



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau
Government Secretariat, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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26 March 2012

Ms Amy Yu
Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Yu,

**Follow-up action to meeting of 13 February 2012
Provision of international school places**

At the meeting of the Panel on Education on 13 February 2012, Members requested the Administration to provide information on the discussions of the International Business Committee (IBC) chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration on international school places in the past three years.

As mentioned at the meeting, issues relating to the provision of international school places have been raised at a number of forums including the IBC chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration and the Business Advisory Facilitation Committee (BFAC) set up by the Financial Secretary and chaired by a non-official member from the business community.

International Business Committee

The issue of international school places was discussed at the IBC meeting thrice in the past three years from February 2009 to February 2012. Members raised the issue at the meeting of 5 November 2010. As a follow-up action,

representatives of this Bureau were invited to present to Members various measures taken to provide international school places and the next steps in meeting future demand at the meeting held on 2 June 2011. We provided further information to update Members on the measures taken and progress made in facilitating the development of the international school sector at the subsequent meeting held on 7 October 2011.

Business Advisory Facilitation Committee

Similar discussion was held at the meetings of the BFAC on 5 November 2009, 12 July and 28 November 2011. We presented to the Committee progress of the School Allocation Exercise on the allocation of four vacant premises in October 2008 and of four greenfield sites in August 2009, development of the various facilitation measures, and the number of additional places to be provided through the various measures and the updated position regarding the study on provision of international school places at the three meetings respectively.

Having considered views conveyed to us arising from the six aforementioned occasions at the IBC and BFAC meetings over the past three years as well as other factors, we are, as explained at the Panel meeting on 13 February 2012, identifying and planning for allocation of a few suitable vacant school premises to international school operators for improvement or expansion of their existing premises. We expect to launch an Expression of Interest exercise for vacant school premises later this year to ascertain the development needs of international schools and their interests in the premises before conducting a school allocation exercise.

Yours sincerely,



(Wendy Chung)
for Secretary of Education

c.c. Secretary, International Business Committee (Attn.: Mr Aaron Yu)
Secretary, Business Advisory Facilitation Committee (Attn.: Ms Alice Yuen)