

政制及內地事務局  
政府總部

香港下亞厘畢道



CONSTITUTIONAL AND MAINLAND AFFAIRS BUREAU  
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT  
LOWER ALBERT ROAD  
HONG KONG

Our Ref.: CMAB C4/21

Your Ref.:

Tel No.: 2810 2123

Fax No.: 2521 8702

28 May 2010

***By Fax: 2509 9055***

Hon. TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Package of Proposals for  
the Methods for Selecting the Chief Executive  
and for Forming the Legislative Council in 2012  
Legislative Council

Dear Hon. Tam,

**Legislative Council  
Subcommittee on Package of Proposals for the Methods  
for Selecting the Chief Executive and for Forming  
the Legislative Council in 2012**

**Follow up to the meeting on 18 May 2010**

At the Subcommittee meeting on 18 May 2010, the Administration was requested to provide the following information:

- (a) with reference to the Administration's reply dated 14 May 2010 on the seat-to-population ratio of overseas legislatures, the electoral methods for returning the seats in the legislatures concerned, including information on any seats being reserved for certain sectors;
- (b) the seat-to-population ratio of major cities; and
- (c) the respective number of people represented by each functional constituency Member of the Legislative Council.

The information on (a) and (b) above is provided at Annexes A and B respectively. As for the respective number of people represented by each functional constituency Member of the Legislative Council, the readily available information only shows the number of employed persons by detailed industry group of main employment, which is provided at Annex C for Members' reference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Joyce Ho', written over a horizontal line.

( Joyce Ho )

for Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

**Seat-to-Population Ratio of Overseas Legislatures and  
the Electoral Methods for Returning the Seats in the Legislatures concerned**

Country/City	Population <sup>1</sup>	Statutory Number of Seats in the Legislature/ Lower House <sup>2</sup>	Seat-to-Population Ratio <sup>3</sup>	Electoral Method for Returning the Seats in the Legislature <sup>4</sup>
Singapore	4,737,000	94	50,394	<p>(i) Adopts a unicameral legislature.</p> <p>(ii) Among the 94 members, 84 are directly elected by the simple majority voting system, nine are nominated by the President and one is nominated by the opposition political parties.</p> <p>(iii) In respect of the directly-elected seats, there are a total of 23 constituencies (nine single-member constituencies and 14 multi-member group representation constituencies). Each group representation constituency returns five to six members, one of whom must be from the Malay, the Indian or another minority community.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Source of information: the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs ([http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp2008/peps\\_documents.htm](http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp2008/peps_documents.htm)) and the Census and Statistics Department of the HKSAR Government (<http://www.censtatd.gov.hk>) (2009 figures).

<sup>2</sup> Source of information: PARLINE database (<http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/parlinesearch.asp>).

<sup>3</sup> For countries which adopt a bicameral legislature, we compare the number of seats in their lower houses with their population.

<sup>4</sup> Source of information: PARLINE database (<http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/parlinesearch.asp>).

Country/City	Population	Statutory Number of Seats in the Legislature/ Lower House	Seat-to-Population Ratio	Electoral method for returning the seats in the legislature
United Kingdom	61,565,000	650	94,715	<p>(i) Adopts a bicameral legislature.</p> <p>(ii) <b>House of Commons (Lower House)</b>: All members are directly elected by the simple majority voting system in single-member constituencies.</p> <p>(iii) <b>House of Lords (Upper House)</b>: Among the 733 members, 616 are life peers appointed by the Crown on the advice of the Prime Minister, 92 are hereditary peers and 25 are archbishops and bishops.</p>
France	62,343,000	577	108,047	<p>(i) Adopts a bicameral legislature.</p> <p>(ii) <b>National Assembly (Lower House)</b>: All members are returned through single-member majoritarian systems in two rounds. A candidate is elected in the first round if he/she obtains an absolute majority of the total votes cast, provided this amount is equal to a quarter of the number of registered voters in the particular constituency. In order to be eligible for the second round, candidates must have obtained a number of votes equal to at least 12.5% of the total number of registered voters. However, if only one candidate fulfils this condition, the person who polls the second largest number of votes in the first ballot may also participate in the second at which, to be elected, a simple majority suffices.</p> <p>(iii) <b>Senate (Upper House)</b>: All 331 senators are indirectly elected by electoral colleges (comprising members of the National Assembly,</p>

