

政府總部 禁毒處
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**NARCOTICS DIVISION
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT**
QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES
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HONG KONG

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27 April 2011

Mr. Lam Hay-sing
Director of Christian Zheng Sheng Association
Mr. Chan Siu-cheuk
Principal of Christian Zheng Sheng College
Cheung Chau Post Office Box 68

Dear Messrs Lam and Chan,

I refer to your letter dated 4 April 2011 to the Chief Executive and other senior officials. I am authorised to reply. Your latest letter of 18 April 2011 addressed to the undersigned also refers.

Drug treatment and rehabilitation services are an integral part of our anti-drug efforts. Depending on the practical needs, the Administration has been providing various forms of support to the 40 drug treatment and rehabilitation centres (DTRCs) now in Hong Kong.

On 12 April, representatives of relevant Government bureaux and departments together with Hon Cheung Man-kwong and Hon Paul Chan Mo-po paid a visit to your DTRCs at Ha Keng and Cheung Chau. Following our exchanges on that day, the Administration will continue to provide support to your Association in various ways as set out below.

In the short term, we encourage your Association to continue to take forward temporary improvement measures at the facilities at Ha Keng. Relevant Government bureaux and departments will also render support as appropriate. The Administration has completed the slope stabilising works for existing facilities there. Grants from the Beat Drugs Fund (BDF) have been approved in 2009 for your Association to procure a boat for commuting to and

from Ha Keng. Your Association has expressed difficulties in purchasing a second hand boat and requested additional funding to purchase a new one. The BDF Association secretariat has already assisted your Association to prepare the specifications and requirements of the proposed boat for tendering purposes, which would facilitate the establishment of the latest market situation and price level of second-hand boats. Separately, with the assistance of the Administration, Christian Zheng Sheng College (CZSC) registered a new classroom at Ha Keng in March, making a total of five classrooms at Cheung Chau and Ha Keng.

We understand your Association's preference to apply for an appropriate site of Government land at Ha Keng to erect temporary structures for extension purposes. We also note that you plan to improve the existing facilities on Government land at Ha Keng. The Administration supports these initiatives. We look forward to your Association formulating and submitting concrete proposals as early as practicable so that you may submit a formal application to the Lands Department for direct land grant on a short-term tenancy basis. Regarding the expenditure in temporary structures and facility improvements, you may consider applying to the BDF for support (see below).

Regarding the utilization of your Association's two DTRCs for adults at Tai O and Mui Wo, the respective occupancy rates have been low consistently. Another two DTRCs at Cheung Chau have also maintained a surplus capacity for a long time. The Social Welfare Department has urged your Association to thoroughly review the occupancy situation of its DTRCs and deploy resources flexibly, in order to alleviate the situation of over admission to the DTRCs at Ha Keng. If necessary, your Association may also consider proposing concrete proposals for improvement of the facilities in order to facilitate the redeployment of capacities among your DTRCs.

Regarding the reprovisioning and development needs of your Association's DTRCs, we maintain our view that your Association should speed up the development plan of the land you purchased on Cheung Chau to build a new DTRC and educational facilities as soon as possible, which can accommodate up to 96 persons. Under this development plan, the total capacity of the old and new DTRCs on Cheung Chau will be able to accommodate all existing students on Cheung Chau and at Ha Keng (about 110).

As regards capacity increase in the long term, we support your Association to continue in searching for sites to re-provision the centres at Ha Keng. The Administration will assist your Association in discussing with different stakeholders.

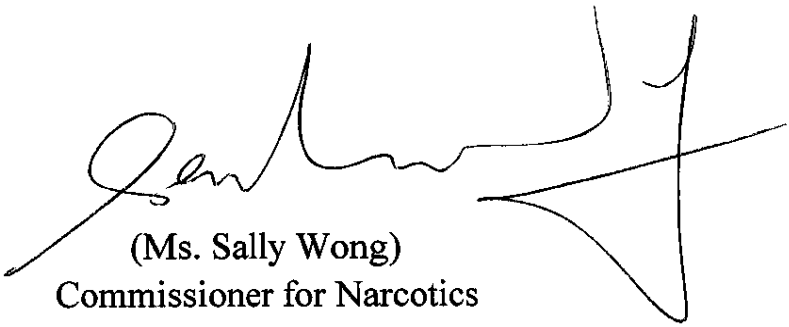
Regarding financial support, your Association may consider applying for funding from the BDF in order to take forward the above mentioned temporary improvement measures and other longer-term development and re-provisioning plans. With the injection of \$3 billion, the BDF is enhancing its funding arrangements, in a bid to help DTRCs to proceed with their improvement works. A project may receive up to a maximum grant of \$50 million or 80% of the approved project cost (whichever is lower). The organisation concerned can also make use of the funds to employ authorised persons or consultants to plan and implement projects and conduct technical feasibility studies in the early stage. The Narcotics Division will provide necessary assistance in respect of funding application issues, and has already met with your representatives to explain in the first instance the funding procedures.

Regarding CZSC's application for operating New Senior Secondary (NSS) courses, although your Association has recently indicated that the accounts of your Association and CZSC could be clearly separated, the Education Bureau (EDB) received on 1 April this year are still the audited accounts of "Christian Zheng Sheng Association" instead of the audited account of the College (i.e. "CZSC"), notwithstanding EDB's request. Also, the three-year budget submitted by the College is far too brief for EDB to assess the proposed financial provision of the NSS courses for a three-year cohort. EDB have urged CZSC again to submit the necessary audited account of the College and supplementary information on its budget as soon as possible so that they can process further its application to operate the NSS courses.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank your Association for the staunch support in the anti-drug cause and working with us towards the same goal in helping the youth fallen prey to drugs to turn a new leaf and reintegrate into society.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Ms. Sally Wong)
Commissioner for Narcotics

c.c.

Hon Starry Lee Wai-king, JP, Chairman of the Panel on Education

Hon James To Kun-sun, Chairman of the Panel on Security

Hon Cheung Kwok-che, Chairman of the Panel on Welfare Services