

政制及內地事務局
政府總部
香港添馬添美道2號
政府總部東翼



CONSTITUTIONAL AND MAINLAND AFFAIRS BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

EAST WING
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES
2 TIM MEI AVENUE, TAMAR
HONG KONG

Our Ref: CMAB B32
Your Ref: CB1/F/1/10

Tel No.: (852) 2810 2226
Fax No.: (852) 2801 7269

Clerk to the Finance Committee
(Attn: Mr Derek Lo)
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

24 June 2013

Dear Mr Lo,

Finance Committee

Follow-up to meeting on 7 June 2013

The Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau has relayed your letter dated 10 June to us. The requested information as mentioned in your letter is set out below.

The Chief Executive announced in his 2013 Policy Address the plan to set up a new Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, Hubei, with a view to capitalising on the opportunities arising from the rapid economic development in the Central Region of the Mainland. In considering the setting up of the new Wuhan ETO, we took into account a series of factors, including the overall national strategy for coordinated regional development; the development situation and potential of the relevant provinces and municipalities; their complementarity with Hong Kong; and views from relevant stakeholders including the business sector, etc.

We have strong economic and trade ties with the Hubei Province and Wuhan Municipality. According to data from the relevant Mainland authorities, the total value of trade between Hong Kong and Hubei in 2012 was about US\$1.3 billion, among which about US\$0.7 billion was trade between Hong Kong and Wuhan, representing increases of about 13% and 2%

respectively as compared with 2009. On investment, the foreign direct investment in Hubei from Hong Kong in 2012 was about US\$3.3 billion, among which about US\$1.9 billion was invested in Wuhan, representing increases of about 70% and 80% respectively as compared with 2009.

On the other hand, there were 49 Hubei enterprises in Hong Kong as at end 2012, involving a total investment of about US\$0.4 billion. Among these enterprises, 14 were Wuhan enterprises involving a total investment of about US\$0.3 billion. As at end of last year, there were six Hubei enterprises (all being Wuhan enterprises) listed in Hong Kong, with a market capitalisation of over HK\$51.8 billion.

At present, we are working with the Census and Statistics Department to step up collection of aggregate data on Hong Kong residents in the Mainland in order to ascertain their geographical distribution in the Mainland and other related information, including the number of Hong Kong residents working, living or doing business in major cities in the Mainland (such as Wuhan).

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Noel Tsang)

for Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

c.c.

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Attn: Ms Elsie Yuen)