Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to seek the assistance of your Consulate in bringing to the attention of your nationals of the local laws in Hong Kong prohibiting stunning devices.

There have been incidents reported in the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA), where flight passengers were found in possession of stunning devices in their check-in or hand-carry luggage, during security screening checks either upon departure or during their transit passage. These passengers were invariably arrested and charged to court.

Possession of stunning devices is governed by the Hong Kong laws and is a serious offence, because stunning devices are defined as "arms" under the Hong Kong laws. Offenders are liable to a fine of $100,000-HKD and a maximum sentence of 14 years' imprisonment.

Police investigations revealed that the offenders had purchased the stunning devices in Thailand prior to traveling to Hong Kong by sea or land passage or transiting via the HKIA. Their luggage were subjected to security screening at the HKIA, where the offences were disclosed. The sentence passed upon the conviction ranged from imprisonment of one day to a month and a fine of $1,000-HKD to 20,000-HKD.

To avoid legal sanction and unnecessary delay to their journey, I would like to seek your assistance in bringing to the attention of your nationals intent to travel to or transit via Hong Kong of the prohibition of stunning devices in Hong Kong. They are advised to remove such prohibited items from their luggage before entering Hong Kong or transiting via the HKIA.

Also, your kind assistance is sought for bringing such message to the airport Law Enforcement Agency and Airport Security Staff of such prohibition and reminding air passengers when conducting security screening.

Your assistance in this matter is highly appreciated. Should you require any further information, please feel free to contact the undersigned, Mr. CHAN Chun-ip Philip, Detective Inspector of District Intelligence & Support Section at (852) 3661-2032.

(CHAN Chun-ip, Philip)

for

Commissioner of Police