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本局檔號 Our Ref.:



(Translation)

Transport and Housing Bureau

Government Secretariat

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By Fax (2451 1598)

Mr. LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP Chairman Tuen Mun District Council 2/F, Tuen Mun Government Offices 1 Tuen Hi Road Tuen Mun, New Territories

THB(T)CR 2/2/5593/98

來函檔號 Your Ref.: HAD TMDC 13/10/DC/13

25 October 2013

Dear Mr. LAU,

<u>13th Meeting of Tuen Mun District Council (2012-2015)</u> <u>Request for the Operation of the Tuen Mun Ferry Terminal</u> <u>by the Government</u>

Thank you for your letter of 22 October 2013 inviting this Bureau to attend the 13th meeting of the Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) (2012-2015) on 5 November 2013 for discussion on matters relating to the Tuen Mun Ferry Terminal (TMFT).

We understand that the wish of TMDC is to put TMFT to effective use, including resumption of the cross-boundary ferry services between Tuen Mun and Macao as early as possible. As we explained at the meeting of TMDC's Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC) held on 12 July 2013, and in our written reply dated 16 September 2013 to TTC in response to its letter to the Chief Secretary for Administration, after the Hong Kong North West Express Limited (HKNWE), the former tenant, has returned TMFT to the Government last

September prior to the expiry of its tenancy, we have been handling matters arising from the tenancy agreement with HKNWE in accordance with the relevant legal proceedings, including recovery of outstanding payment and reinstatement of TMFT. We are now preparing for another open tender exercise in 2013-14 to let TMFT by way of commercial tenancy to a commercial organisation interested in operating cross-boundary ferry services. Upon completion of our preparatory work, we will brief TMDC on the relevant arrangements before the invitation of tender.

According to the prevailing policy, cross-boundary ferry terminals (CBFTs) are planned and established on a territory-wide basis. As the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal and China Ferry Terminal still have sufficient capacity to meet the projected demand for cross-boundary ferry services, we have no plan to establish the third government-managed CBFT.

Please be advised that Miss Amy Chan, Principal Assistant Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport), and Messrs. K.C. CHAN and K.P. KUI, General Manager/Services (Ag.) and Senior Marine Officer/Ferry Terminals respectively of the Marine Department, will attend the TMDC meeting on 5 November 2013 to explain the matters mentioned above.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) (Miss Kathy MA) for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c. Director of Marine

 (Attn: Mr. M.K. CHAN, General Manager/Services Mr. K.C. CHAN, Senior Marine Officer/Cargo Handling Mr. K.P. KUI, Senior Marine Officer/Ferry Terminals)
(Fax: 2545 1535)