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3 November 2004

Miss Flora Tai
Clerk to Panel
LegCo Panel on Home Affairs
LegCo Building
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Tai,

List of follow-up actions

Further to our letter on the list of follow-up actions of the Panel on Home Affairs of July 2004, I write to inform you of the latest progress regarding the request for extension of time restriction for broadcast of betting-related advertisements.

Upon our request, the Broadcasting Authority (BA) discussed the proposal to extend the time restriction for broadcast of lotteries and football betting advertisement on television and radio at its meeting on 31 July 2004. BA considered that the policy on family viewing hours which regulates broadcast of materials unsuitable for children and youths is a long established one. The BA also noted that there had not been any public complaint against football betting related advertisements since the provisions were introduced in August 2004. It would not be appropriate to make exceptions to the well-established policy. As regards lotteries and football betting advertising, it is covered by the relevant provisions on Unacceptable Products or Services in the

Television and Radio Advertising Codes, which mirror all the existing restrictions, prohibitions and exemptions stipulated in related statutes. Having carefully considered the issues, the BA decided to maintain the existing advertising codes which prohibit the advertising of lotteries and football betting advertisements between 4 pm and 8:30 pm on domestic free television and radio.

Yours sincerely,

signed

(Ms Esther Leung)
for Secretary for Home Affairs