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18th March 2004

by fax and post (fax no. 2509 9055)

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

URGENT

Dear Mrs. Ma.

Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services Meeting on 22nd March 2004 at 4:30 p.m.

Thank you for your letter dated 25th February. As confirmed to Mr. Paul Woo yesterday, the Law Society will not be sending a representative to the meeting on 22nd March.

However, we have noted with interest the paper provided by the Department of Justice in relation to item IV. As members of the Panel may be aware, the Law Society has a professional development programme which involves exchanges of qualified personnel between law firms in Hong Kong and in the Mainland on a structured basis and also has entered into mutual co-operation agreements with a number of cities and professions in the Mainland. We would be happy to attend a future Panel meeting to discuss steps that we have taken and to indicate to the Panel how the Administration may further assist in the promotion of legal services in the Mainland and in particular the Pearl River Delta. If this would be helpful to the Panel, please let me know so that I may make the necessary arrangements in due course.

Patrick Moss Secretary General

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President

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