

WKCD-558

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23 May 2008

Secretary for Home Affairs
(Attn: Mr Danny LAU)
Home Affairs Bureau
25/F Wan Chai Tower
12 Harbour Road
Wan Chai
Hong Kong

Dear Mr LAU,

Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural District Development

Mega Performance Venue

The large performance venue originally included in the IFP was one with 10 000 seats. PATAG recommends that it should be enlarged to a mega performance venue with a maximum seating capacity of 15 000 with flexible seating configuration to allow the venue to be converted into smaller seating capacity to meet the requirement of hirers. According to PATAG's report, this recommendation has taken into account the high demand for a venue of about 5 000 seats, but it may not be acoustically and technically feasible to build a venue which can be converted into two smaller size venues for performances to be held at the same time. The Consultative Committee has endorsed the recommendation.

To facilitate our drafting of the Subcommittee's Phase III Report, it would be helpful if you can provide us **on or before 29 May 2008** with the following information or point to us any relevant sections in the reports of the Consultative Committee or its advisory groups which have provided such information --

- (a) What are the justifications for the substantial increase (50%) in the capacity of the performance venue; and

- (b) Whether the rental for the hiring of a smaller performance venue converted from a longer venue would be correspondingly reduced according to the present charging policy? If there is a reduction, how the different seating configurations required by hirers would affect the financial assessment made on the projected income given in the Financial Adviser's Report?

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Anita SIT)
Clerk to Subcommittee

cc Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC (Chairman)