

政府總部民政事務局的信頭

OUR REF. : HAB/CR/7/22/31  
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11 May 1999

Mrs. Percy Ma,  
Clerk to the LegCo Panel on  
Administration of Justice  
and Legal Services  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Mrs. Ma,

**LegCo Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services**  
**Follow up to meeting on 25 February 1999**  
**Review of 17 Ordinances and related issues**

Thank you for your letter dated 13 April 1999 to Mr. Clement Mak of Constitutional Affairs Bureau, who has referred it to me since the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance is within Home Affairs Bureau's purview.

We are still discussing with the Central People's Government on the applicability of the Ordinance to the "State" organs stationed in Hong Kong. As explained in the paper forwarded to you under cover of CAB's letter dated 9 March 1999, the Ordinance is complicated and the statutory protection of privacy in relation to personal data is relatively new in Hong Kong.

Our assessment is that it will take more time to complete our discussion with the CPG. I am afraid we shall not be able to specify the timing but we shall report to the Panel as soon as the review has been completed.

Yours sincerely,

(NG Hon-wah)  
for Secretary for Home Affairs