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27 October 2021

Mr Boris Lam Clerk to Panel on Commerce and Industry Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lam,

## Panel on Commerce and Industry Follow-up to policy briefing cum meeting on 25 January 2017 Question raised by then Hon Tanya Chan

At the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Commerce and Industry meeting on 25 January 2017, the then Hon Tanya Chan suggested that the Government provides the full report of the consultancy study on the demand for new convention and exhibition (C&E) facilities in Hong Kong.

As replied by the Government on 17 February and 3 April 2017, the consultancy report contains information provided by event organisers and venue operators to the consultant for reference, such as detailed information on income of individual event organisers, projected scale of expansion and additional space required by individual events, utilisation of individual venues, etc. Such information is commercially sensitive, and hence we have not disclosed the full report. The Government has already submitted the executive summary of the consultancy report and briefed Members on the major content of the report at the meeting of the Panel on Commerce and Industry in February 2015.

In view of the Hon Chan's suggestion, the Government has reviewed the consultancy report and obtained legal advice, and considers that the commercially sensitive information should be redacted before the report can be read by LegCo Members. After further review, the Government considers that the content of the consultancy report with commercially sensitive information redacted is largely reflected in the executive summary.

The Hon Chan's suggestion was made in view of the proposal of a comprehensive development of the Wan Chai Sports Ground (WCSG) to provide new C&E, sports and community facilities in the Policy Address published in January 2017 by the last-term Government. The current-term Government has already given up the proposal in the first Policy Address published in October 2017. The Government does not have any plan to demolish the WCSG at the moment. The Government has already briefed Members on the future development of the Hong Kong C&E industry at the meeting of the Panel on Commerce and Industry on 21 September 2021.

Yours sincerely,

( Harry LIN ) for Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development