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COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM BRANCH COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUREAU GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

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By fax and email

3 April 2017

Mr Desmond 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 Questions raised by Hon Tanya Chan

I refer to your letter of 22 March 2017 to the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development on the captioned subject. As set out in our reply of 17 February, the consultancy report of the Demand Study for New Convention and Exhibition Facilities in Hong Kong contains information provided by event organisers and venue operators to the consultant for reference, such as detailed information on income of individual 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 so far not disclosed the full report.

In view of the Hon Tanya 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 Members of the Legislative Council (LegCo). As the report is a lengthy document, we are expediting the redaction of commercially sensitive information with a view to making the redacted consultancy report available to LegCo Members for reading as soon as possible. We will follow up with the LegCo Secretariat on the arrangement.

Yours sincerely,

(Harry Lin)

for Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development