

政府總部
香港下亞厘畢道



GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
LOWER ALBERT ROAD
HONG KONG

本函檔號 OUR REF.:

來函檔號 YOUR REF.:

電話號碼 TEL. NO.: 2810 2474

傳真號碼 FAX. NO.: 2523 1685

來函傳真 YOUR FAX.: 2509 0775

8 June 2007

Mrs Sharon Tong
Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council
3/F Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mrs Tong,

Panel on Security – July 2007 Meeting

Please refer to our discussion on the suggestion of some Panel Members to discuss the first Annual Report of the Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance (the Commissioner).

Under the Interception of Communications and Surveillance Ordinance (the Ordinance), the Commissioner has to submit an Annual Report to the Chief Executive within six months after the expiry of a report period. The first Report covering the report period of 9 August to 31 December 2006 will, therefore, have to be submitted by the end of June 2007. The Chief Executive will cause the Report to be tabled at the Legislative Council thereafter in due course.

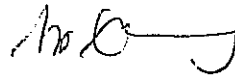
We need to allow time for the Chief Executive to consider the Report on receipt. In addition, as the Secretary for Security undertook at the resumption of the second reading debate on the then Interception of Communications and Surveillance Bill in August 2006, the Administration will study the matters raised in the Commissioner's Annual Reports and advise the Panel on Security of the results of such study. For example, we may need to consider whether any changes to the code of practice that the Secretary for Security has issued under the Ordinance are required. The

matter will require careful consideration. At this stage, we are unable to give a specific timeframe for the completion of this process. Our assessment is that, given the steps involved, it is unlikely to be completed in the next couple of months.

Members may rest assured that the Administration is committed to reverting to the Panel on Security as soon as possible after the first Report is tabled in the Legislative Council in accordance with the Ordinance.

I should be grateful if you would bring this to the attention of the Panel.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Cheung Siu Hing)
for Secretary for Security