

**Responses to the issue raised by
Clerk to the Economic Development Panel**

Items:

- (a) The existing occupancy rates of hotels in Hong Kong and vicinity places, and forecast growth in demand in the next few years.**
- (b) The existing and forecast supply on hotel rooms in Hong Kong and vicinity places in the next few years.**

Response:

The requested information has been set out in the LegCo Development Panel paper on “Planning and Land Measures to Facilitate the Development of Hotels” scheduled for the meeting on 25 March 2008.

Item:

- (c) Details on the land applied for hotel development in Hong Kong in the past five years with forecast in provision of rooms under the concerned projects, present positions of the projects, and expected timing for completion.**

Response:

According to the records of the Lands Department, there were 26 lease modification or land exchange applications in the past 5 years where the applicants would like to pursue hotel development. 17 of these applications are still under processing.

Of the remaining 9 developments, 3 of them have been completed and the other 6 are under construction. The estimated number of hotel rooms of the 9 developments is 5,100.

Item:

- (d) Land available in the existing List of Sites for Sale by Application (the Application List) for hotel development, and land to be included for such development in the new Application List.**

Response:

In the 2008-09 Application List, we have included 10 “hotel only” sites. For details, please refer to the LegCo Development Panel paper on “Planning and Land Measures to Facilitate the Development of Hotels” scheduled for the meeting on 25 March 2008.

Item:

- (e) Other measures to gauge the need for land supply for hotel development, for example, through designating land in the Application List for hotel development and streamlining the approval procedures for hotel development projects.**

Response:

Apart from designating 10 “hotel only” sites in the 2008-09 Application List, we will also allow, for the validity period of the 2008-09 Application List, lease modification/land exchanges for development for “hotel only” purposes. For details, please refer to the LegCo Development Panel paper on “Planning and Land Measures to Facilitate the Development of Hotels” scheduled for the meeting on 25 March 2008.

To speed up processing of lease modification and land exchange applications in general, the Lands Department is launching, on a pilot basis, a dedicated team at the District Lands Office (Hong Kong West and South) for the processing of lease modification and land exchange

applications (including among others those for hotel development) in that district. The team will also explore and experiment ways to expedite the processing of such applications through streamlining the procedures, fostering stronger links with other departments, and stepping up case management.

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