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5 May 2003

Clerk to Panel on Security
LegCo Secretariat
3/F, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Doris Chan)

Dear Ms Chan,

Panel on Security
Categorization of views of organization and individuals
on specific proposals to implement Article 23 of the Basic Law

Thank you for your letter of 17 April 2003 attaching a joint submission from Hon Emily LAU and Hon LEE Cheuk-yan regarding the above.

We are grateful for the suggestions put forward in the above mentioned submission, but consider it inappropriate to proceed with further categorization.

We note that the ideas raised in paragraph 3 of the submission have gone way beyond the scope of the original request made in the joint panel. As a matter of fact, taking into account public views expressed, we have already introduced the National Security (Legislative Provisions) Bill into LegCo and intensive examination is currently taking place in the Bills Committee. We are of the view that efforts should focus on the on-going deliberations, rather than embarking on a separate exercise to deal with issues raised in the earlier Consultation Document.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Johann Wong)
for Secretary for Security