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2 July 2008

Miss Mary So Clerk to Subcommittee Subcommittee on Strategy and Measures to Tackle Family Violence Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road, Central Hong Kong

Dear Miss So,

Thank you for your letter of 25 June 2008 to the Secretary for Justice. I am authorized to reply on his behalf.

The Administration has provided supplementary information on the rationale for conducting the review of cases involving children under 18 who died of unnatural causes after the completion of all criminal and judicial The Department of Justice's views and advice have been incorporated therein.

On the question of the chairmanship of the Review Panel on the Pilot Project for Child Fatality Review (Review Panel), the key issues to be examined by the Review Panel are not legally oriented but cover practice and service issues as well as prevention strategies pertaining to child death cases that fall mainly under the social welfare purview. The current Chairman is thus best placed to lead the Review Panel.

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In the light of the above, the Secretary for Justice will not attend the meeting of the Subcommittee to be held on 8 July 2008.

Yours sincerely,

Administrative Assistant to Secretary for Justice

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