Country/City	Population	Statutory Number of Seats in the Legislature/ Lower House	Seat-to-Population Ratio	Electoral method for returning the seats in the legislature
				representatives of the provincial and municipal councils and representative of local councils) with mixed systems of voting. For provinces and municipalities having three seats or less in the Senate, a two-round first-past-the-post voting system is adopted; for those provinces and municipalities having four seats or more, a proportional representation system is adopted.
Canada	33,573,000	308	109,003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Adopts a bicameral legislature.</li> <li>(ii) <b>House of Commons (Lower House)</b>: All members are elected by the first-past-the-post voting system in single-member constituencies.</li> <li>(iii) <b>Senate (Upper House)</b>: The statutory number of members is 105. All senators are appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Prime Minister.</li> </ul>
Hong Kong	7,003,700	60	116,728	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Adopts a unicameral legislature.</li> <li>(ii) Of the total number of 60 members, 30 are directly elected in five geographical constituencies by list proportional representation system, and the other 30 are returned from functional constituencies (FCs) by the first-past-the-post voting system, except for the four FCs (i.e. Heung Yee Kuk, Agriculture and Fisheries, Insurance and Transport) where the preferential elimination system of voting is adopted.</li> </ul>

Country/City	Population	Statutory Number of Seats in the Legislature/ Lower House	Seat-to-Population Ratio	Electoral method for returning the seats in the legislature
Spain	44,904,000	350	128,297	<p>(i) Adopts a bicameral legislature.</p> <p>(ii) <b>Congress of Deputies (Lower House)</b>: All members are directly elected. For the 50 multi-member constituencies, blocked party lists and the D'Hondt system of proportional representation (i.e. party-list proportional representation system operating under the highest average formula) is adopted. Each voter chooses one list of those made available in the constituency. For the two single-member constituencies, simple majority voting system is adopted.</p> <p>(iii) <b>Senate (Upper House)</b>: Among the 264 seats, 208 are directly elected and 56 are indirectly elected. Directly elected senators are returned by the simple majority voting system. Indirectly elected senators are elected by the legislative assemblies of the Autonomous Communities, according to their own rules of procedure, on proportional basis.</p>
Germany	82,167,000	598	137,403	<p>(i) Adopts a bicameral legislature.</p> <p>(ii) <b>German Bundestag (Lower House)</b>: Half of the seats are elected under the first-past-the-post voting system. The other half are returned through the party list proportional representation system.</p> <p>(iii) <b>Federal Council (Upper House)</b>: It comprises 69 appointed members, who are representatives of federal state governments.</p>

Country/City	Population	Statutory Number of Seats in the Legislature/ Lower House	Seat-to-Population Ratio	Electoral method for returning the seats in the legislature
Republic of Korea	48,333,000	299	161,649	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Adopts a unicameral legislature.</li> <li>(ii) Among the 299 seats, 245 are elected by the simple majority voting system in single-member district constituencies. The remaining 54 seats are divided proportionately among the political parties based upon their votes obtained in the districts, on the condition that they have obtained at least 3% of the total valid votes cast or secured five district constituency seats or more.</li> </ul>
United States of America	314,659,000	435	723,354	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Adopts a bicameral legislature.</li> <li>(ii) <b><u>House of Representatives (Lower House)</u></b>: Members are returned by the first-past-the-post voting system in single-member constituencies.</li> <li>(iii) <b><u>Senate (Upper House)</u></b>: The Senate has 100 representatives, two from each of the 50 states. All representatives are returned by the first-past-the-post voting system. Each elector votes for two senatorial candidates.</li> </ul>

**Seat-to-Population Ratio of Major Cities**

<b>City</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Number of Seats in the City Council</b>	<b>Seat-to-Population Ratio</b>
London	7,619,800 <sup>1</sup>	25 <sup>2</sup>	<b>304,792</b>
New York	8,363,710 <sup>3</sup>	51 <sup>4</sup>	<b>163,994</b>
Tokyo	12,989,000 <sup>5</sup>	127 <sup>6</sup>	<b>102,276</b>

<sup>1</sup> Source of information: the UK Office for National Statistics (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=15106>) (Mid-2008 Population Estimates)

<sup>2</sup> The London Assembly comprises 14 Constituency Assembly members and 11 London-wide Assembly members. All members are elected by London people once every four years, who have two key responsibilities: examining the Mayor's actions and investigating matters that are important to London. The Constituency Assembly members are returned by the first-past-the-post voting system. The London-wide Assembly members are returned by proportional representation system operating under the Modified d'Hondt highest average formula.

