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Miss Carrie Wong  
Assistant Legal Adviser  
Legal Service Division  
Legislative Council Secretariat

6 December 2011

Dear Miss Wong,

**Legislation Publication Ordinance (Commencement) Notice 2011**  
**(L.N. 164 of 2011) (“Commencement Notice”)**

Thank you for your letter dated 25 November 2011.

2. The Legislation Publication Ordinance (13 of 2011) (“LPO”) was passed by the Legislative Council in June this year. Besides providing for the establishment of the new legislation database, LPO also empowers the Secretary for Justice (“SJ”) to make editorial amendments to Ordinances. As previously explained in the Bills Committee on the Legislation Publication Bill, LPO will be commenced by phases.

3. The main purpose of the present Commencement Notice is to commence Part 6 (except section 22) of LPO, which relates to additional editorial powers for the Loose-leaf Edition. The additional powers are necessary to update the existing texts of legislation in the Loose-leaf Edition to bring them into line with the new legislation format which has been in use since July 2010. This would not only help ensure the uniformity in appearance of our published legislation, but also facilitate future data conversion in the database project. As the existing powers under section 98A of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1) and section 113C(5) of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance (Cap. 221) will be replaced by the new section 2A of the Laws (Loose-leaf


Publication) Ordinance 1990 (51 of 1990) (“**Loose-leaf Ordinance**”) being inserted by section 21 of LPO, they need to be repealed on the commencement of section 21 of LPO. Accordingly, the Commencement Notice provides for section 30 and Division 6 of Part 7 of LPO to also come into operation on the same day as section 21.

4. According to the new section 2B of the Loose-leaf Ordinance, SJ must compile a record containing descriptions of editorial amendments made in the Loose-leaf Edition. The editorial amendments will only be effective on publication. As it is our plan to exercise the editorial powers for the Loose-leaf Edition in early 2012 and to publish the first editorial record in February 2012, we therefore wish to commence the relevant editorial powers on 16 January 2012.

5. The remaining uncommenced provisions will only be commenced when the new legislation database is implemented.

6. Thanks very much.

Yours sincerely,



(Gilbert Mo)

Deputy Law Draftsman  
(Bilingual Drafting & Administration)