金山工業(集團)有限公司 Gold Peak Industries (Holdings) Limited

Victor Lo GBS, OBE, JP Chairman & Chief Executive

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Honourable Andrew Leung Kwan-yuen Chairman Bills Committee on Competition Bill Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Andrew,



I write to support Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC) to be exempted from the Competition Law which is intended to be passed this year for implementation.

TDC, over its history, has unequivocally demonstrated its service *par excellence* in terms of promoting Hong Kong's exports and helping small and medium enterprises to participate in trade shows. Thanks to TDC's drive and productive use of its wide networks, many of the trade exhibitions across sectors have become the biggest in Asia, drawing to each of them tens of thousands of buyers from all over the world.

Amid its many trade-related promotional services including exhibitions, study tours in the mainland and overseas markets, trade missions, research studies, industry-focused conferences and forums, trade fairs form only a small part of its business scope. TDC boasts strong links and rapport with Hong Kong's major professional bodies, trade and industry support organizations and associations, government departments and leading corporations in the private and public service sectors. It has created important synergies with other statutory bodies and non-profit organizations in promoting Hong Kong's six newly identified industry pillars to sustain our economic growth. Backed by a strong research regimen and a league of professional researchers and economists, TDC also provides relevant market information to industries.

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For sustainable business competitiveness in Hong Kong, TDC deserves to be excluded from the new law, like most of the city's other 500-plus statutory bodies, including universities, Ocean Park, the Airport Authority. As one of the exhibition organisers in the city, TDC's exhibitions make up only less than half in total, allowing ample scope for growth of the exhibition sector.

As former Chairman of Federation of Hong Kong Industries and a well connected industrialist myself, I attest to the strategic importance of granting TDC the exemption status for further developing Hong Kong as a hub for trading and innovative and premier goods and services.

Victor Lo