

民政事務總署  
香港灣仔軒尼詩道一百三十號  
修頓中心二十九及三十樓



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11 December 2008

Ms Betty Fong  
Clerk to Panel on Home Affairs  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Fong,

**Yuen Long Kau Hui**

Further to our information paper on Yuen Long Kau Hui submitted to the Legislative Council, we would like to provide the supplementary information set out below.

The Administration has been in close contact with residents of Yuen Long Kau Hui by various means, including telephone conversation, written correspondence and meetings. The Yuen Long District Office (YLDO) had written thrice to them between September 2005 and June 2006, explaining the reasons for not including Yuen Long Kau Hui in the 2007 Village Representative (VR) election.

The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) and Home Affairs Department (HAD) had also sent six letters to residents of Yuen Long Kau Hui or their solicitors between July 2006 and June 2007, explaining the reasons for not including Yuen Long Kau Hui in the Schedules to the Village Representative Election Ordinance (VREO). The letters also mentioned that the Government would, together with the Heung Yee Kuk (HYK), review the rural election arrangements, including the request of Yuen Long Kau Hui, after completion of the 2007 VR election. District

Officer (Yuen Long) also personally met with the residents of Yuen Long Kau Hui in September 2006, explaining the same.

HAD and HYK jointly set up a Rural Elections Review Working Group (the Working Group) in November 2007 to review the arrangements for rural elections. The Working Group has examined Yuen Long Kau Hui's claim as an indigenous village and request to be included in the VREO. The Working Group considered that sufficient information and documents must be submitted by the residents to substantiate that Yuen Long Kau Hui had already been included in the village representation system in 1999 and was a village already in existence in 1898. Since Yuen Long Kau Hui could not submit the relevant proof, after deliberation, the Working Group decided not to follow up its proposal in the amendment of the VREO.

YLDO wrote to residents of the Yuen Long Kau Hui on 9 October 2008, informing them of the reasons why the Working Group had decided not to follow up on Yuen Long Kau Hui's request. On the same day, a Chief Liaison Officer of HAD and a Senior Liaison Officer of YLDO met with some residents at a site visit to Yuen Long Kau Hui, and explained to them once again the decision of the Working Group.

Subsequently, in response to enquiries by residents of Yuen Long Kau Hui through telephone and facsimile, HAB and HAD wrote to them on 14 and 20 October 2008 to explain in detail the reasons why the Administration could not include Yuen Long Kau Hui in the Schedules to the VREO.



( Philip Har )

for Director of Home Affairs