LETTERHEAD OF THE LAWSOCIETY OF HONG KONG

LC Paper No. CB(2)456/01-02(01)

Practitioners Affairs

Our Ref : CL0010/01/53877 Your Ref : CB2/PL/AJLS

Direct Line:

2November, 2001

Mrs. Percy Ma Clerk to Panel Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road, Central Hong Kong

Dear Mrs. Ma,

Re: LegCo Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services
Proposed review of section 18(3) of the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal
Ordinance

I refer to your letter dated 18 October 2001 addressed to the Secretary General and I have been asked to send a reply on his behalf.

The Law Society has reviewed the Administration's paper: LC Paper No. CB(2)2297/00-01(02) and agrees with the Administration's view that there are "no sound reasons" for providing an appeal against the decision of the Appeal Committee. The procedure used is identical to an application for leave to appeal to the House of Lords (previously the Privy Council) where 3 law lords sieve out unmeritorious appeals. The Law Society can see no justification for introducing yet another level of appeal.

Yours sincerely,

Joyce Wong Director of Practitioners Affairs e-mail:dpa@hklawsoc.org.hk