



Hong Kong Association of Travel Agents

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Secretary
Panel on Home Affairs
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

6 July 2009

Dear Sir,

Re: Proposals for adding extra racedays and simulcast races

As an active member of the tourism industry, we support any initiatives that would promote Hong Kong as a popular visiting destination. In order to maintain Hong Kong's attractiveness, Hong Kong has to discover new tourist attractions and enhance its existing competitive edge.

It is well known that horse racing has long been an icon of Hong Kong. Every year, tens of thousands of overseas and Mainland visitors flock to Hong Kong to experience the excitement of the races. Given the international fame and huge potentials of Hong Kong's horse racing, we support any proposal that would help enhance this iconic attraction. The suggestion of adding five racedays and 20 simulcast race meetings and to extend the racing season to mid July each year is something the travel trade would warmly welcome. We believe the extra races during the summer travel peak season will be added onto the itineraries of many overseas visitors. The extension of the racing season would not only benefit the travel industry but also the community as a whole. We therefore call upon the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs to give the Club's proposals its favourable consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Wu

Mr Michael Wu MH
Chairman