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11 July 2014

The Hon Mrs Carrie LAM, GBS, JP  
The Chief Secretary for Administration  
25/F, Central Government Offices  
2 Tim Mei Avenue  
Tamar, Hong Kong

Dear Chief Secretary,

I refer to your letter dated 3 July 2014.

At the beginning of the Chief Executive (“CE”)’s Question and Answer Session (“the Q&A Session”) on 3 July, some 20 Members left their seats and crossed the floor of the Chamber towards CE in breach of the Rules of Procedure (“the Rules”). As the Q&A Session evidently could not proceed in order, I therefore suspended the meeting. I resumed the meeting after order returned in the Chamber.

I shared the Administration’s concern about the impact of Members’ behaviour on the relationship between the executive authorities and the legislature. However, what must have caused serious concern is that some 20 Members seem to have taken a concerted stance against the Administration. I have called on Members and the Administration to reflect seriously on the matter and move quickly to re-establish a co-operative relationship to serve Hong Kong people.

You requested me again to review whether there is room for perfecting the Rules to maintain order at Council meetings. The Committee on Rules of Procedure recently consulted Members on a proposed procedure to deal with repeated disorderly conduct of Members at Council meetings, but the proposed procedure was not supported by Members. I wish to reiterate that unless and until the Rules are amended to provide for a mechanism to prevent disorderly conduct, the President or any committee chairman can only deal with such conduct in accordance with the existing Rules.

As President, it is my duty to maintain order in the Council. I will continue to strictly enforce the Rules to ensure the smooth conduct of Council meetings.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jasper Tsang', written in a cursive style.

(Jasper TSANG Yok-sing)  
President  
Legislative Council

c.c. All Members of the Legislative Council