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17 May 2000

Dr E K YEOH, JP  
Secretary for Health and Welfare  
Health and Welfare Bureau  
Mezzanine floor, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> floor  
Murray Building  
Garden Road  
Hong Kong

Dear Dr YEOH,

**LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs**

**Issue of employees of public-funded bodies taking up public offices**

I refer to the attached letter from your bureau on the captioned subject which was considered by the Panel at the last meeting on 15 May 2000.

Some members have expressed serious concern about the statement in the letter that individual subvented organization should be allowed the autonomy and flexibility in dealing with the matter and that this is in line with the spirit of the Lump Sum Grant subvention mode being introduced to the subvented welfare sector. The Panel has resolved that I should write to you to reiterate members' view that the guidelines being drafted for reference of subvented welfare organizations should include provisions on adjustment of salaries/benefits of employees taking up remunerated public office. The guidelines, once promulgated, should be applicable to all subvented organizations within the welfare sector. The Panel requests the Administration to take into account members' view in finalizing the guidelines.

Noting that the proposed guidelines would be ready in the latter half of the year, members also request that a copy of the guidelines be provided to the Panel for reference and whatever action it deems necessary in the next legislative session.

Yours sincerely,

( Andrew WONG )  
Chairman  
Panel on Constitutional Affairs

Encl  
c.c. Chief Secretary for Administration