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By Fax (2868 1552)

22 July 2009

Mr Edward YU
Assistant Secretary for Security (D3)
Security Bureau
6/F, Main and East Wings
Central Government Offices
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Mr YU,

Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2009

We are scrutinising the legal and drafting aspects of the Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2009 (the Bill). In relation to the Bill, we would be grateful if you could clarify the following point.

Clause 3

The clause repeals the existing definition of "valid travel document" and substitutes it with a new definition of "valid travel document". According to paragraphs 2 to 4 of the LegCo Brief on the Bill, the effect of the amendment will facilitate a holder of Macao permanent identity card (PIC), which does not indicate the holder's nationality, to enter Hong Kong solely on the strength of his Macao PIC. Those paragraphs also say that the amendment will facilitate the implementation of similar convenience measures for visitors from other places in the future.

At present, have you identified the countries or places, if any, other than Macao, whose residents may enter Hong Kong by virtue of paragraph (b) of the proposed new definition?

We appreciate that your reply, in both languages, could reach us at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

(Stephen LAM)
Assistant Legal Adviser

c.c. DoJ

(Attn : Mr Allen LAI, SGC) (Fax No. : 2869 1302)

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