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29 July 2002

Miss Flora Tai
Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Tai,

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs held on 14 June 2002, Members asked the Administration to provide statistics on indigenous inhabitants.

According to an informal survey conducted by the Home Affairs Department in 1999 (based on information obtained from village representatives and elders), there were about 700 villages included in the village representation system in the New Territories, with a population of about 464,000. Of this total, there were about 240,000 indigenous and 224,000 non-indigenous inhabitants. Of the indigenous population, it was estimated that some 54,000 indigenous inhabitants were living in Hong Kong outside villages in the New Territories and some 70,000 were living overseas.

Yours sincerely,

(Stephen Fisher)
for Secretary for Home Affairs

c.c. Director of Home Affairs
(Attn.: Miss Monica Chen)