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香港特別行政區政府 商務及經濟發展局 工商及旅遊科

HONG KONG

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18 June 2010

Ms YUE Tin Po
Clerk to the Subcommittee
to Examine the Implementation in Hong Kong of Resolutions
of the United Nations Security Council in relation to Sanctions
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Yue,

United Nations Sanctions Regulations Provision relating to "economic resources"

I refer to the meeting of the LegCo Subcommittee held on 28 May 2010 during which Members asked for information on whether the provision relating to "economic resources" applied to all United Nations sanctions regulations, and whether the expression "economic resources" is used and defined in the anti-terrorism legislation and, if not, whether consideration would be given to doing so.

The provision relating to "economic resources" in question concerns the prohibition against the making available of funds or other financial assets or economic resources to, or for the benefit of, a relevant person or a relevant entity, or prohibiting the dealing with funds, other financial assets or economic resources owned by or otherwise belonging to, or held by, a relevant person or a relevant entity, as designated by the relevant Committee established under a United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR). Such provision appears in a number of regulations made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) to give effect to the decisions of the UNSCR in respect of freezing of funds, other financial assets or economic resources of relevant person or relevant entity. To enhance clarity, the expression "economic resources" was defined in regulations made under Cap. 537 in 2010. A list of regulations containing the provision relating to "economic resources" is enclosed for easy reference. As explained to Members in our letter and meeting of 28 May, we will introduce similar drafting improvements to other regulations to be made under Cap. 537 as appropriate when opportunity arises.

As regards whether the expression "economic resources" is used and defined in the anti-terrorism legislation, there is currently no such reference in United Nations (Anti-terrorism) Measures Ordinance (UNAMTO). The Security Bureau however noted the comments of the LegCo Subcommittee and will take into account Members' views in any future exercise to amend the UNAMTO.

Yours sincerely,

(Cheryl Chow)

for Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

c.c. Security Bureau (Attn: Ms Veronica Wong)

Appendix

United Nations Sanctions Regulations Provision relating to "economic resources"

Cap. No.	Legislation	Provision relating to "economic resources"	Interpretation of "economic resources"
537AQ	United Nations Sanctions (Liberia) Regulation 2010	√	1
537AP	United Nations Sanctions (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Regulation 2010	√	V
537AO	United Nations Sanctions (Côte d'Ivoire) Regulation 2010	V	V
537AE	United Nations Sanctions (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) Regulation	√	V
537AN	United Nations Sanctions (Somalia) Regulation	V	
537AF	United Nations Sanctions (Iran) Regulation	V	
537W	United Nations Sanctions (Sudan) Regulation	V	
537K	United Nations Sanctions (Afghanistan) Regulation	V	