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民政事務局

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Miss Flora Tai
Clerk to Home Affairs Panel
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong

9 January 2008

Dear Miss Tai,

**Human Rights Education Working Group under
The Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education**

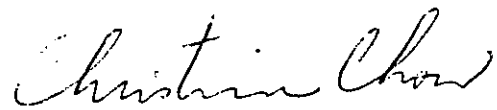
Further to our interim reply of 3 December 2007 on matters relating to the Human Rights Education Working Group (the Working Group) under the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE), we would like to provide you with a detailed reply.

The subject of human rights policy has been transferred from the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) to the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) with effect from 1 July 2007. At its meeting in September 2007, the CPCE noted that in view of the re-organization mentioned above, HAB and relevant bureaux needed further exchange of views on human rights education before considering the way forward. At its meeting in December last year, the CPCE discussed in detail again the future role of the CPCE in respect of human rights education.

Considering that human rights education forms part and parcel of civic education, the CPCE opined that it should continue to promote/publicize and undertake education work on human rights in promoting/publicizing civic education. However, having regard to the restructuring of the Government bureaux mentioned above and the need to streamline the CPCE's existing structure, the CPCE decided to assign the work on human rights education and promotion to its Publicity Sub-committee which was responsible for the promotion of civic values, and to disband the Human Rights Education Working Group with immediate effect. Noting that the public perception survey on human rights had not yet commenced, and that the policy portfolio on human rights had been transferred to CMAB, the CPCE decided to terminate the preparation work on the survey, and also recommended that the secretariat provide CMAB with the relevant information for reference as appropriate.

In addition to the HAB, other relevant bureaux/departments including the Education Bureau (EDB) and the CMAB will also continue to promote/educate and publicize human rights within their own policy portfolio as appropriate. Elements of human rights education are incorporated into the school curricula. EDB has also provided various learning and teaching materials to support schools in the promotion of human rights education.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christine Chow".

(Miss Christine Chow)
for Secretary for Home Affairs

c.c. CMAB, EDB