



香港保險顧問聯會
THE HONG KONG CONFEDERATION
OF INSURANCE BROKERS

Our Ref: IS0701079

29 January 2007

Economic Development Branch (Division A)
Economic Development and Labour Bureau
2/F, Main Wing, Central Government Offices,
Lower Albert Road,
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Sirs,

Response to Discussion Document on the Way Forward for Competition Policy in Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Confederation of Insurance Brokers ("CIB") is a professional association and self-regulatory body of insurance brokers authorized by the Insurance Authority. Incorporated in 1993, CIB currently represents 245 corporate member firms of insurance brokers.

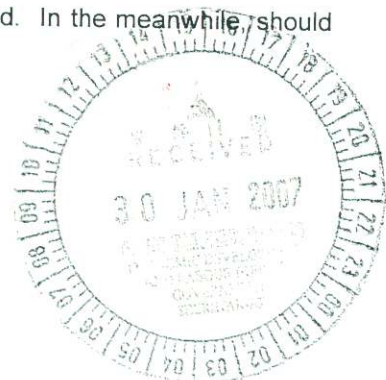
CIB welcomes the publication of the Discussion Document and is pleased to put forward herewith our response to the Document for your consideration:

1. CIB agrees in principle to the Government's objective of competition policy "to enhance economic efficiency and free flow of trade, thereby also benefiting consumer welfare".
2. However, CIB does not see any pressing need for a cross-sector competition law to be introduced in Hong Kong.
3. According to the Competition Policy Advisory Group Report 2005-2006, only 14 complaints were received by the Group during the year under review. Among which,
 - 2 were dealt with under the existing regulatory framework for competition in the broadcasting sector,
 - 5 were Government related (4 being classified under Government Policies and Practices in the Report plus 1 against the Government Electronic Trading Services),
 - 1 from training sector (the only prima facie case established),
 - 2 from exhibition sector, and
 - 1 each from freight forwarding, car washing, securities, and energy sector.
4. It is evident that many other sectors, including the insurance industry, of the Hong Kong economy are enjoying excellent reputation of being competitive and efficient. We feel strongly that it would be detrimental for government intervening into these sectors where the market has proven itself capable to promote and ensure free competition.
5. CIB believes that the Government should maintain its successful policy of legislating on anti-competition issues on a sector by sector basis.

We are most willing to share our views on the subject with you, if so required. In the meanwhile, should there be any other information required, please feel free to let us know.

Yours faithfully,

Eric Lee
Secretary-General & Registrar



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