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The Hong Kong Medical Association

FOUNDED IN 1920-INCORPORATED IN 1960 AS A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
MEMBER OF WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND CONFEDERATION OF MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS IN ASIA & OCEANIA

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2004 - 2005

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12 July 2005

Mrs. Eleanor Chow
Clerk to Bills Committee
Legislative Council Secretariat
3/f., Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong
[Fax No. 2509 9055]

Dear Mrs. Chow,

**Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005
Meeting on 26 July 2005**

Thank you for inviting us to the captioned meeting.

We shall not attend the meeting. Our views, which have already been passed to the Environmental Protection Department, are reproduced below for your information.

"We met on 12 May 2005 and understood that the Clinical Waste Disposal Bill had been gazetted and the legislation process would proceed soon. We were assured that the drafted bill was basically identical to what we had agreed previously. We reiterated our position as follows:

- 1. As a responsible profession, we basically support the idea of legislation but we would like the Administration to clarify that the necessity for legislation was not because of any incidence of health hazard caused by the small clinical waste producers.*
- 2. We were told that there were more than 10 clinical waste collectors in the market. As there was not any monopoly it was expected that the collecting fee would not increase after legislation.*
- 3. The clinical waste is now disposed of at landfills and the cost is about \$3/kg. Government plans to provide a long-term disposal facility for clinical waste and is in the process of reviewing different available technologies.*

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Mrs. Yvonne Y.M. Leung
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4. *We were assured that even in areas like Tung Chung, there are enough collectors available.*
5. *We stressed and you agreed that there must be adequate supportive facilities for doctors who practiced in remote areas in Hong Kong where clinical waste collectors might not be available e.g. Cheung Chau and some outlying islands.*

We have no further comments to make."

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Choi Kin
President

/YL/cw

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