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For Immediate Release

## **Competition Commission launches “Report Anti-competitive Conduct” Campaign**

The Competition Commission (Commission) kicks off its "Report Anti-competitive Conduct" Campaign (Campaign) today to encourage the community to report suspected anti-competitive practices to the Commission and address common concerns that businesses and the public may have in coming forward to file a complaint.

Since the full commencement of the Competition Ordinance (Ordinance) in December 2015, the Commission has received and processed around 3,800 complaints and enquiries. Among them, over 200 complaints have been escalated to the initial assessment phase, of which 18% have proceeded to in-depth investigation.

Anti-competitive practices, in particular cartels, are secretive in nature. Complaints and queries from businesses and the public are important sources for the Commission to identify possible contraventions. Over the years, the Commission has encountered situations where victims of suspected anti-competitive practices were reluctant to lodge a complaint, and in other circumstances businesses or members of the public have approached the Commission regarding potential contraventions but were hesitant to provide further information.

Mr. Rasul Butt, Senior Executive Director of the Commission, said, “To ensure that the Commission can effectively discharge its duty as the principal competition law enforcement authority in Hong Kong, businesses and consumers have a key role to play in reporting suspected anti-competitive conduct to the Commission.”

“As a matter of fact, all of the four cases before the Competition Tribunal so far were discovered as a result of direct complaints from victims of cartel conduct or members of the public, of which the first two cases have already been ruled by the Competition Tribunal in favour of the Commission. This is a solid testimony to the importance and effectiveness of reporting and together we can stop these illegal practices, safeguarding a level-playing field for everyone in Hong Kong.”

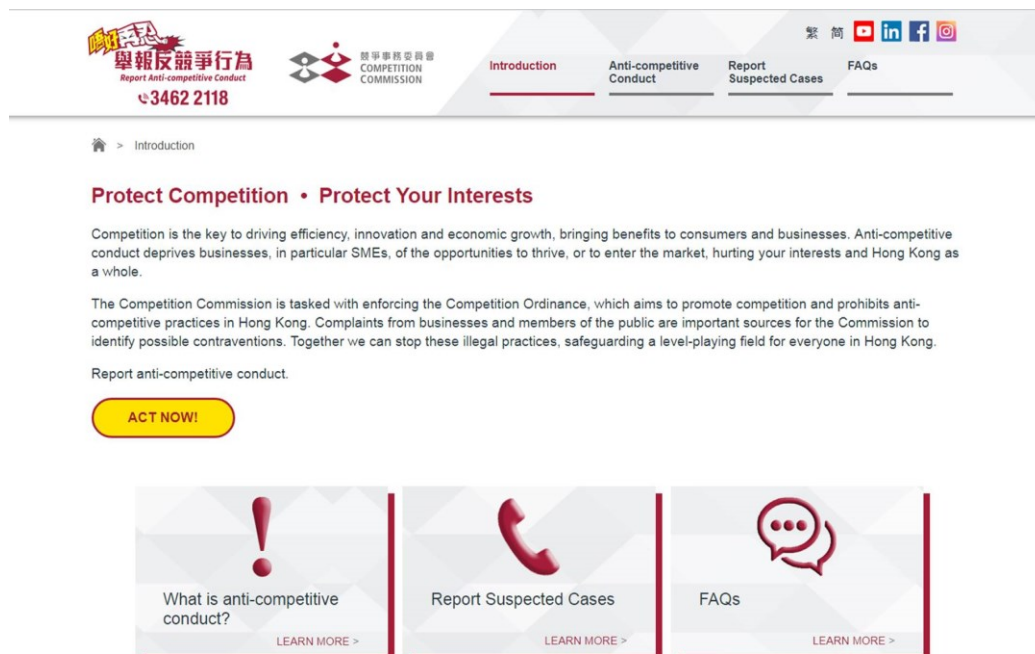
“The Commission is launching the ‘Report Anti-competitive Conduct’ campaign today to encourage members of the public in particular victims of such conduct and whistle-blowers, to report suspected cases to us. Through our advocacy efforts, we also hope to address and alleviate the concerns and doubts that they may have in coming forward to lodge a complaint. The Commission will seek to protect the identity of complainants, and we will endeavour to facilitate the process by which they could provide information and evidence to the Commission efficiently and effectively.”

In addition to the premiere of a new set of TV and radio announcements, the Commission also launched a mini-website ([www.compcomm.hk/reporting/en](http://www.compcomm.hk/reporting/en)) today with useful and practical information in identifying anti-competitive conduct as well as to provide more clarity and transparency on how complaints will be handled by the Commission. The website also features frequently asked questions to address common queries in filing complaints with the Commission. These advocacy initiatives are supported by an extensive campaign on outdoor, online and social media platforms, reaching a wide spectrum of audience across Hong Kong.

Photo captions:



The Commission kicks off its "Report Anti-competitive Conduct" Campaign today.



Mini-website of the "Report Anti-competitive Conduct" Campaign