REDA Application for Judicial Review of Town Planning Board
Position Statement

The Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong ("**REDA**") filed an application to the High Court on 26 July 2011 for judicial review of certain decisions of the Town Planning Board ("**TPB**") and the practice and procedures adopted by the TPB in making those decisions.

REDA is concerned with the manner in which the plan making function of the TPB is administered under the Town Planning Ordinance ("**TPO**"), in that stakeholders (including developers, non-government organisations and individual owners, particularly owners of old and dilapidated buildings due for redevelopment) are not given a fair hearing in the planning process and their representations and comments are not given full and genuine consideration by the TPB.   REDA takes the view that these serious systematic problems require rectification.

REDA believes that the judicial review is an unfortunate, but necessary, step to take to ensure that the TPB operates in a fair and reasonable manner, and in accordance with the rules of natural justice.

In common with many other stakeholders (including district councillors, incorporated owners, concerned groups, religious and charitable bodies, welfare agencies and individual owners), REDA has made repeated submissions and representations to the TPB, including most recently the Outline Zoning Plans of Wan Chai, Mongkok, Yau Ma Tei and Ngau Tau Kok & Kowloon Bay, most of which have been rejected out of hand. All efforts to engage the TPB regarding major decisions made by the TPB, which ultimately affect all of the people of Hong Kong, have so far failed.

REDA considers it vital that the town planning process be fair and equitable to all those involved, in the interest of the healthy and sustainable development of Hong Kong.

27 July 2011