

**Letterhead of DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Legal Policy Division**

LC Paper No. CB(2)1531/99-00(01)

Tel. No.: 2867 4752

28 March 2000

The Hon Margaret Ng  
Room 116, New Henry House  
10 Ice House Street  
Central  
Hong Kong

Fax No.: 2801 7134

**Proposed Amendment of Section 2GG of  
the Arbitration Ordinance (Cap. 341)**

Thank you very much for your letter of 20 March. It is most kind of you to have related to us earlier the views of the practitioners on the subject matter.

As I reported to the LegCo Panel of Administration of Justice and Legal Services on 21 March, the Administration is prepared to propose amendment to section 2GG of Cap. 341 as outlined in our paper submitted to the Panel. We share the practitioners' concern that the amendment should be passed as soon as possible. As you have quite rightly pointed out, the amendment will obviously save the public time and money, avoid wasting court time in unnecessary proceedings, and generally enhance Hong Kong's prestige and efficiency as an international arbitration centre.

Against this background, we are now seeking to amend the relevant section by way of a stand-alone Arbitration (Amendment) Bill. We will try our best to have the Bill introduced into and passed by LegCo before the end of this session.

I look forward to continuing to receive support from you in the promotion of this Bill.

With renewed thanks,

Yours sincerely,

(Stephen Kai-yi Wong)  
Deputy Solicitor General

c.c. Members, LegCo Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services  
Chairman, Hong Kong Bar Association  
President, Law Society of Hong Kong  
Mr Robin Peard, JP, FCI Arb, FHKI Arb, FSL Arb

#14747