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Our Ref:

SWD 1/121/09c

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29 March 2010

Clerk to Subcommittee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Betty Ma)

Dear Miss Ma,

## Subcommittee to study Issues relating to Mainland – HKSAR Families

I refer to minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the above committee and would like to provide information as requested in paragraph 6(b) as follows -

The 61 Integrated Family Service Centres and two Integrated Services Centres operated by the Social Welfare Department and non-governmental organisations over the territory provide a continuum of preventive, supportive and remedial welfare services to individuals and families, including new arrivals and Mainland family members of Hong Kong residents on two-way permits (TWPs). Among the services provided by these centres, those of developmental nature include family life education, parent-child activities, volunteer training, support/mutual help groups, educational and developmental programmes, etc. In terms of groups, during the period from January to December 2009, 177 groups supportive/educational/developmental nature were organised for new arrivals with a total of 1 821 participants. We do not have breakdown on the number of new arrivals who have participated in developmental programmes organised by the centres or number of Mainland family members of Hong Kong residents on TWPs who have participated in services of a developmental nature.

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If you need further information, please contact me or Ms Lo Yin-fun, Loletta at 2892 5170.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Maria Lau) for Director of Social Welfare

c.c. Secretary for Home Affairs (Attn: Ms Elaine Mak)

Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Attn: Parson Lam)