20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family campaign ends (with photos) *****

The following is issued on behalf of the Family Council:

A closing ceremony for the "20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family" campaign was jointly held today (December 26) by the Family Council, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the Social Welfare Department (SWD), the Consortium of Institutes on Family in the Asian Region (CIFA), the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) and Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium.

The Chairman of the Family Council, Professor Daniel Shek, said the musical show staged at the closing ceremony was very meaningful. He said it was hoped the show would promote filial piety and the importance of family core values through the performance of young talents.

Professor Shek also encouraged members of the public to cherish the time spent with family members during the festive season.

2014 marks the 20th anniversary of the International Year of the Family (IYF). For the 20th anniversary of the IYF the United Nations focused on family-oriented policies and strategies which aimed to (a) alleviate family poverty; (b) ensure a work-family balance; and (c) advance social integration and intergenerational solidarity.

To celebrate the IYF's 20th anniversary, the Family Council joined with the HAB, SWD, CIFA and HKCSS during the past year to launch a series of territory-wide publicity programmes and a Family Symposium to raise public awareness of family-related issues, enhance intergenerational solidarity and promote the balance between work and family.

Other officiating guests at the ceremony were the Acting

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs, Ms Gracie Foo; the Assistant Director of Social Welfare, Mr Fung Man-chung; the Chairperson of the CIFA, Mrs Patricia Chu; the Business Director of HKCSS, Mr Cliff Choi; and the Assistant Director of RTHK, Ms Lisa Liu.

Ends/Friday, December 26, 2014 Issued at HKT 17:08

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