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19 July 2005

The Secretary General Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road, Central (Attn.: Mr Raymond LAM)

Dear Mr LAM,

Panel on Security Follow-up actions required of the Administration

Thank you for your letter of 29 June enclosing, among others, a list of follow-up actions arising from Panel meetings.

We would like to provide the following information regarding item 6 of the list on measures to combat illegal employment:

Item 6(a) Information on the number of cases where employers were sentenced to less than 15 months' imprisonment for employing illegal immigrants.

> Most of the illegal workers arrested in recent years were visitors. From 2002 and up to the end of June 2005, no employer has been prosecuted for employing illegal immigrants.

Item 6(b) *To consider providing, on a confidential basis, information* on *the provinces and cities where illegal workers came from.*

As explained to Members during the Panel meeting held in December 2004, we do not support releasing detailed information on the provinces and cities where illegal workers came from, as this could hamper law enforcement and result in adverse labelling effect on law-abiding visitors. Having carefully considered the matter, we remain of the view that releasing such information is inappropriate.

Yours sincerely,

(Y S Wong) for Secretary for Security