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20 January 2004

Clerk  
Public Accounts Committee  
(Attn: Mr Colin CHUI)  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Chui,

**The Director of Audit's Report on the  
results of value for money audits (Report No. 41)**

**Chapter 2: Public markets managed by the  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**

I refer to your letter of 16 January 2004.

The Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene has said that, after deducting the number of purposely frozen market stalls, the market stall vacancy rate for public markets as at 31 July 2003 was 11.8% (see para. 2.17(c) of the Audit Report). According to audit analysis of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's records, the market stall vacancy rate for public markets as at 31 July 2003 without such deductions was 22.7%.

A Chinese translation of this letter will be forwarded to you shortly.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Patrick K Y LEUNG)  
for Director of Audit

c.c. Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food  
Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene