

香港特別行政區政府  
保安局



The Government of the  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
Security Bureau

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11 March 2014

Miss Betty MA  
Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss MA,

**Panel on Security  
Letter from Hon FAN Kwok-wai**

Thank you for letter dated 13 February 2014. The information requested by Hon FAN Kwok-wai is appended below.

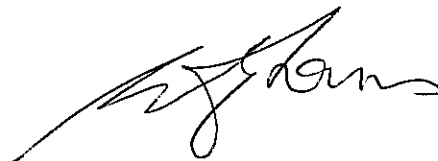
In June 2009, the Legislative Council approved funding for the Government Flying Service (GFS) to replace two aged fixed-wing aircraft for use in long-range search and rescue operations and other missions such as assistance in law enforcement operations and meteorological and aerial surveys. Due to special operational needs, the two new aircraft must be substantially modified, e.g. the base of the aircraft has to be carved open for installing a camera, an optical quality glass and an aerodynamic fairing for protection. The tendering process for the manufacturing and modifications of the aircraft was complicated and took a longer than usual time to complete.

Upon completion of the relevant modifications, the aircraft manufacturer conducted flight tests in accordance with the relevant certification

requirements. During the tests, an unforeseen stability issue was identified when the modified aircraft was at extreme attitude at low speed. The issue was thoroughly examined and is now being rectified. GFS is liaising with the manufacturer closely, and will ensure that the new aircraft will fully comply with all statutory airworthiness certification and contractual requirements before delivery.

Meanwhile, GFS has arranged with the relevant suppliers of its existing fixed-wing aircraft to ensure sufficient supply and stock level of spare parts and continuity of stepped up maintenance for the aircraft, so that all its on-going search and rescue operations will not be affected.

Yours sincerely,



( Trinky CHAN )  
for Secretary for Security

c.c. Controller, Government Flying Services  
(Attn.: Ms May LEE) (Fax No.: 2753 8438)