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17 June 2004

*(By fax: 2509 9055)*

Mrs Percy Ma  
Clerk to LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs  
Legislative Council  
3/F Citibank Tower  
3 Garden Road, Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Mrs Ma,

**LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs  
Meeting on 17 May 2004**

At the meeting of the LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs held on 17 May 2004, the Hon Audrey Eu enquired why there was some difference between the number of registered electors in certain functional constituencies (FCs) and the number of registered voters in their corresponding Election Committee (EC) subsectors. She asked why, as an example, the number of registered electors in the Accountancy FC was slightly more than the number of registered voters in the Accountancy EC subsector. We undertook to request the Registration and Electoral Office to provide an explanation.

Generally speaking, the number of registered electors in a particular FC is more or less the same as the number of registered voters in its corresponding EC subsector. This is because the Chief Executive Election Ordinance provides that a person who is registered as an elector for a FC should be registered as a voter in the EC subsector having the same name of that FC except for some special cases. These cases of exception are elaborated below.

- (a) The Hong Kong Chinese Enterprises Association subsector, the Employers' Federation of Hong Kong subsector, the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference subsector and the Chinese Medicine subsector are subsectors without an

equivalent FC. Under section 12(10)(c) of the Schedule to the Chief Executive Election Ordinance (Cap. 569), if an elector of a particular FC is also eligible to be registered as a voter in any one of the above four subsectors, he may choose to register in either that subsector or in the corresponding subsector of the FC concerned. As a result, the number of registered electors in a FC may differ from the number of registered voters in its corresponding EC subsector;

- (b) both the Education FC and the Tourism FC have two corresponding EC subsectors instead of one. The Education FC is split into the Education subsector and the Higher Education subsector, while the Tourism FC is split into the Tourism subsector and the Hotel subsector. This explains why the Education subsector and the Tourism subsector have fewer registered electors than the Education FC and the Tourism FC respectively; and
- (c) though the Social Welfare FC and the Social Welfare subsector have an identical name, they have different compositions. The former includes individual electors only, whereas the latter includes an additional group of corporate voters.

The case of the Accountancy FC falls under scenario (a). Among the 13,151 registered electors for that FC on the 2003 Final Register, one has chosen to be registered in the Chinese Medicine subsector and another in the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference subsector. Thus, there are only 13,149 registered voters for the Accountancy subsector on the 2003 Final Register.

Yours sincerely,

( Miss May Chan )  
for Secretary for Constitutional Affairs

c.c. CEO/REO (Attn: Mr Li Wing)