

23 November 2000

The Hon Mrs Selina Chow Liang Suk-ye, JP
Chairman
Legislative Council House Committee
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
HONG KONG

Dear Madame Chairman,

The Chief Executive has asked me to thank you for your letter of 1 November 2000 and to reply on his behalf.

The Chief Executive fully appreciates the public's interest in his trips, be they to Beijing or to overseas countries. He has therefore made it a practice to brief the media, and therefore the community at large, at the first opportunity after each of his trips. Having given an account of his recent visits to Beijing and London immediately upon his return to Hong Kong, the Chief Executive does not see a particular need for an additional separate session with Members.

As always, the Chief Executive would be pleased to answer questions which Members may have with regard to any of his visits and/or, indeed any issue of public interest. The Chief Executive feels that such exchanges could take place any time and do not necessarily have to be confined to within the LegCo Chamber.

Yours sincerely,

(Richard Yuen)
Private Secretary to Chief Executive

CB2/H/3
2537 2415
2810 9099

1 November 2000

The Honourable TUNG Chee-hwa
The Chief Executive of the
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China
Chief Executive's Office
Hong Kong

Visits to Beijing and London

On behalf of the House Committee, I write to invite you to attend a meeting of the Legislative Council to brief Members on your visits to Beijing and London, and to answer their questions.

Perhaps your visit to London could not have been made at a more opportune time in view of some of the comments made in the Report to the European Parliament on the First and Second Annual Reports by the European Commission on the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong. We would like to know more about your various meetings with the British Prime Minister, other senior members of the British Government and business leaders. There are probably other aspects of the visit that you may wish to talk to us about.

At the House Committee meeting on 27 October 2000, Members agreed to invite you to attend a meeting of the Legislative Council to give a briefing on your official visit to London as well as your duty visit to Beijing last week. Your meetings with President JIANG Zemin, Premier ZHU Rongji and Vice-Premier Qian Qichen have given rise to much public interest and attention. We wish to

know what was discussed at your meetings with the leaders of the Central Government and to put questions to you on your visit.

We hope that you would be agreeable to attend a meeting of the Legislative Council to brief us on your visits to Beijing and London. We believe that such briefings by you and other senior officials will not only improve communication between the Administration and the Legislative Council, but also enhance the Administration's accountability.

We look forward to your favourable reply.

(Selina CHOW LIANG Suk-ye)
Chairman
Legislative Council House Committee