

Article 22: Freedom of association

Societies Ordinance (Cap. 151)

139. As reported in the previous report, there has been a healthy growth in the number of societies. The number of societies which have either been registered or been exempted from registration since the establishment of the HKSAR reached over 38 900 by 31 August 2017.

Regulation of trade union activities

140. The position remains as explained in paragraphs 120 to 126 of Part II of the initial report of the HKSAR under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) in relation to Article 8 of that Covenant. The number and membership of trade unions are set out at **Annex 22A**.

Organisations for the promotion of human rights

141. The position continues to remain as explained in paragraphs 401 to 404 of Part II of the initial report. The list at **Annex 22B** updates the same Annex in the previous report.