LC Paper No. CB(1)247/03-04(03)

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6 November 2003

Clerk to Bills Committee (Attn.: Ms Rosalind Ma) Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Ms Ma,

Bills Committee on Public Officers Pay Adjustments (2004/2005) Bill

Further submission from the Hong Kong Bar Association

Thank you for your letter of 27 October 2003. Our response to the further submission dated 24 October 2003 from the Hong Kong Bar Association (Bar Association) is set out below.

Clause 3(1)(b) of the Bill is intended to exclude all judicial officers, including full-time Members of the Lands Tribunal, from the scope of application of the Bill. It remains our view that this intention is clearly reflected in the said clause. Nonetheless, in view of the comments from the Bar Association, we propose amending clause 3(1)(b)(ii) to read "appointed by the Chief Executive or by the Chief Justice". As all full-time Members of the Lands Tribunal are appointed by the Chief Executive, the proposed amendment should put it beyond any doubt that

such Members are covered by clause 3 and are therefore excluded from the scope of application of the legislation.

Yours sincerely,

(Eddie Mak) for Secretary for the Civil Service

c.c. Department of Justice (Attn.: Mr. Ian Wingfield)

(Attn.: Mr. David Morris)

(Attn.: Ms. Betty Cheung)