

Facsimile Transmission

To : Ms Mary So  
Clerk to Panel  
Panel on Health Services  
Legislative Council

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c.c. : Ms Eunice Chiu  
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From : Peter C. H. Tam                      Date : 22 October 2002

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**Panel on Health Services**  
**Special Meeting on 25 October 2002**

Thank you for your letter of 30 September 2002 inviting us to attend the Special Meeting above.

We are aware of the different findings of a number of surveys commissioned by the various parties in connection with the proposed smoking ban in catering establishments. While the Tobacco Institute does not have the required expertise to contribute much to the debate about the validity of the respective research findings, we hope that all of us can look at the relevant economic impact issues with an open mind and avoid dismissing out of hand the genuine concerns raised by the catering industry.

We are of the view in this regard that any such discussions in the future should take fully into account the related findings and conclusions contained in the ERM study report.

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For details regarding the position of our member companies on this subject, you may wish to visit the relevant web-sites listed below:

PMAL : [www.philipmorris.com](http://www.philipmorris.com)

BAT : [www.bat.com](http://www.bat.com)

JTI : [www.jti.com](http://www.jti.com)

Peter C H Tam  
Executive Director

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