30th Jun, 2015

8/F, Wu Chung House,  
213 Queen's Road East,  
Wan Chai, HK  
Social Welfare Department Headquarters  
Dear Director of Social Welfare Ms. Carol YIP,

Letter of Enquiry

for refugees, torture claimants and asylum seekers in Hong Kong

To improve the situation of refugees, asylum seekers and torture claimants, we would like to get more information, please answer the following questions:

Questions:
1. For the food coupon provide by SWD, please provide the full list of banned products for refugees to buy at the Wellcome Supermarket.
2. What are the rationale for the restrictions listed on the back of the food coupon?
3. Follow Q2, please explain in detail the reasons of the limitation about buying ice-cream, chocolate or baby needs items by using the food coupon.
4. How are the Wellcome Supermarket staff trained to understand the food coupons and the scope of the restrictions on food
5. Does SWD plan to expand the use of food coupon to other supermarket or other shops? Why?
6. How does SWD ensure the Wellcome Supermarket to provide enough and suitable types of food for refugees from different countries?
7. Why do claimants have to keep receipts of all their purchases and will the e-voucher scheme make this demand irrelevant as expenses can be electronically tracked?
8. Is it stated that new services users or those in dire need of emergency food will be issued food in-kind subject to ISS’s assessment? What is ISS’s assessment?
For enquiry about the content of this letter, please reply Mr. CHAN Siu Ming by email ming@cheungchiuhung.org.hk or at mobile 64643234.

Yours Sincerely,

(Mr. CHAN Siu Ming)
for Legislative Counselor Mr. Fernando Cheung