

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

LOWER ALBERT ROAD
HONG KONG

30 May 2011

Mr Raymond Lam
Clerk to Subcommittee, Legislative Council
Legislative Council Secretariat
3/F, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lam,


**Subcommittee on
Revised Code of Practice on Employment
under the Disability Discrimination Ordinance**

Thank you for your letter of 18 May 2011.

The Administration provides sufficient funding to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) to carry out its statutory functions in accordance with its actual needs. The EOC earmarks \$1.5 million annually from its recurrent subvention for legal costs. If extra amount is required, the EOC may make internal deployment within its subvention as appropriate. Furthermore, the EOC has put its unspent recurrent subvention in a reserve, which may be used to cover legal expenses where necessary. The current balance of reserve is \$20.57 million. The EOC has not turned down any application for legal assistance due to funding constraint.

We will continue to maintain communication with the EOC to consider provision of appropriate resources to meet its operational needs, including resources to cover legal expenses.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. Law', written in a cursive style.

(Hubert Law)

for Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

c.c. Chairperson, Equal Opportunities Commission
Secretary for Labour and Welfare