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人权委员会
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在世界任何地区、特别是在殖民地和其他未独立国家和
领土上人权和基本自由遭受侵犯的问题

大不列颠及北爱尔兰联合王国代表团团长
1997年4月16日致人权委员会主席的信

1997年4月9日在讨论委员会会议项目10期间,中国代表团就香港的人权情况和联合王国政府在这方面的政策发了言。随后不久,该发言通过新华社等通讯社向新闻界发布。1997年4月11日,联合王国政府外交和联邦事务办公室新闻司对此作出了反应,有关反应载于本信附件*。

请将此信及其附件作为委员会文件分发。

大不列颠及北爱尔兰联合王国
出席联合国人权委员会第五十
三届会议代表团团长
Henry Steel (签名)

* 附件不译,原文照发。

ANNEX

**NEWS DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TO XINHUA REPORT OF STATEMENT BY
CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN
RIGHTS IN GENEVA OF 9 APRIL**

In a statement on 9 April at the UN Commission on Human Rights (CHR) 53 in Geneva, China made a number of assertions about the enjoyment of civil and political liberties by the people of Hong Kong. Two points merit a reply.

First, we flatly reject the allegation that the enactment of Hong Kong's Bill of Rights Ordinance and of legislation for an electoral system based on democratic principles - both of which were enacted by the legislature of Hong Kong and not (as implied) by the UK Government - are measures which in any way conflict with the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law. They are consistent in every respect with those instruments.

In view of China's expressed desire to safeguard the human rights of the residents of HKSAR, we find it surprising that the Chinese Government should want to undermine existing human rights protections in Hong Kong. It is patently not the case that their proposed amendments to civil liberties legislation have the support of the Hong Kong community. On the contrary, they have caused widespread anxiety in Hong Kong.

Second, Hong Kong is a prosperous, peaceful and stable society. There can be no justification for reducing its civil liberties. Contrary to the suggestions made by China, the British Government will continue to administer Hong Kong up to 30 June 1997 with the express intention of maintaining that prosperous, peaceful and stable community.