target achieved.

- 1997 3. In 1998, to enhance the capability and credibility of our law enforcement agencies by publicising the practices and procedures of our law enforcement agencies to enable the public to understand their rights and obligations better.
- The Immigration Department and the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) have published and distributed their leaflets. The Police and Customs and Excise would also publish theirs in 1998.
- 1997 4. To step up action in 1998 to tackle the problem of juvenile crime by enhancing publicity. In 1997-1998, the central theme of the Fight Crime Publicity Campaign is "Prevention of Juvenile Involvement in Crime". The theme will be published through various channels, including TV/Radio Announcements of Public Interest, posters, and liaison with schools and other concerned parties.
- The publicity campaign is being launched.
- 1997 5. To enhance the Police's rapid response capability by improving the 999 facility through streamlining procedures and educating members of the public about making reports via the 999 service for emergency cases only.
- A publicity campaign has been launched to educate members of the public on the proper use of the 999 service. In addition, the recorded message has been cut from 24 seconds to 12 seconds when lines are busy.
- The installation of caller number display in the three 999 Police Regional Command and Control Centres was completed in August 1998.
- 1997 6. To provide additional resources in 1998 to reduce demand for drugs by providing funding support for a drug treatment and rehabilitation centre for young drug abusers.
- The centre has been put under Government subvention since 1 April 1998.

- 1997 7. To provide additional resources in 1998 to reduce demand for drugs by providing funding support for a counselling centre for young psychotropic substance abusers. A non-governmental organisation (NGO) has been selected to operate the new counselling centre for young psychotropic substance abusers. The centre commenced operation in early October 1998.
- 1997 8. In 1998, to work out an action plan to improve the rehabilitation and aftercare services for young offenders to reduce recidivism, having regard to the recommendations in the “Research on the Effectiveness of Rehabilitation Programmes for Young Offenders”. The action plan was endorsed by the Fight Crime Committee in March 1998. Implementation of the plan is underway.
- 1997 9. To introduce legislation to upgrade fire safety measures in old commercial buildings in 1998. The Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) (Amendment) Ordinance 1998, which aims to upgrade fire safety measures in old commercial buildings, was brought into operation in June 1998.
- 1997 10. To commission the second Mobile Casualty Treatment Centre by the end of 1997 to improve our ability to deal with multiple casualties incidents. The second Mobile Casualty Treatment Centre was commissioned in February 1998.
- 1997 11. To provide additional resources in 1998 to reduce demand for drugs by providing additional staff for the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and an NGO to step up preventive education for youth at risk. The additional posts for the Against Substance Abuse Scheme operated by SWD and the PS-33 operated by the Hong Kong Christian Service were created in early October 1998 to step up preventive education for youth at risk.

- 1996 12. To enhance the credibility and transparency of the Police complaints system in 1996-1997 by:
- streamlining procedures, enhancing publicity and providing additional training for Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO) staff, as recommended by an independent review; and
  - strengthening the monitoring and reviewing functions of the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC), setting performance pledges on response time and providing more details to complainants as recommended by a comparative study of police complaints systems in other countries.
- Over 40 improvement measures arising from the recommendations of the independent review and the comparative study have been implemented to enhance the transparency and credibility of the existing Police complaints system. These include : setting up a special IPCC panel to monitor serious cases on which the Council will submit its findings in a special report to the Chief Executive; setting time limits for CAPO to handle complaints and keeping the complainants informed of progress as far as possible; distributing CAPO leaflets on investigation procedures and leaflets on the IPCC at all police stations; allocating \$3 million for the IPCC to launch publicity programmes from 1997-1998 to 1999-2000; installing a “Tele-CAPO” facility to facilitate the public to lodge complaints; and ensuring that CAPO staff are trained in criminal investigation as far as practicable.
- 1995 13. To improve our fire-fighting capabilities in new towns by providing the Fire Services Department with an additional 66 posts to reinforce the staff at existing fire stations.
- All the 66 posts have been created.
- 1995 14. To provide a total of 161 posts for two new fire stations (one with ambulance facilities) which will begin operation in 1996-1997.
- All the 161 posts have been created.

- 1995 15. To reorganise the top command structure of the Police Force to reflect more accurately the Police Force's present and future responsibilities.
- The Finance Committee approved the new top command structure in February 1998. The posts have been created.

### Action in Progress : On Schedule

- 1997 16. In 1998, to enhance the capability and credibility of our law enforcement agencies by formulating legislation to provide for the taking of intimate and non-intimate samples in tackling serious crimes such as sexual offences.
- A draft Bill will be introduced into the Legislative Council in the 1998-1999 legislative session.

