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The Honourable Vincent Fang, SBS, JP Chairman Panel on Commerce and Industry Legislative Council Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Fang,

Development of the Exhibition Industry in Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Toys Council would like to submit the following views on the development of Hong Kong's exhibition industry to the Legco Panel on Commerce and Industry for its consideration.

- 1. Evidently, the exhibition industry has an instrumental role to play in strengthening Hong Kong's position as a leading commercial and trading centre in the region. Besides underpinning and facilitating the growth of Hong Kong's manufacturing and service sectors by providing cost-effective platforms for companies to promote their products or services to potential buyers from around the world, maintaining a healthy and robust exhibition industry can benefit many other economic sectors, most notably design, advertising, logistics, air travel, hotel, catering, as well as retailing industries. According to an economic impact study by the Hong Kong Exhibition and Convention Industry Association, activities associated with Hong Kong's exhibition industry contributed HK\$30.2 billion to the local economy in 2008, amounting to 1.8 per cent of the GDP.
- 2. Over the past decades, the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) has made significant contributions to the success of the local exhibition industry, and its exhibitions have greatly facilitated the market development of Hong Kong toy manufacturers and traders in this international market. The Hong Kong Toys and Games Fair (HKTGF) organized by HKTDC annually is particularly popular among our members, who find the event highly useful for connecting with international buyers and seeking orders.





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- 3. This year the baby products section, one of the features of HKTGF since 1997, spun off to become a standalone Hong Kong Baby Products Fair held concurrently with HKTGF. Our members welcomed this as the new show could focus more sharply on target exhibitors and buyers. Indeed, the trend in the global exhibition market is towards higher specialization to better meet the sourcing needs of traders. We are supportive of HKTDC continuing to stage the Hong Kong Baby Products Fair to help toy manufacturers explore new market opportunities.
- 4. Through its advisory committee, HKTDC has been in close contact with our Council to keep a finger on the pulse of the development of the toys industry. It has also been very receptive to our suggestions for improving its trade shows to meet the new demands of this international industry. We are confident that HKTDC will continue to engage industry players and enhance its support for the toys industry through organizing more exhibitions that suit our market development needs.

Yours sincerely,

Bernie Ting Chairman