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**Transport and  
Housing Bureau  
Government Secretariat  
Transport Branch**

East Wing, Central Government Offices,  
2 Tim Mei Avenue,  
Tamar, Hong Kong

本局檔號 Our Ref.

來函檔號 Your Ref. CB4/PAC/R69

24 January 2018

Mr Anthony CHU  
Clerk to Public Accounts Committee  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Chu,

**Public Accounts Committee**

**Consideration of Chapter 2 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 69  
Procurement and maintenance of government vessels**

Further to our reply to your letter dated 5 January 2018 on the captioned, this letter provides the requisite information with regard to the regular meetings between the Transport and Housing Bureau ("THB") and the Marine Department ("MD").

The Secretary for Transport and Housing and the Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) have regular meetings, generally on a monthly basis, with the senior management of MD including the Director of Marine. MD reports to THB the overall work performance and progress on various issues, and as and when necessary, brings to THB issues requiring the Bureau's attention and seeks its policy steer. There are meeting briefs to facilitate the discussion. Follow-up actions after the meetings are taken forward in accordance with the established work procedures, and reported at the next round of regular meetings. At PAC's request, samples of the meeting briefs (available in English only) are provided at Annex. It should be noted that the documents are graded "confidential". The samples are provided on the

**\*Note by Clerk, PAC:** *Annex not attached.*

clear understanding that they are for PAC Members' internal reference only and shall not be referred to in any public documents, public discussions, or made public in any other ways. Further, as the meeting briefs contain, among others, information concerning the privacy of third parties and information on the internal working of Government, some parts have been redacted.

The communication between THB and MD is not limited to the regular meetings. Division 5 of the THB, headed by a Deputy Secretary and supported by a Principal Assistant Secretary, is responsible for house-keeping the MD. The Division maintains ongoing communications with the Department on different issues requiring policy inputs.

Further, certain indicators have been developed and adopted to help monitor the Department's work. These indicators are set out in MD's Controlling Officer's Report, which is published annually. THB and the management of MD will assess and monitor the performance accordingly, and examine the issues and reasons in case a target is not met, as well as consider whether further steer and guidance from THB is necessary.

In respect of whether THB was informed about MD's decision to postpone procurement of vessels between December 2009 and October 2012 while the Department was conducting a review of the tender marking scheme, file records show that THB was made aware of the delay in the procurement of government vessels in August 2013 and was not informed of the said review prior to August 2013.

Yours sincerely,



( Marquis Yip )

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c. Director of Marine (Fax No. 2850 8810)

Secretary for Financial Services & the Treasury (Fax No. 2147 5239)

Director of Audit (Fax No. 2583 9063)