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LC Paper No. CB(2)1809/00-01(01)
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來函檔號 Your Ref: CB2/PL/AJLS
電話號碼 Tel. No.: (852)2867 2003

12 June 2001

By Fax and By Post [2509 9055]

Mrs Percy Ma
Clerk to Panel on Administration of Justice
and Legal Services
Legislative Council Secretariat
3/F, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong

Dear Mrs Ma,

**LegCo Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services
Meeting on 26 June 2001**

Thank you for your letter of 11 June 2001.

I note that my attendance at the Panel meeting on 26 June (in respect of the Review of Legal Education) would be welcomed. As I will not be in Hong Kong on that date, the Secretary of the Steering Committee, Ms Margaret Hill, and my colleague Mr Paul Tsang, have kindly agreed to attend instead. I hope that this is acceptable.

I note also that the Panel intends to hold a meeting in mid-July to discuss the Final Report. I would, however, point out that members of the Steering Committee have agreed not to discuss the contents of the Final Report until it is published. Since parts of the Report will need to be translated, and the whole Report printed, it may not be published by mid-July. I would add that it is unlikely that any meaningful discussion of the Report can take place until discussants have had enough time to read and digest it. The Report is expected to be over 300 pages in length. Organizations may also wish to consult their members before taking any position on the recommendations.

I would like to assure the Panel that there is no prospect of any action being taken in respect of the Report in the immediate future.

The Steering Committee has agreed that at least 3 months should elapse after the publication of the Report before it considers how to deal with the Second Stage of the Review. This will give everyone concerned, and members of the public, time to reflect and make their views known.

If the Steering Committee is unable to brief the Panel in July, I undertake that it will consult the Panel before it decides on the Second Stage of the Review.

Yours sincerely,

(Bob Allcock)
Solicitor General

c.c. Ms Margaret Hill) – with copy of the Panel’s letter
Mr Paul Tsang)