

Letterhead of Authors' Licensing & Collecting Society Ltd

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Mr TUNG Chee Hwa
Chief Executive
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of
The People's Republic of China
5/F Central Government offices, Main Wing
Lower Albert Road
HONG KONG

*protecting and promoting
authors' rights*

9 May 2001

Dear Sir

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS)
ORDINANCE 2000**

I write to you as Chief Executive of the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society Limited, the UK collecting society for UK writers of all genres to express the grave concern of UK writers at the proposed amendments to the Intellectual Property Ordinance 2000 in relation to reproduction rights in newspapers, magazines periodicals and books.

ALCS fully endorses the letter of Stephanie Faulkner, the Secretary General of IFRRO dated 18 April 2001, which was sent on behalf of the membership of IFRRO, and of which ALCS is an Associate Member, to emphasise our anxiety at the damage to regional copyright enforcement that such an amendment would bring to the Asia-Pacific region. The region looks to an information hub such as Hong Kong for leadership in the area of intellectual property and, on behalf of writers worldwide, we respectfully and sincerely request the urgent reconsideration of the proposed amendment that may threaten the livelihood of writers.

A healthy society depends on writers who contribute to the cultural life and scholarship of that society. In return, they should expect to receive adequate protection of their intellectual property rights. Without writers, society would be intellectually the poorer.

Yours faithfully

Dafydd Wyn Phillips
Chief Executive

copy: Hon Mrs Rita FAN HSU, GBS, JP, President Legislative Council
Hon Mr Kenneth TING Woo-shu, JP, Chairman, Panel on Commerce & Industry
Mr Chau, Secretary For Commerce and Industry
Members of the Legislative Council
Mr Andrew K P Leung, Director-General, HK Trade Office, London