

CSO/ADM CR 14/3231/97

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The Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP
Chairman of the House Committee
Legislative Council
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Proposed Priority in the Scrutiny of Bills by Members

I am writing to suggest that Members accord priority to the scrutiny of the National Security (Legislative Provisions) Bill, which was introduced into the Legislative Council on 26 February 2003.

The National Security (Legislative Provisions) Bill seeks to discharge the constitutional obligation of the HKSAR of implementing Article 23 of the Basic Law. The Administration released the consultation document on legislative proposals to implement Article 23 of the Basic Law on 24 September 2002. Following an extensive public consultation exercise conducted over a three-month period, we have revised a number of our proposals taking into account views expressed during the consultation. We have now completed the drafting of the Bill and introduced it into the Legislative Council for scrutiny by Members. Given that the implementation of Article 23 of the Basic Law is a matter of immense interest to the community, we suggest that Members accord priority to it, so that detailed examination of the Bill could commence as soon as possible.

I should be grateful if you would put forward the above suggestion for Members' consideration at the coming House Committee meeting on 28 February 2003.

(Andrew H Y Wong)
Director of Administration