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From: Katty Law
To: Bernard Chan, Tom Ming
Date: 2011/01/20 上午 10:03
Subject: The Conservation of Central Government Offices and Government Hill

20 January 2011

To: Chairman & members of Antiquities Advisory Board
Antiquities and Monuments Office

Dear Mr Bernard Chan, Mr Tom Ming and members of Antiquities Advisory Board,

There have been strong public concerns since 2005 with regard to the future of the Central Government Offices once they are vacated after the move to Tamar, scheduled for the end of this year. These concerns have been compounded by the recent proposal to rezone and sell a large part of the site for commercial redevelopment.

The CGO, together with other monuments in the area known as Government Hill, is probably the most important heritage precinct in Hong Kong. It is therefore vitally important to have a thorough public discussion and assessment of its heritage value before any important decision is made for conservation and development. Public opinion should be an important consideration in this process.

The Antiques Advisory Board is an independent body and our gatekeeper with regard to heritage affairs. It has in recent few years organized successful hearings/meetings with the public to hear its views on the heritage value and conservation needs of important sites including the Queen's Pier and Hollywood Road Police Quarters. A similar approach should be adopted for the CGO site due to its high cultural and social significance.

I am writing on behalf of Government Hill Concern Group, formed by a number of NGOs, green groups, concerned individuals and professionals including architects, planners, educators and historians, to request for the AAB to organize a public hearing/meeting to hear public views on the heritage significance and conservation recommendations for the CGO site. We would appreciate if this hearing could be held in March and attended by AAB members and the public.

Thank you for your kind attention and we look forward to hearing your reply.

Regards,

Katty Law
Co-convenor



Government Hill Concern Group CGO_AAB.doc

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