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Ms Debbie YAU
Clerk to Panel on Economic Development
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

17 March 2015

Dear Ms YAU,

**Panel on Economic Development
Follow-up to meeting on 16 February 2015**

“Hong Kong Tourism Board Work Plan for 2015-16”

At the captioned meeting, the Panel requested the Administration to provide relevant statistics of Mainland visitors coming to Hong Kong via the multiple entry permit arrangement to show that their visiting purposes were/were not for parallel trading of daily commodities. The following supplementary information is provided for Members' reference.

According to the survey results of the Hong Kong Tourism Board, most visitors travelling to Hong Kong on multiple-entry endorsements in 2014 were for vacation (e.g. shopping, sightseeing, movie and performance watching, etc.). Other purposes of visit include business (e.g. attending conferences/conventions, meeting with external suppliers/customers, etc.), visiting friends/relatives, etc.

According to statistics provided by the Security Bureau, in 2014, among the arrested Mainland residents who were suspected of contravening conditions of stay by being involved in parallel trading activities, 500 travelled to Hong Kong on multiple-entry endorsement. This made up 0.003% of the number of visitors travelling on that endorsement (14.85 million) in the same year, i.e. for every 100 thousand holders of the multiple-entry endorsement, 3 were offenders.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Ann CHAN)

for Commissioner for Tourism