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Secretary for Home Affairs Home Affairs Bureau 30/F, Southorn Centre 130 Hennessy Road Wan Chai Hong Kong 10 June 2003

BY FAX

Fax No.: 2834 5605 Total no. of page(s): 2

(Attn : Ms Monica Chen Assistant Director of Home Affairs)

Dear Ms Chen,

Village Representative (Election Petition) Rules (L.N. 151 of 2003)

We are scrutinising the legal and drafting aspects of the Rules. We should be grateful for your clarification of the following:—

Section 7(6)

What is the purpose of requiring the petitioner to appear in court? Is it intended that he should get approval of his application under subsection (5)?

Section 11(3)

How does the reference to "before any proof of agency on behalf of any candidate at the election in respect of the corrupt or illegal conduct has been received by the Court" operate in the context of the provision?

<u>Section 21(4)(b)</u>

To whom does the phrase "any other person out of those persons" refer?

Section 21(5)

In comparing to rule 21(3)(c) of the District Councils (Election Petition) Rules (Cap. 547 sub. leg. C), why is it appropriate to omit the references to the rights to be represented by lawyers, and examine and cross-examine witnesses?

We look forward to receiving your reply in both languages soon.

Yours sincerely,

(Stephen Lam) Assistant Legal Adviser

c.c. Miss Flora Tai, CAS(2)2 (Fax: 2509 9055)