

政制及內地事務局
政府總部



香港下亞厘畢道

CONSTITUTIONAL AND MAINLAND AFFAIRS BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
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HONG KONG

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14 May 2010

By Fax: 2509 9055

Hon. TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Chairman
Subcommittee on Package of Proposals for
the Methods for Selecting the Chief Executive
and for Forming the Legislative Council in 2012
Legislative Council

Dear Hon. Tam,

**Legislative Council
Subcommittee on Package of Proposals for the Methods
for Selecting the Chief Executive and for Forming
the Legislative Council in 2012**

Follow up to the meeting on 11 May 2010

At the Subcommittee meeting on 11 May 2010, Hon. Ronny Tong requested the HKSAR Government to provide information on the seat-to-population ratio of overseas legislatures. The reply of the HKSAR Government is as follows.

The information requested by Hon. Tong is provided in the Annex. At present, the seat-to-population ratio of the Legislative Council (LegCo) is about 1:116800. We propose that the number of seats in the LegCo be increased to 70. The seat-to-population ratio will then be reduced to about 1:103000. Compared with overseas legislatures, we consider this ratio to be appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Joyce Ho', written over a horizontal line.

(Joyce Ho)

for Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Seat-to-Population Ratio of Overseas Legislatures

Country	Population¹	Statutory Number of Seats of the Legislature²	Seat-to-Population Ratio
Singapore	4,737,000	94	50,394
United Kingdom	61,565,000	650	94,715
France	62,343,000	577	108,047
Canada	33,573,000	308	109,003
<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>7,003,700</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>116,728</i>
Spain	44,904,000	350	128,297
Germany	82,167,000	598 ³	137,403
Republic of Korea	48,333,000	299	161,649
United States of America	314,659,000	435 ⁴	723,354

¹ Source of information: the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp2008/peps_documents.htm) and the Census and Statistics Department of the HKSAR Government (<http://www.censtatd.gov.hk>) (2009 figures).

² Source of information: PARLINE database (<http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/parlinesearch.asp>). Singapore, Hong Kong and Republic of Korea adopt a unicameral legislature. For other countries which adopt a bicameral legislature, we compare the number of seats in their lower houses with their population.

³ The current term German Bundestag has a total of 622 members.

⁴ The US House of Representatives has a total of 435 seats, which are largely allocated on the basis of population. Seats in the US Senate are not allocated on the basis of population, but on the basis of states.