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26 July 2005

The Honourable Donald Tsang, GBM
The Chief Executive
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
People's Republic of China
Chief Executive's Office
Hong Kong

Expert Panel on Financial Security in Old Age

As you may be aware, a subcommittee was formed under the House Committee to study the subject of combating poverty.

When discussing the subject of "Social security system for retirement protection" at its meeting on 21 July 2005, the Subcommittee noted that an Expert Panel on Financial Security in Old Age had been formed by the Central Policy Unit (CPU) to develop a research agenda on financial security in old age. The Subcommittee was also given to understand that the Expert Group was expected to come up with initial findings in early 2006.

To facilitate the Subcommittee to follow up discussion on the subject, the Subcommittee had requested for information on the background to the proposed research studies by the Expert Group under CPU, the objectives and scope of such studies, to whom the research reports would be submitted, and whether the report findings would be publicised. The Subcommittee also wanted to know which Office/Bureau would be responsible for following up CPU's findings and recommendations.

As the Administration's representatives attending the Subcommittee meeting on 21 July 2005 did not seem to know about the background and details of CPU's studies, I should be grateful if your Office could provide the above information to the Subcommittee as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

(Frederick FUNG Kin-kee)
Chairman
Subcommittee to Study
the Subject of Combating Poverty