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20 July 2007

The Hon Miriam Lau Kin-ye, GBS, JP
Chairman
Legislative Council House Committee
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong

House Committee meeting on 29 June 2007

Thank you for your letter of 30 June 2007, setting out the views of Members on the remarks given by the Chief Secretary for Administration in an interview with Shue Yan University students in late June. The Chief Secretary has authorised me to respond.

As always, the Administration cherishes a cordial relationship with the Legislative Council. We appreciate that there will be occasions when the stance of the Administration does not perfectly align with that of the Council or individual members of the Council, given the different roles of the executive authorities and the legislature. However, we will continue our strive to be as open and as accommodating as ever in embracing dissenting views. We trust that we can partner with the Legislative Council in this with a view to fostering effective governance and preserving respect for freedom of expression for Hong Kong.

(Miss Elizabeth Tse)
Director of Administration

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Urgent by fax (2524 5695)
30 June 2007

The Hon Rafael HUI Si-yan, GBS, JP
The Chief Secretary for Administration
Government Secretariat
Central Government Offices
Lower Albert Road
Hong Kong

At the House Committee meeting on 29 June 2007, some Members have expressed dissatisfaction about your speech at an interview with Shun Yan University students which was broadcasted by the media on 28 June 2007. Some other Members have taken a different view. The House Committee has decided that I should relay to you the views of Members expressed at the meeting. A draft verbatim record of the relevant part of the House Committee meeting is attached.

I would appreciate your early response to Members' views.

(Miriam LAU Kin-ye)
Chairman
Legislative Council House Committee

Encl.
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