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Sub Judice Reminder on Public Comments for and against the "repeal" of section 377A, Penal Code

- 1. Various comments have been made in public, both for and against the 'repeal' of section 377A, Penal Code, which makes it an offence for a male person to commit an act of gross indecency with another male person.
- 2. The issue of the constitutionality of section 377A is before the High Court in two cases. When the cases are heard, the arguments relating to the constitutionality issue will be fully aired in Court. Meanwhile, we would remind all parties that statements made by members of the public would be *sub judice* contempt, if the statements are calculated to affect the minds of the courts hearing the case, the minds of parties who are concerned in the case itself, or if they amount to public pre-judgment of the case, and there is a real risk of prejudice.
- 3. All parties are therefore advised to refrain from making any public comments on these matters that are *sub judice*, pending final determination by the courts.
- 4. The Attorney-General's Chambers takes a serious view of any statements which are *sub judice* and will, if necessary, act to protect the integrity of the administration of justice.

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