

(English translation prepared
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(Letterhead of the Democratic Alliance for Betterment of Hong Kong)

16 October 2000

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, JP
Chairman of the House Committee
Legislative Council
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mrs CHOW,

**Discussion on proposals to increase the number of meetings
between Members of the Legislative Council and
members of the 18 District Councils and
to set up a mechanism for
meeting and liaising with members of the Heung Yee Kuk**

District Councils (DCs) form a vital part of the constitutional framework of Hong Kong. With the dissolution of the Municipal Councils, DCs are the advisory bodies which best understand the development needs of their districts, and DC members are representatives of public opinion who have the most extensive contacts with the grass roots. Given that increased communication between the Legislative Council (LegCo) and DCs will enable LegCo Members to have a better grasp of the development needs of various districts, and in view of the fact that, during their contacts with DC members, LegCo Members of the Democratic Alliance for Betterment of Hong Kong (DAB) have learnt that most DC members would like to have more meetings with LegCo Members and since complaint cases referred to LegCo Members for follow-up through such meetings are more effectively and promptly dealt with, **the DAB proposes that the number of meetings between LegCo Members and members of each of the 18 DCs be increased from one to two in each session.**

On the other hand, under Cap. 1097 of the Laws of Hong Kong, the Heung Yee Kuk serves as a statutory advisory body to the Government on New Territories affairs as well as an organization representative of the interests and rights of residents in the New Territories. In this connection, the LegCo should also establish a mechanism for meetings to be held between LegCo Members and members of the Heung Yee Kuk to enhance communication between the two. This will enable LegCo Members to keep abreast of the latest developments in

the New Territories as well as to understand the wishes and conditions of the local residents. **The DAB therefore proposes that a mechanism be set up for LegCo Members to meet members of the Heung Yee Kuk once in each session.**

Please include this matter in the agenda for discussion of the House Committee. With best regards,

TSANG Suk-yee
Members' Assistant

for Hon IP Kwok-him and Hon YEUNG Yiu-chung
Legislative Councillors of the DAB