Source of information:

- (1) The official website for the Mayor of London and the Greater London Authority (<http://www.london.gov.uk/who-runs-london/the-london-assembly/about-london-assembly>)
- (2) Guide to the 2008 elections for the Mayor of London and the London Assembly. ([http://www.londonelects.org.uk/how\\_to\\_vote/how\\_the\\_assembly\\_is\\_elected.html](http://www.londonelects.org.uk/how_to_vote/how_the_assembly_is_elected.html))

<sup>3</sup> Source of information: US Census Bureau (<http://www.census.gov/popest/cities/SUB-EST2008.html>) (2008 figures)

<sup>4</sup> The New York City Council is the law-making body of the City of New York, comprising 51 members from 51 different Council Districts throughout the five boroughs. The Council monitors the operation and performance of city agencies, makes land use decisions and has sole responsibility for approving the city's budget. The single-member district-plurality system is adopted to elect the Council Members.

Source of information:

- (1) the New York City Council (<http://council.nyc.gov/html/about/about.shtml>)
- (2) "City Council Election Methods" by FairVote: The Center for Voting and Democracy ([http://archive.fairvote.org/media/documents/City\\_Council\\_Manual.pdf](http://archive.fairvote.org/media/documents/City_Council_Manual.pdf))

<sup>5</sup> Source of information: The Tokyo Metropolitan Government (<http://www.metro.tokyo.jp/ENGLISH/PROFILE/overview03.htm>) (2009 figures)

<sup>6</sup> The Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly is the formal decision-making organ of Tokyo Metropolis. It has the authority to, among other things, enact, amend, and repeal metropolitan ordinances and approve the budget. Its 127 members are elected every four years in 42 districts by single non-transferable vote (i.e. the multi-seat, single vote system).

Source of information:

- (1) The Tokyo Metropolitan Government (<http://www.metro.tokyo.jp/ENGLISH/PROFILE/overview08.htm>)
- (2) (<http://www.silvajp.amu.edu.pl/Silva%2010.pdf>) - open source information on the Internet.



## Annex C

### Number of Employed Persons by Detailed Industry Group of Main Employment<sup>1</sup>

Detailed industry group	Figures in Q1/2010 (% of the total number of employed persons of Hong Kong)
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>130,500 (3.7%)</b>
♦ Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and related products	27,800 (0.8%)
♦ Other manufacturing	<u>102,700 (2.9%)</u>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>273,400 (7.8%)</b>
♦ Foundation and superstructure	208,400 (6.0%)
♦ Decoration, repair and maintenance for buildings	<u>65,000 (1.9%)</u>
<b>Import/export trade and wholesale</b>	<b>547,700 (15.7%)</b>
♦ Import and export trade	502,100 (14.4%)
♦ Wholesale	<u>45,600 (1.3%)</u>
<b>Retail, accommodation and food services</b>	<b>577,100 (16.5%)</b>
♦ Retail	311,600 (8.9%)
♦ Accommodation and food services	<u>265,500 (7.6%)</u>

<sup>1</sup> Source of information: Quarterly Report on General Household Survey published by the Census and Statistics Department of the HKSAR Government (Q1 2010) (<http://www.censtatd.gov.hk>)

<b>Detailed industry group</b>	<b>Q1/2010 (% of the total number of employed persons of Hong Kong)</b>
<b>Transportation, storage, postal and courier services, information and communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Transportation and storage</li> <li>◆ Postal and courier activities</li> <li>◆ Information and communications</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>410,300 (11.7%)</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">291,900 (8.3%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">19,600 (0.6%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>98,800 (2.8%)</u></p>
<b>Financing, insurance, real estate, professional and business services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Financing</li> <li>◆ Insurance</li> <li>◆ Real estate</li> <li>◆ Professional and business services</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>628,300 (18.0%)</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">164,200 (4.7%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">43,600 (1.2%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">134,700 (3.9%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>285,700 (8.2%)</u></p>
<b>Public administration, social and personal services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Public administration</li> <li>◆ Education</li> <li>◆ Human health and social work activities</li> <li>◆ Arts, entertainment and recreation</li> <li>◆ Other service activities</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>905,200 (25.9%)</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">108,800 (3.1%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">178,200 (5.1%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">174,800 (5.0%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">54,200 (1.5%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>389,100 (11.1%)</u></p>
<b>Other industries</b>	<b>24,300 (0.7%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,496,700 (100%)</b>