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14 December 2006

Circular Letter:EF/COT/2006/002
To: Individual Trustees of MPF exempted ORSO Schemes

Dear Sirs,

Certification for Employee Benefits (Chinese Medicine) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2006

The Authority would like to inform you that the Legislative Council passed the Certification for Employee Benefits (Chinese Medicine) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2006 ("Amendment Ordinance") on 28 June 2006.

The Secretary for Economic Development and Labour published a notice in the Gazette on 6 October 2006 appointing 1 December 2006 as the day on which the Amendment Ordinance came into operation.

As the Amendment Ordinance has come into operation, medical certificates issued by registered Chinese medical practitioners can be used as a proof for members of MPF exempted ORSO schemes to withdraw minimum MPF benefits on the ground of total incapacity under section 6(9) of Schedule 2 to the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes (Exemption) Regulation.

Please also note that the Guidelines on MPF Exempted ORSO Schemes – Withdrawal of Minimum MPF Benefits (Guidelines V.11) have been revised to indicate that medical certificates issued by registered Chinese medicine practitioners can be used by MPF exempted ORSO scheme members to satisfy the medical certificate requirement for claiming payment of benefits by reason of total incapacity.

A copy of the revised Guidelines can be downloaded from the Authority's web site at [http://www.mpfahk.org].

Yours sincerely,

(Michelle Leung)
Senior Manager
Member Protection Department