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3 October 2005

Chairman

Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health)

Amendment Bill 2005

Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road, Central

Hong Kong

Dear Sir.

Oral Representation on 6 October 2005

We act for Japan Tobacco Inc. and refer to the letters sent to us from Ms. Doris Chan, Clerk to Bills Committee, dated 27 September 2005 and 29 September 2005.

We advise that the 3-minutes standard time allocation for the oral representation is clearly insufficient for our case. As mentioned in our letters to you dated 13 June 2005 and 2 September 2005, our client has substantial and complex legal issues to bring to the attention of the Bills Committee relating to the proposed descriptor ban in the Bill. It is for this reason that our client has sought counsel representation by Mr. Michael Thomas QC and Ms. Winnie Tam of Counsel, who will be making the oral representation.

Furthermore, our client wishes to bring to the Bills Committee's attention certain issues and concerns faced by them uniquely, which the Bills Committee would not be able to hear from other organisations making oral representation. These are specific issues concerning one of the most valuable brands of cigarettes owned by our client, namely *Mild Seven*.

We appreciate that 3-minutes is the standard time slot for oral representations, but stress that our case on descriptors is unique and complex. As a result, the Bills Committee may require some additional background information from us in order to fully comprehend our case.

ANDREW J.L. AGLIONBY BRIAN BARRON ELSA S.C. CHAN BLOWER, CHAN BARRY WM. CHENG MILTON CHENG MEDICA CHENG PEGGY P.Y. CHELING CHEUNG YUK-TONG STEPHEN R. ENO* DAVID FLEMING GEORGE PORRAM GRAEME R. HALFORD WILLIAM KUD HARVEY LAU ANGELA W.Y. LEE*? LAWSENCE LEE MANCY LEIGH ANITA PF. SEUNG CHEUK YAN LEING ET CHEUK YAN LEING ACHEL O ANDREW W. LOCKHART LOO SHIH YARM JASON NG

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In the interest of fairness, we will ask only for 20 minutes in total for our oral representation (as opposed to the 45 minutes to an hour requested in our previous letter). We are of the view that 20-minutes is the absolute minimum time that will be adequate for our case.

Please confirm urgently that our request above is in order. Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

Baker & McKenzie