

庫務局的信頭

Letterhead of FINANCE BUREAU

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17 January 2000

Ms Leung Siu-kum
Clerk to Panel on Financial Affairs
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Leung,

LegCo Panel on Financial Affairs
Follow-up to meeting on 6 December 1999

Thank you for your letter of 9 December. I have taken note of Panel members' views that the ground rules drawn up by the administration at the request of the Legislative Council present an inadequate justification for departing from competitive tendering procedures in dealing with exceptional initiatives from the private sector, such as Hong Kong Disneyland and the Cyberport.

We have duly reconsidered the ground rules in the light of members' views, but remain of the opinion that these provide the best, if not the only, justification for a departure from the norm in handling private sector initiatives. The only alternative would be never to depart from a stringent requirement to make every proposal subject to public tender procedures. The upshot of this rigorous approach would be that projects which are very beneficial to the community, such as Hong Kong Disneyland and the Cyberport, would not have seen the light of day for obvious commercial reasons.

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We will nevertheless convey members' views to Controlling Officers so that they may take them into account when assessing the likely acceptability to the Legislative Council of processing future private initiatives in accordance with the ground rules.

Yours sincerely,

(M M Glass)
for Secretary for the Treasury

c.c.

Hon Ambrose LAU Hon-chuen, JP (Chairman)