- 1997 17. In 1998, to reinforce the Police's capability in tackling increasingly sophisticated international syndicated and organised crimes such as money laundering, commercial fraud or counterfeiting of monetary instruments by enhancing the criminal intelligence and investigation capability of the Police through the provision of additional manpower and technological support.
- 99 additional posts were created in April 1998.
- With funding approval given by the Finance Committee in March 1998, the Police are conducting a tendering exercise to procure a new radio system to replace the one currently used by the Criminal Intelligence Bureau and Narcotics Bureau.

- 1997 18. In 1998, to improve Police capability in preventing illegal immigration into Hong Kong by continuing to maintain the integrity of our land boundary and upgrading the boundary fence and the three police divisional stations along it.
- In November 1997 the Finance Committee approved \$42 million for replacing the entire fence protection system. A tender open to suppliers worldwide will be issued towards the end of 1998 for the replacement programme to begin in 1999.

The Police Force have secured funding for minor building works to refurbish the three police divisional stations by the end of 1998.

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| 1997 | 19. | In 1998, to improve Police capability in preventing illegal immigration into Hong Kong by rationalising the command structure and establishment of the Marine Police and replacing seven old marine launches by six modern inshore patrol vessels. | The command structure and establishment of the Marine Police is being rationalised to enhance efficiency.  |
|      |     |  | New vessels are scheduled for delivery in late 1999 to 2000.   |
| 1997 | 20. | To step up action in 1998 to tackle the problem of juvenile crime by developing a comprehensive educational package for students covering crime prevention, civic responsibility, drug abuse and serious consequences of committing crimes.        | The educational package is being developed.  |
| 1997 | 21. | In 1998, to plan for a new prison complex with a maximum capacity of 1 200 penal places in the Yam O area in North Lantau to ease prison overcrowding.   | The prison project is proceeding through Town Planning Board procedures.   |
| 1997 | 22. | To negotiate a new network of bilateral agreements on transfer of sentenced persons in 1998.   | A bilateral agreement with the United Kingdom was signed in November 1997. Negotiations with a number of other jurisdictions are underway.   |
| 1997 | 23. | To establish a licensing system for karaoke establishments to improve their fire safety standards in 1998.   | A three-month period of public consultation on the licensing proposal was launched in February 1998. Having regard to the comments received, legislation for the licensing system is being prepared. |

- 1997 24. To step up inspections to commercial, residential and industrial buildings, and enforcement actions to ensure that proper fire safety precautions are taken in 1998.
- The Fire Services Department conducted a territory-wide survey of private buildings from February to April 1998. Enforcement action is being taken against non-compliance with fire safety requirements. Follow-up inspections will continue to ensure that fire safety requirements are properly complied with.
- 1997 25. To step up community awareness of and involvement in fire safety in 1998.
- A Central Steering Committee on Fire Safety was set up in March 1998 to co-ordinate the actions of various departments in promoting fire safety. A major Fire Safety Publicity Campaign 1998-1999 was launched in June 1998. Publicity programmes will continue throughout the year.
- 1997 26. To continue to improve the performance of the Ambulance Service in responding to emergency calls. To upgrade the ability of ambulance crews to deal with cardiac conditions by equipping all ambulances with automatic external defibrillators in early 1998.
- All ambulances were equipped with automatic external defibrillators in March 1998.
- Additional staff, ambulances and Ambulance Aid Motorcycles are being put into service in phases to improve the performance of the Ambulance Service in responding to emergency calls.
- 1997 27. To embark on a phased programme to acquire eight new helicopters for the Government Flying Service to replace its existing fleet in order to enhance its capability, efficiency and operational flexibility in supporting anti-smuggling, anti-illegal immigration, fire-fighting, air ambulance, and sea/air search and rescue operations.
- Funds have been secured and the tender exercise for replacement of the existing fleet has commenced. The programme is progressing in accordance with the replacement timetable.

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| 1996 | 28. | In 1998, to complete Phase I of the Stanley Prison redevelopment to provide 200 additional places. 500 additional places will be provided by 1999 under Phase II of the project. | Phase I of the Stanley Prison redevelopment was completed in January 1998. Redevelopment works under Phase II are progressing on schedule. |
| 1996 | 29. | To plan the redevelopment of the Tai Lam Correctional Institution so as to provide 260 new places.   | Construction work commenced in May 1998 and has been progressing on schedule.  |
| 1996 | 30. | To identify sites for new penal institutions to accommodate up to 3 000 additional places, and to take a decision on the way forward in early 1997.                              | The prison building project at Yam O is proceeding through the Town Planning Board procedures.   |

#### Action in Progress : Under Review

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| 1996 | 31. | To enhance the credibility and transparency of the Police complaints system in 1996-1997 by enacting the IPCC Bill. | We are reviewing whether, when and in what form the IPCC Bill will be introduced. Meanwhile, we will continue to implement measures to enhance the transparency and credibility of the Police complaints system. Over 40 improvement measures have been implemented since 1996. |
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#### Action in Progress : Behind Schedule

