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立法會 CB(2)1846/16-17(01)號文件
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Hon. Paul Tse Wai-chun, JP
Chairman of the Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities
The Legislative Council of the HKSAR

7th July, 2017

Dear Hon. Paul Tse,

Re: 12 June meeting with groups serving ethnic minorities

On behalf of the undersigned groups, I would like to thank you for meeting with us on 12 June to discuss about the extension of the Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities and our concerns for the ethnic minority communities.

We are pleased to learn that the Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities (“Subcommittee”) has been extended 3 months with a possibility of further extension. As mentioned in our meeting, the issues of ethnic minorities are complex. We sincerely hope the Subcommittee can tackle difficulties faced by ethnic minorities by making recommendations and following up with various bureaux and departments, instead of merely paying lip service. We trust that the Subcommittee can effect policy change and implement measures to the betterment of ethnic minorities.

We hope the Subcommittee would adopt our proposal to invite public deputations to share their concerns and recommendations at the same meeting prior to discussion among lawmakers and government officials. Such arrangement would help lawmakers better understand the issues and follow up more effectively. Moreover, senior and principal officials should be in attendance at these meetings to address the Subcommittee and follow through on suggestions.

With regards to the discussion on the review and amendment of the Race Discrimination Ordinance, may we reiterate that it is of utmost importance that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) be present at the Subcommittee meetings.

Issues of ethnic minorities are complex and multifaceted. We ask the Subcommittee to identify a bureau to set up a high-level unit/ task force to coordinate and oversee policy implementation for ethnic minorities across departments and bureaux, and recommend the CMAB to introduce statutory duties on public authorities to promote and mainstream equality and eliminate race discrimination so that all ethnic minority residents enjoy the rights, opportunities and entitlements given to their Chinese peers.



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Last but not the least, we urge the Subcommittee to press government departments to maintain data disaggregated by ethnicity, language, gender, age, and other relevant variables. Such data is necessary to inform the society and provide richer insights into the situation of ethnic minorities; it helps facilitate policy development with focused interventions. We do not accept excuses from bureaux and public bodies such as the Civil Service Bureau, Education Bureau and Hospital Authority that collecting and revealing such data is discriminatory and labelling.

In view of the issues, we earnestly hope the Subcommittee could be extended beyond the 3-month period to ensure all relevant measures pertaining to ethnic minorities could be implemented and monitored. Once again, we thank you and the members of the Subcommittee for the support in ethnic minority matters.

Sincerely yours,

Phyllis Cheung
Executive Director, Hong Kong Unison

On behalf of:

Association Concerning Sexual Violence against Women

Catholic Diocese of HK Diocesan Pastoral Centre for Workers – Kowloon

Health in Action

Hong Kong Christian Service

Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children

KELY Support Group

Yuen Long Town Hall

(organizations listed in alphabetical order)

cc LegCo Secretariat

Members of the Subcommittee