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4 November 2002

Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands
(Attn: Mr Parrish NG)
Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau
9th Floor, Murray Building
Garden Road
Hong Kong

Dear Mr NG,

**LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works
Meeting on 8 November 2002**

**Agenda Item IV
Removal of Stopped Deeds
- proposed amendments to Land Registration Regulations**

As directed by Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong, Chairman of the Panel, I write to seek clarification from the Administration on paragraphs 7 and 8 of the paper provided by the Administration for Agenda Item IV of the Panel meeting on 8 November 2002.

The Chairman notes that the Hong Kong Bar Association and the Department of Justice hold different views on whether the removal of stopped deeds is within or outside the scope of section 28 of the Land Registration Ordinance (LRO) (Cap. 128). As the issue has significant bearing on whether the legislative proposals should be effected through amendments to the principal ordinance or amendments to the regulations, the Chairman considers it essential for the Administration to provide more detailed information on the views of both sides for the Panel's consideration, including:

- (a) the justifications put forward by the Hong Kong Bar Association to substantiate its view that the removal of stopped deeds is outside the scope of section 28 of LRO; and
- (b) the justifications put forward by the Department of Justice to substantiate its view that the removal of stopped deeds is within the

scope of section 28 of LRO. Please specify the relevant subsection.

I should be grateful if you would let me have the required information (in both Chinese and English) **by 6 November 2002** for timely circulation to members before the meeting. Please forward the soft copy of the information to Miss May LEUNG at mleung@legco.gov.hk.

If the Administration needs more time to compile the required information, please inform me in writing **by 5:00 pm, 5 November 2002**. The Chairman will then decide whether the item should be deferred to a future meeting.

Please note that unless you raise objection, the information provided will be made available to the media and public and placed in the Library of the Legislative Council. It may also be made available on the Web Site of the Council on the Internet.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Salumi CHAN)
Clerk to Panel

c.c. Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong, JP (Chairman)

Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Mr Oscar WONG, HPLB (Fax: 2522 4457)