<u>立法會CB(2)1707/15-16(18)號文件</u> LC Paper No. CB(2)1707/15-16(18)

Dr Kenneth Lam Registered Veterinary Surgeon in Hong Kong 5/F, Jardine House, 1 Connaught Place Central, Hong Kong

Your Ref: LC Paper No. CB(2)1222/15-16(01) -Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) (Amendment) Regulation 2016

Legislative Council of HKSAR Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Health Sub-committee on Issues Relating to Animal Welfare and Cruelty to Animals Attn: Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP sc fseh awca@legco.gov.hk

9th June 2016

Dear Mr. Cheung,

<u>Support for the proposed amendment of CAP 139b to better protect dogs being</u> bred and traded in Hong Kong

I note that the above-mentioned sub-committee will meet on 14th June 2016 to discuss the captioned subject.

For the proposed amendments to the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B), I support the package of measures currently proposed by the government to improve the regulation of pet trading and the breeding and trading of dogs.

As a dog owner myself and a registered veterinary surgeon in practice in Hong Kong for over 22 years, I believe that it is of the utmost importance to pass the amendments as soon as possible to better protect the health and welfare of animals involved in the trade.

The current situation of exclusion of pets and pets' offspring from the control of the licensing scheme has been exploited by some unscrupulous traders who operate under the disguise of a private pet owner, thereby operating not under the relevant regulatory control and leading to public health and animal welfare concerns.

The proposed legislation introduces a new regulatory system in licensing for pet trade, increasing oversight, training of the licensees and staff and control by government as well as setting benchmarking international standards in animal welfare through introduction of mandatory codes of practice that provides guidance on health care including infectious disease control and best practice.

Yours sincerely,

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