香港特別行政區政府政務司司長辦公室



CHIEF SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION'S OFFICE GOVERNMENT of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Your Ref.: CB(3)/PAC/R48

7 November 2007

Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS Chairman, Public Accounts Committee Legislative Council Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Dr. Wong, Philip,

Government Minute in response to PAC Report No.48

Administration of the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited (ASTRI)

Thank you for your letter of 24 October 2007.

The primary focus of the limited review is on those Government-owned companies and statutory corporations as well as non-government-owned companies. The review covers the following major issues -

- (a) major roles and responsibilities of serving Government Directors;
- (b) legal position of Government Directors;
- (c) need for appointing/re-appointing Government Directors to individual companies and statutory corporations; and

(d) ways to facilitate the Government Directors to perform their roles.

We are now in the process of consulting the relevant bureaux and departments. In view of the number of companies and statutory corporations as well as the complexity of the issues involved, it will take us some time to complete the review. We aim to report the outcome of the review to the PAC in the first half of 2008.

Finally, I wish to reiterate that the Administration's decision to conduct the review is a positive response to the PAC's recommendation. The Administration has no preconceived ideas on the outcome of the review and wish to dispel any concerns which may exist in this respect.

Yours sincerely,

Best Regards.

(Henry Tang) Chief Secretary for Administration

cc Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury Director of Audit