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香港醫務委員會
The Medical Council of Hong Kong

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22 October 2010

Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Ms Diana WONG)

Dear Ms WONG,

Panel on Economic Development Meeting on 25 October 2010

Thank you for your letter of 14 October 2010 inviting the Chairman of the Medical Council to attend a meeting of the Panel on Economic Development on 25 October to discuss legislative proposals to enhance protection for consumers against unfair trade practices.

It is noted from paragraph 4.10 of the Consultation Paper on Legislation to Enhance Protection for Consumers Against Unfair Trade Practices published by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau that "*Regulation over professional practitioners requires specialist knowledge in the respective fields. Major professional practices (such as medical doctors and legal practitioners) are currently governed by statute, in respect of the registration of members, establishment of a professional body to regulate the conduct of members and the issue of codes of practice. We propose that professional practices regulated by regulatory bodies which are established by statute need not be brought under the ambit of the expanded TDO...*".

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The Medical Council would like to point out that the Council is established under the Medical Registration Ordinance ("MRO") (Cap. 161), Laws of Hong Kong. It is responsible for registration of medical practitioners and specialists, the conduct of Licensing Examination and the maintenance of medical ethics, professional standards and discipline in the profession. In other words, the Council regulates the professional practice of individual doctors in Hong Kong. It however does not have jurisdiction over corporate bodies and those Health Maintenance Organizations under the current regulatory regime of the MRO.

Yours sincerely,

(Tony LEUNG)
Secretary
The Medical Council of Hong Kong