

15 December 2003

Mrs Percy MA
Clerk to Panel on Constitutional Affairs
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Mrs MA,

**Follow-up to Special Meeting on 8.12.2003
Appointed Membership of DCs**

With reference to your letter dated 9.12.2003 to the Secretary for Constitutional Affairs and copied to us, I set out our response to (a)-(e) as follows -

- (a) Home Affairs Bureau and Home Affairs Department have received various recommendations from individuals and organisations, including political parties, for appointment as members of the second term DCs. These recommendations were forwarded to Government in confidence and in good faith. It would not be appropriate for us to disclose such information to third parties.
- (b) Eight DC members appointed in the first term stood for the 2003 DC Election. Three of them declared that they were members of the Democratic Alliance for Betterment of Hong Kong, one declared that he was a Liberal Party member, and the other four declared that they were independents. Out of the eight, three have been elected in the 2003 DC Election.

- (c) Similar to (a) above, it would be inappropriate for us to disclose to third parties how many first term DC members who had no declared political affiliations were recommended by political parties for appointment as DC members.
 - (d) Of the appointed members of the first term DCs in 1999, two were members of the 9th National People's Congress (from 1998 to 2002) and one was a member of the 9th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (from 1998 to 2002).
 - (e) The Chief Executive did not appoint anybody who failed in the 1999 DC Election as first term DC members.
2. The Chinese translation will be forwarded to you separately.

Yours sincerely

(LEE Kam-chung)
for Director of Home Affairs

c.c. SCA
PSHA
AA/SHA