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| 1995 | 32. | To provide additional resources for drug demand reduction by setting up two additional residential treatment centres for young opiate abusers. | Renovation of one of the centres started in June 1998. The work is scheduled for completion in early 1999. A suitable site for the other centre is under consideration. |
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Good progress has been made with the following commitments in the past year. We will continue to work on them on an on-going basis.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pledge</i>
1997	33. To continue to improve the quality of our Police service in 1998, for example, by producing a structured community involvement strategy, and providing a more friendly and pleasant environment in public areas of Police stations.
1997	34. In 1998, to reinforce the Police's capability in tackling increasingly sophisticated international syndicated and organised crimes such as money laundering, commercial fraud or counterfeiting of monetary instruments by increasing co-operation and liaison with other jurisdictions through the Interpol and other channels.
1997	35. In 1998, to reinforce the Police's capability in tackling increasingly sophisticated international syndicated and organised crimes such as money laundering, commercial fraud or counterfeiting of monetary instrument by expanding the existing network of co-operation with key countries by negotiating and concluding more bilateral agreements on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and surrender of fugitive offenders.
1997	36. In 1998, to improve Police capability in preventing illegal immigration into Hong Kong by maintaining the closed area south of the boundary to give our security forces an effective buffer zone to operate against illegal immigration, smuggling and other trans-boundary crimes.
1997	37. In 1998, to improve Police capability in preventing illegal immigration into Hong Kong by enhancing the close liaison with the Guangdong security authorities in terms of exchanges of intelligence, joint-exercises, co-ordinated operations and publicity campaigns to deter, prevent and take actions against any influx of illegal immigrants on our respective sides of the boundary.
1996	38. To strengthen public confidence in the Police Force by fostering a service culture through service quality projects, including providing better facilities and streamlining procedures in report rooms and in other areas of contact with the public.
1996	39. To strengthen public confidence in the Police Force by formulating and publicising the Police Force's own clearly defined organisational objectives.
1996	40. To strengthen public confidence in the Police Force by developing and implementing a Force Anti-Corruption Strategy, including the promulgation of a code of ethics, promotion of the concept of a healthy lifestyle among police officers and stepping up anti-corruption education and liaison with the ICAC.

<b>Immigration Control</b>
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<i>Year</i>	<i>Pledge</i>	<i>Present Position</i>
<b>Action Completed</b>		
1997	1. To provide adequate staff for immigration clearance at the new airport at Chek Lap Kok to cope with the increase in passenger volume.	Additional staff have been provided at Chek Lap Kok to ensure effective immigration clearance.
1997	2. To implement a Travel Pass Scheme to facilitate the immigration clearance of frequent visitors to Hong Kong.	The Scheme was implemented in January 1998.
1997	3. To participate in the APEC Business Travel Card Scheme.	Relevant legislation was passed in January 1998. We have participated in the APEC Business Travel Card Trial Scheme which is currently conducted on a trial-run basis.
1997	4. To conduct a consultancy study to improve the efficiency of immigration clearance for travellers at the Macau Ferry Terminal and China Ferry Terminal.	The consultancy study commenced in September 1997. A report was issued in April 1998.
1997	5. To conduct an overall policy review in relation to Vietnamese migrants (VMs) / Vietnamese refugees (VRs) / Vietnamese illegal immigrants (VIIs).	The overall policy review was completed and a package of measures was announced in January 1998 to deal with the remaining VM/VR/VII problem.
1997	6. To pursue arrangements with the Vietnamese authorities to secure a faster pace of repatriation of VIIs.	Speedy repatriation of VIIs is achieved under the Vietnamese Government interview team arrangement whereby the Vietnamese officials come to Hong Kong to verify the identity of Vietnamese arrivals. The arrangement has been in place since February 1998.

### Action in Progress : On Schedule

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| 1997 | 7. | To seek the Vietnamese Government's assistance in returning 800 non-refugees who arrived at times of the Comprehensive Plan of Action.  | Some 160 non-refugees have been repatriated since October 1997, and we shall continue to pursue the return of the remaining cases.   |
| 1997 | 8. | To press the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the international community to work harder on the resettlement of the remaining 1 300 Vietnamese refugees. | About 230 refugees have been resettled since October 1997, and we shall continue to press the UNHCR to strive for more resettlement opportunities for the remaining cases. |
| 1997 | 9. | To continue to press the UNHCR to repay the debt owed to Hong Kong.   | A repayment of US\$0.5 million was made by the UNHCR during the period, and we will continue to press the UNHCR to raise funds to reimburse Hong Kong.                     |