Dear Sir/Madam,

Application for Exemption under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112)

With reference to your representative’s letter dated 7 March 2011, I hereby inform you that HONG KONG SOCIETY OF CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE LIMITED is entitled to exemption under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) with effect from 12 December 2010, and is, therefore, exempt from all taxes payable under the Ordinance. However, I have to draw your attention to the fact that the profits derived from any trade or business carried on by a charity shall only be exempt from tax in accordance with the proviso to Section 88 of the Ordinance. Subject to certain limitations, a deduction is granted, for tax purposes under the Ordinance, for donations of money made to your organisation. A letter which is designed to draw your attention to the need to distinguish donations from other payments when issuing receipts, is enclosed for your reference. Please ensure that the correct full name in English and Chinese (where appropriate) of your organisation is printed on every donation receipt.

In so far as the various other ordinances administered by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue are involved, a tax-exempt charity is also entitled to certain privileges as follows:-

1. exemption from stamp duty under Section 44 of the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117).
2. exemption from business registration under Section 16(a) of the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310).

/A ....
A certificate granting exemption from all taxes payable under the Inland Revenue Ordinance is attached.

In order to ascertain the effect on your exemption status, please notify me if there is any alteration to the governing instrument of your organisation within one month of the date of change. Besides, to assist me to update the record, please inform me whenever there is any change to your name, address and when a new subsidiary body is formed or an existing one is closed.

A copy of the practical guide on good governance and internal control entitled “Best Practice Checklist - Management of Charities and Fund-Raising Activities” compiled by the Independent Commission Against Corruption is enclosed for your reference.

Yours faithfully,

(Leonard C P WONG)
for Commissioner of Inland Revenue
先生/小姐：
Dear Sir/Madam,

現證實由2010年12月12日起
This is to confirm that with effect from 12 December 2010

香港危重病學會有限公司
HONG KONG SOCIETY OF CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE LIMITED

因屬公共性質的慈善機構或信託團體，
being a charitable institution or trust of a public character,
故可根據稅務條例第八十八條獲豁免繳稅，
is exempt from tax under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance.

稅務局局長
(王青平代行)
(Leonard C P WONG)
for Commissioner of Inland Revenue
Dear Sir/Madam,

Approved Charitable Donations

Subject to certain limitations, a deduction is granted, for tax purposes under the Inland Revenue Ordinance, for donations of money to charitable institutions or trusts of a public character. As your organization has been granted tax exemption as a charitable institution or trust of a public character, donations of money made to your organization will be deductible.

It has, however, come to my knowledge that the donations shown in some receipts issued by some tax-exempt charities are not in fact donations in the true sense of the word. Very often, payments made for a grave space, services such as saying prayers, reservation of a space for ancestral worship, admission tickets for film shows etc. are treated as donations and receipts issued accordingly. This is, however, incorrect, as such payments are made under a contractual obligation or in return for some direct advantage.

The word “donation” has not been defined in the Inland Revenue Ordinance. However, it is the Department view that donation, in its ordinary sense, means a gift. To constitute a gift, the property transferred must be transferred voluntarily and not as the result of a contractual obligation to transfer it, and no advantage of a material character is to be received by the transferor by way of return.

The purpose of the letter is therefore to remind you of the need to distinguish donations from other payments when issuing receipts. Payments other than those which are strictly gifts should not be termed as donations. On the other hand, you may state on your receipts that donations may be tax deductible, but you must cross out such statement when receipts other than donations in the true sense are acknowledged. In addition, please note that the correct full official name of your organization must be printed on every donation receipt.

Yours faithfully,

CHU YAM YUEN
Commissioner of Inland Revenue