Date of Email: 7 February 2020

To: The Hon Abraham Shek

From: The President

Topic: **Difficulties faced by the industry during Coronavirus Outbreak**

Dear Hon Abaham ,

Construction industry is facing the dilemma as our workers have to get back to the construction sites after CNY but fears of shortage of masks as this is the minimum personal protection for the community infection . The border restriction to contain the coronavirus would choke off the material and equipment delivery to the projects which will slow down the activities at sites , also the mandatory quarantine 14 days for people entering from the mainland which will unavoidable cause the certain extent of consequence . All these are direct or indirect affected the normal operation in construction industry .

We did couple of rounds of discussion with our EMCA Council Members in the last few days and would like to suggest the following proposals for Government consideration ;

- nevertheless ,the project program will has the impact under this existing outbreak situation , can Government and REDA consider to waive the LD implication in this period and grant the EOT ?
- Will Government advise the proposal if construction site shortage of mask , or propose the site to shut down in the next 7 or 14 days under this circumstance ? Will Government compensate certain percentage of the daily income of those daily pay workers in this stop work period ?
- Any compensation to the companies in this stop work period ?
- Any subsidy for the enhanced virus precaution measure at site ?
- Due the downturn of the business environment and the impact of program deferment , both corporate and individual will suffer the cash flow seriously , will the Government work out the mechanism for the advance payment to support the industry ?
- Can CIC defer the levy payment from stakeholders ?

This virus has infected more than 28,000 people and killed over 500 since the outbreak ,we urge the Government response promptly before the situation deteriorate further in Hong Kong .

Thanks for your support in all aspects .

Gilbert Tsang