

7 January 2013

Our Ref: CC001

Mr Kenneth Mak  
Director-General of Trade and Industry  
Trade and Industry Department Tower  
700 Nathan Road, Kowloon

Dear Kenneth

We understand that agreement has been reached on the core aspects of the architecture for the discussion on the plurilateral services negotiations at WTO. The Hong Kong Coalition of Service Industries (“HKCSI”), the service policy think tank of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, would like the Hong Kong Government to actively take part in the discussion to remove service trade barriers while at the same time exploring new business opportunities.

Eleven business organizations around the world comprising the Global Services Coalition (“GSC”), of which the HKCSI is a member, issued a communique and a statement last September applauding Governments for their concerted efforts in responding to business calls to reignite global interest in the growth and development of the services sector.

The services sector accounts for the bulk of GDP and new job-creation in most economies but international businesses in the services sector are severely hampered by long-standing trade, investment and regulatory barriers as well as new protectionist restrictions. We would like to see more WTO members joining the discussion to launch formal negotiations as soon as possible to achieve a practical outcome that will benefit us all.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite the Trade and Industry Department to give a briefing to the HKCSI as well as interested members of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce on the development of the services plurilateral and the current restrictions on the various services industries. This would help our members take stock of the situation and in identifying areas of interest.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes for a successful 2013.

Sincerely

Shirley Yuen  
CEO