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香港特別行政區政府
入境事務處

**Immigration Department
The Government of the Hong Kong
Special Administrative Region**

16 June 2008

Mr. Jens Galschiot
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Complaint about refusal to enter Hong Kong

Dear Sir,

Your letter dated 4 May 2008 forwarded by e-mail to the Director on 8 May and to the Chief Executive on 9 May refers. As you are aware, the Private Secretary to Chief Executive in acknowledging your letter on 9 May, informed you that it had been referred to Security Bureau which has policy responsibility for the Immigration Department of the HKSAR Government. I have been authorised to reply to your letter on behalf of the Director and the Bureau.

Under section 4(1)(a) of the Immigration Ordinance, Cap. 115, Laws of Hong Kong, visitors from all countries and territories, including those who do not require a visa to enter Hong Kong, are subject to immigration examination upon arrival here. You and your two sons, Mr Markus Lasse Galschiot and Mr Markus Kasper Galschiot, arrived at Hong Kong International Airport on 26 April 2008 on flight BA27 from London, United Kingdom. Upon arrival at the immigration counters at approximately 1755 hours, you were invited for further examination in relation to your entry into Hong Kong. To ensure the integrity of the

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examination, your mobile phones and the batteries from your video cameras were kept by our officers on a temporary basis, while you and your sons retained custody of your other personal belongings.

Section 11(1) of the same Ordinance empowers immigration officer to refuse a person permission to land in Hong Kong. Any person refused permission to land in Hong Kong may be removed under section 18 of the Ordinance. Having considered all relevant circumstances pertaining to your individual cases, including the purpose of your visit and other information furnished during the examination, you and your sons were each refused permission to enter Hong Kong for immigration reasons, namely that at the material time your presence in Hong Kong was not considered to be conducive to the public good. You were informed of our decision at around 1927 hours and that you were required to depart Hong Kong on board flight BA26 for London at 2315 hours the same day.

Refusal notices plus other documents informing you of, amongst others, the right to make telephone calls using the free telephones in the waiting lounge, were served on you. While awaiting departure, you and your sons were permitted to telephone your consul and legal representative. At around 2240 hours, you and your sons were accompanied by immigration officers, who oversaw your departure, to the boarding gate. No police officers, let alone armed police officers, were involved nor was any force used throughout the entire process. Your mobile phones and the batteries for your video cameras were returned to you at the entrance to the boarding gate. In processing your applications to enter Hong Kong as visitors on 26 April, the officers acted properly in accordance with the laws of Hong Kong.

Many visitors seek entry to Hong Kong each day. We do not comment on individual cases, nor is a comparison between cases useful given that each case is considered on its own individual merits. Whether you or your sons would be granted or refused entry to Hong Kong in future will depend upon the facts and circumstances prevailing at the time of your intended visit. The fact that you and your sons were refused permission to land here on 26 April does not preclude favourable consideration of any application you or your sons may make in the future. Any such application will be considered and determined on its individual merits at the relevant time.

I enclose copies of our case reports concerning your examinations at Hong Kong International Airport on 26 April. Material the disclosure of which would harm or prejudice the proper and efficient conduct of the operations of the Immigration Department or would be likely to prejudice the security of Hong Kong have been redacted from the copies.

Yours faithfully,



C P Yu

for Director of Immigration