

Ref : CSO/ADM CR 6/581/91

20 October 2000

The Hon Li Wah Ming  
Deputy Chairman of the House Committee  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

**Briefing for the Legislative Council  
by the CE, the CS, the FS and the SJ  
on their official visits to Beijing and  
other important overseas visits**

At our last regular meeting on 16 October, you conveyed the wish of Honourable Members to further enhance the communication between the Administration and the Legislature, and for the Chief Executive, the Financial Secretary, the Secretary for Justice and myself to brief the Legislature after our official visits to Beijing and other important overseas trips. I promised to revert to you in writing.

I have consulted the Chief Executive and my senior colleagues. While we are always happy to explore opportunities for enhancing communication between the Administration and the Legislature, we do not feel that a standing arrangement for us to brief the Council on each and every occasion when we visit Beijing and other overseas countries is necessarily the most effective way to achieve our common objective. In our view, whether there is a need to do so should be judged on a case by case basis. I understand that this view is also shared by some Honourable Members.

That said, we will, as in the past, seek to meet with Members and/or brief the Council when there is something particular to report after these official visits. Also, my other senior colleagues will continue to be happy to brief Members on developments on specific subjects under their respective portfolio which may, from time to time, be discussed during some of these visits.

(Mrs Anson Chan)  
Chief Secretary for Administration