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中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衞生局

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Miss Betty MA Clerk to Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to Mainland-HKSAR Families Legislative Council 8 Jackson Road Central

Dear Miss MA,

Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to Mainland-HKSAR Families

I refer to the discussion of the meeting of the Subcommittee held on 19 January 2010 and write to provide the relevant information as follows -

- The number of births by non-local women in Hong Kong in 2009 is set out (a) in the Annex.
- On the information concerning annual expenditure on bonus for the senior (b) management of the Hospital Authority (HA), HA has abolished the annual incentive award scheme for senior management since 2005-06. As for the electricity charges of HA's premises, such expenditure amounted to \$692 million and \$687 million in 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively.
- It is HA's policy that in general no fee wavier will be provided for Non-Eligible persons (NEPs). However, NEPs who have difficulties in affording the medical charges could approach the medical social workers at hospitals/clinics for assistance. Medical social workers will consider the application of fee waiver by NEPs under exceptional circumstances in accordance with the established mechanism of medical fee waiver.

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(d) As for the judicial review application concerning the obstetric service charge for NEPs, the Court of Appeal has handed down the judgment on 10 May 2010. All the challenges raised by the applicant have been rejected by the Court of Appeal except for the case of waiver of obstetric service charge for the applicant, which has been remitted to the HA for a fresh consideration. After consideration, HA has decided not to further pursue the outstanding payment of the case and has already informed the applicant accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

(Kirk Yip) for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Hospital Authority

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Annex

Live births in Hong Kong in 2009

	Total Number of live births	Number of live births born by Mainland women			
		whose spouses are Hong Kong Permanent Residents	whose spouses are not Hong Kong Permanent Residents ⁽¹⁾	Others ⁽²⁾	Subtotal
Total number of live births in Hong Kong (including births in HA hospitals)	82 147	6 213	29 766	1 274	37 253
Total number of live births in HA hospitals	41 167	3 492	6 740	~	10 232 ⁽³⁾

Notes:

- (1) Include Hong Kong Non-pennanent Residents (persons from the Mainland having resided in Hong Kong for less than 7 years being grouped in this category) and non-Hong Kong residents.
- (2) Mainland mothers chose not to provide the father's residential status during birth registration.
- (3) The figures of HA represent number of births by non-local women, including Mainland women.