

26 April 1986

Convener Sub Group A,  
Special Group on Inhabitants and  
Other Persons' Rights, Freedom, Welfare and Duties,  
c/o Secretary, Basic Law Consultative Committee,  
8th Floor, Lane Crawford House,  
70 Queen's Road,  
Central,  
Hong Kong.

Dear Mr. Chow,

Inhabitants -- Right of Abode

I wish to record the following view which I did not make as clearly as I ought have done, during the discussion at the meeting held on 22nd April 1986 on the definition of inhabitants, rights of abode etc. I would like my view to be made available to all members of the Special Group.

In Annex I Section XIV, first paragraph the Joint Declaration lays down the categories of persons who shall have right of abode and be qualified to obtain permanent identity cards. Sub paragraph 2 refers to ;-- all other persons with the following words, 'who have taken Hong Kong as their place of permanent residence'. I feel this should not be taken to mean that any or all rights of abode or residence elsewhere, by birth or adoption will have to be foregone or relinquished before a person may qualify for right of abode and a permanent identity card.

Yours sincerely,



(J.S. Lambourn)  
Basic Law Consultative  
Committee Member

JSL/ck