香港特別行政區政府

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

房屋及規劃地政局

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Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau

Murray Building, Garden Road, Hong Kong

本局檔號 Our Ref.

(41) in HPLB(CR)(PL) 172/66 Pt. 3

來函檔號 Your Ref.

CB(3)PAC/R41

Urgent By Fax (No. 2537 1204)

8 December 2003

Clerk
Public Accounts Committee
The Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

(Attn: Ms Dora WAI)

Dear Ms Wai,

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

Chapter 8: The acquisition and clearance of shippard sites

Thank you for your letter of 3 December 2003. The requested information is as follows:

(a) The forum where the Legislative Council Members expressed their support for the shipyard operators

Between September 1996 and July 1998, a number of Legislative Council (LegCo) Members expressed their concerns about the plight of the affected shipyard operators. Their general view was that the Administration should provide appropriate assistance to the shipyard

operators whose business and investment would be adversely affected by the clearance. In this respect and during the aforementioned period, LegCo Members who had written to or exchanged views with the Administration included the following Honourable Members: Chan Yuen-han, Allen Lee, Selina Chow, Albert Chan, Lee Wing-tat, Sin Chung-kai, Leung Yiu-chung, Kan Fook-yee, Miriam Lau and Tam Yiu-chung.

Prior to July 1998, a Provisional LegCo Case Conference on this matter was held on 24 October 1997. A copy of the minutes of the Case Conference is at Annex for your reference please. In paragraph 14 of the minutes of the aforementioned Case Conference, Members requested that the Administration should provide more concrete assistance to the affected shipyard operators.

(b) Party who made the comment in paragraph 2.8(a) of the Audit Report

The statement in paragraph 2.8(a) of the Audit Report quoted in your letter was the Administration's assessment of the then prevailing circumstances. It was not a specific comment made by any particular LegCo Member. As explained in section (a) above, a number of LegCo Members had shown sympathy to the plight of the affected shipyard operators. Hence, in response to the then Secretary for the Treasury's question as to why the shipyard operators were not required to demolish the structures, the then Planning, Environment and Lands Bureau made the statement as quoted in paragraph 2.8(a) of the Audit Report.

Yours sincerely,

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(Gary Y S Yeung)

for Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

c.c. Director of Audit

^{*}Note by Clerk, PAC: Annex not attached.