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GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

LOWER ALBERT ROAD
HONG KONG

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> By fax: 2185 7845 (Total: 2 pages)

> > 7 October 2011

Mr Raymond Lam Clerk to Panel on Security Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lam,

Legislative Council Panel on Security Procession Route to the New Government Headquarters

Thank you for your letter dated 3 October 2011.

The Police attach importance to and respect the freedom and rights of the citizens to peaceful processions, public meetings and expression of views. The fundamental principle of the Police in handling public meetings and processions is to ensure that the activities concerned are conducted in a safe and orderly manner. On receiving notifications of staging public activities, the Police will proactively maintain close communication with the organisers and offer them advices to make sure that the activities are held smoothly and peacefully.

It was actually the first time that the procession route to the new Government Headquarters on 24 September 2011 was drawn up. The Police have subsequently reviewed on whether the route is suitable for a large number of people to take part in a procession. Having considered the time, location, routing, number of participants and so on of each public meeting and procession, the Police will assess the scenario and liaise with the organisers with a view to reaching a consensus, so that all

public activities would be held in a safe and orderly manner. The Police will continue to adopt this approach and communicate with organisers who intend to hold public processions to the new Government Headquarters. After recent discussion with the organiser of the public procession, both sides agreed to revise the routing to the new Government Headquarters to facilitate a large number of people to participate in the procession.

Regarding the arrangements at the public activity area in the new Government Headquarters, a separate reply will be provided by the Administration Wing.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs Millie Ng) for Secretary for Security

<u>c.c.</u>

Director of Administration

Commissioner of Police

(Attn: Ms Winnie Chiu)

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