

## Appendix

### **Case – Television Programme “6:00 News” (六點鐘新聞) broadcast on the Home and Asia Channels of Asia Television Limited (“ATV”) on 2 September 2014 at 6:00pm – 6:45pm**

34 members of the public complained that footage of a protest staged by members of another group was broadcast in the news item regarding the arrest of a different group of protesters in Wan Chai on 1 September 2014, which was misleading and unfair to the latter.

#### **The CA’s Findings**

In line with the established practice, the CA considered the complaint case and the representations of ATV in detail. The CA took into account the relevant aspects of the case, including the following –

##### *Details of the Case*

- (a) the concerned news item focused entirely on the arrest of a specified group of protesters for their demonstration activity on 1 September 2014 outside a hotel in Wan Chai;
- (b) footage of certain protesters pushing off mills barriers was shown; and
- (c) ATV submitted that the protesters shown in the concerned footage were from a different group.

***Relevant Provisions in the Generic Code of Practice on Television Programme Standards (“TV Programme Code”)***

- (a) paragraph 1A of Chapter 9 - a licensee should make reasonable efforts to ensure that the factual contents of news are accurate; and
- (b) paragraph 7(b) of Chapter 9 – the pictorial representation of news should be carefully selected to ensure fairness and should not be misleading or sensational.

**The CA’s Considerations**

Having regard to the relevant facts of the case, the CA considered that-

- (a) ATV had not made reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of the concerned news report by using the footage of a protest staged by a different group of protesters; and
- (b) in the concerned footage, the name of the different group of protesters was barely identifiable while the shots of protesters pushing off mills barriers were prominent. Viewers would likely be misled that the protesters in the footage, who were condemned by the Police in the concerned news reports, were members of the specified group of protesters demonstrating on 1 September 2014. Such a pictorial presentation was misleading and could be unfair to the specified group and the persons featured in the footage.

## **Decision**

In view of the above and taking into account that the concerned footage was removed in the subsequent news report, the CA decided that ATV should be **advised** to observe more closely paragraphs 1A and 7(b) of Chapter 9 of the TV Programme Code.