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17 December 1999

Clerk to the Panel on Manpower Legislative Council Secretariat 3/F, Citibank Tower No. 3 Garden Road Central Hong Kong (Attn: Mrs Sharon Tong)

(Fax: 2877 8024)

By fax and by post

Dear Mrs Tong,

<u>LegCo Panel on Manpower</u> <u>List of follow-up actions required of the Administration</u>

During the meeting held on 9 October, Members enquired whether transfer of technology and job opportunities have been achieved by the admission of professionals from other places in the past. We have consulted the Security Bureau and the Government Economist and this is a consolidated response from the Administration.

We had not carried out any assessment on whether technology transfer had taken place and the number of job opportunities created by the admission of professionals in the past. However it is a well-established policy that for admission for employment, foreign nationals must have skills or knowledge required but not readily available in Hong Kong; or can make substantial contribution to our economy. In assessing each application, we ensure that at least one of these criteria is satisfied. As such their entry should have brought about some economic benefits.

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For the Admission of Talents Scheme which has just been launched, the Government intends to conduct a review of the scheme one year after its commencement. The review will cover an assessment on economic benefits arising from the admission of talents under the Scheme.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Erica Ng) for Secretary for Education and Manpower

b.c.c. S for S (Attn : Mr Andy Chan)
G Econ (Attn : Mr H Y Cheung)