

香港特別行政區政府
保安局



The Government of the
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Security Bureau

香港添馬添美道 2 號

2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

本函檔號 Our Ref.: SBCR 2/57/581/76

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

3 February 2016

Miss Betty Ma
Clerk to Panel on Security
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Ma,

**Matters relating to the Medical Fee Waiver
provided to Non-refoulement Claimants in Hong Kong**

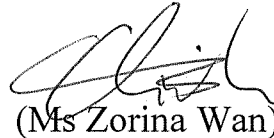
The Security Panel meeting held on 3 November 2015 discussed matters relating to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT). I write to provide supplementary information as requested.

2. At present, the Hospital Authority (HA) provides medical services to non-Hong Kong residents (i.e. non-eligible persons) without affecting the medical services provided for Hong Kong residents. Non-eligible persons, including illegal immigrants who have lodged non-refoulement claims with the Immigration Department, who could not afford medical expense at the public sector can apply for medical fee waivers. HA / Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to provide waivers of medical expenses for non-refoulement claimants (claimants) in Hong Kong on a case-by-case basis. The medical fee waiver mechanism covers standard medical services, such as Accident & Emergency, in-patient, specialist out-patient, general out-patient, dressing and injection, day hospital and standard pharmacy, etc.

3. In general, upon receipt of requests for waiving medical fee, HA or SWD would conduct an assessment according to the existing medical fee waiver mechanism (with due consideration given to the financial, social and medical condition). With respect to each and every application, one-off medical fee waiver at public clinics and hospitals would be granted accordingly.

4. At present, all claimants in Hong Kong, regardless of the status or progress of their claims, may apply for medical fee waiver assistance. The relevant Bureaux/Departments were informed of such arrangement in August 2013.

5. Should you have any enquiries, please contact the undersigned at 2810 2105.



(Ms Zorina Wan)
for Secretary for Security

cc. Hospital Authority (Attn.: Ms Monita So)
Social Welfare Department (Attn.: Miss Fanny Fung)