

## **For information**

### **Legislative Council Panel on Planning, Lands and Works**

On 24 February 2000, Members were informed (vide LC Paper No. CB(1)991/99-00(03)) of the Administration's proposal to purchase permanent accommodation for the Beijing Office. Members raised no objection to the Administration's proceeding to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council. This note informs Members of the latest developments on the matter before we submit a formal funding submission to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC).

2. Members would recall that we had indicated earlier that we had identified a potential suitable site for the permanent office for the Beijing Office. However, the subsequent publicity given to the proposal has affected our negotiating position with the landlord. We are now also considering other alternatives which have come to our notice since then. We intend to shortly seek the approval of PWSC and the Finance Committee to set aside an amount of funds for us to make the purchase and to fit out the premises. We will take into account the projected accommodation requirements of the office and the prevailing market price in working out the required amount of funds, within which we shall negotiate with the landlords.

3. As requested by Members at the Panel meeting on 24 February, the Government Property Administrator has provided the schedules of accommodation of overseas Economic and Trade Offices at the Enclosure. We shall provide in detail the existing and the proposed schedules of accommodation of the Beijing Office for Members' reference in our funding submission to PWSC.

Beijing Office  
March 2000

**Schedules of Accommodation of Overseas Economic and Trade Offices  
(net usable area)**

|   | Washington | New York | San Francisco | Tokyo | Geneva | Singapore | Sydney | Toronto | Brussels |
|---|------------|----------|---------------|-------|--------|-----------|--------|---------|----------|
| Staff entitlement (m <sup>2</sup> )                                     | 326        | 258      | 163           | 248   | 237    | 168       | 238    | 133     | 333      |
| Ancillary area (m <sup>2</sup> )  |            |          |               |       |        |           |        |         |          |
| Reception counter/Waiting area  | 50         | 50       | 45            | 50    | 55     | 65        | 65     | 40      | 75       |
| Conference/seminar facilities   | 160        | 145      | 135           | 150   | 165    | 190       | 200    | 65      | 115      |
| Library   | 60         | 65       | 60            | 65    | 75     | 85        | 90     | 35      | 65       |
| Storage   | 190        | 180      | 150           | 180   | 205    | 170       | 175    | 115     | 210      |
| Miscellaneous uses (e.g. office equipment, computer room, pantry, etc.) | 110        | 100      | 145           | 105   | 110    | 125       | 135    | 65      | 70       |
| Total (m <sup>2</sup> )   | 896        | 798      | 698           | 798   | 847    | 803       | 903    | 453     | 868      |