

## Labour Department (Headquarters)

勞工處(總處)

Your reference 來函編號 :

Our reference 本處檔案編號 : LD CR 94/706 Pt 3

Tel. number 電話號碼 : 2852 4083 Fax number 傅真機號碼 : 2805 1127

7 January 2008

Clerk to the LegCo Panel on Manpower Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong (Attn: Mrs Sharon Tong)

Dear Mrs Tong,

### LegCo Panel on Manpower

#### List of Follow-up Actions

At the meeting of the Panel on Manpower held on 15 November 2007, Members requested the Administration to:

- (a) check with the Hong Kong Cancer Registry of the Hospital Authority on the number of benign and non-cancerous mesothelioma cases in the past ten years, as compared to the average yearly figure of twelve cases for malignant mesothelioma cases; and
- (b) provide information on whether benign mesothelioma had any relevance to occupational exposure to asbestos.

In response to Members' requests, I write to provide the following information:

## (a) Statistics on benign and non-cancerous mesothelioma cases

The Hong Kong Cancer Registry advised that they did not have any statistics on benign and non-cancerous mesothelioma cases. The Hospital Authority also advised that they did not maintain such statistics.

# (b) Relevance of benign mesothelioma to occupational exposure to asbestos

The Labour Department has sought further medical advice and is given to understand that there is no medical evidence to support any causal relationship between benign mesothelioma and exposure to asbestos.

Yours sincerely,

(Stanley NG)

for Commissioner for Labour