

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2) 1221/00-01

Ref : CB2/H/5

House Committee of the Legislative Council

**Minutes of the 23rd meeting
held in the Legislative Council Chamber
at 4:45 pm on Friday, 30 March 2001**

Members present :

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, JP (Chairman)
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Kenneth TING Woo-shou, JP
Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, JP
Hon David CHU Yu-lin
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, JP
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon Martin LEE Chu-ming, SC, JP
Hon Eric LI Ka-cheung, JP
Hon NG Leung-sing
Prof Hon NG Ching-fai
Hon Margaret NG
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong
Hon HUI Cheung-ching
Hon CHAN Kwok-keung
Hon CHAN Yuen-han
Hon Bernard CHAN
Hon CHAN Kam-lam
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon SIN Chung-kai
Hon Andrew WONG Wang-fat, JP
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong
Hon WONG Yung-kan
Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, JP
Hon Howard YOUNG, JP
Dr Hon YEUNG Sum
Hon YEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon LAU Chin-shek, JP

Hon LAU Kong-wah
Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBS, JP
Hon Mrs Miriam LAU Kin-yee, JP
Hon Ambrose LAU Hon-chuen, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon CHOY So-yuk
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo
Hon SZETO Wah
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, SBS, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP
Hon LI Fung-ying, JP
Hon Henry WU King-cheong, BBS
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP
Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon LEUNG Fu-wah, MH, JP
Dr Hon LO Wing-lok
Hon WONG Sing-chi
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee
Hon IP Kwok-him, JP
Hon LAU Ping-cheung
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP

Members absent :

Dr Hon David LI Kwok-po, JP
Dr Hon LUI Ming-wah, JP
Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, SBS, JP
Hon LAW Chi-kwong, JP

Clerk in attendance :

Mrs Justina LAM Clerk to the House Committee

Staff in attendance :

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| Mr Jimmy MA, JP | Legal Adviser |
| Mr LAW Kam-sang, JP | Deputy Secretary General |
| Mr LEE Yu-sung | Senior Assistant Legal Adviser |
| Ms Pauline NG | Assistant Secretary General 1 |
| Mr Ray CHAN | Assistant Secretary General 3 |
| Miss Connie FUNG | Assistant Legal Adviser 3 |

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| Mr KAU Kin-wah | Assistant Legal Adviser 6 |
| Mrs Vivian KAM | Chief Assistant Secretary (Complaints) |
| Miss Kathleen LAU | Chief Public Information Officer |
| Mrs Constance LI | Chief Assistant Secretary (2)5 |
| Mrs Betty LEUNG | Chief Assistant Secretary (3)1 |
| Miss Betty MA | Senior Assistant Secretary (2)1 |

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I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 22nd meeting held on 23 March 2001

(LC Paper No. CB(2) 1166/00-01)

The minutes were confirmed.

II. Matters arising

Report by the Chairman on her meeting with the Chief Secretary for Administration (CS)

(a) Valedictory motion

2. Regarding the House Committee's decision not to proceed with the valedictory motion to bid farewell to CS, the Chairman informed Members that CS had responded that the House Committee's decision would not in any way affect her relationship with the Legislative Council or her respect for Members. CS also hoped that the matter would not cause unnecessary friction among Members.

(b) Admission of Mainland Professionals Scheme

3. The Chairman said that she had relayed to CS Members' concern about the consultation arrangements for the Admission of Mainland Professionals Scheme. CS had explained that the Financial Secretary (FS)'s Budget proposals were always kept confidential before Budget Day and that the Administration had already taken the earliest opportunity to consult. CS had also said that the decision to appoint the Security Bureau to take the lead was a matter of the Administration's internal management, and the decision was made after careful consideration.

4. The Chairman said that CS had also explained that the purpose of the consultation exercise undertaken by the Secretary for Information Technology and Broadcasting was to work out the details of the Scheme, such as the number of information technology professionals required.

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5. The Chairman added that she had also suggested that in future, if a subject matter straddled the remit of several Panels, consideration would be given to holding joint Panel meetings or other meeting arrangements as appropriate.

(c) Invitation to CS (Designate) and FS (Designate) to attend a meeting of the House Committee

6. Regarding the invitation to Mr Donald TSANG, CS (Designate), and Mr Antony LEUNG, FS (Designate), to separately attend a meeting of the House Committee to brief Members on their aspirations and plans for their new positions, the Chairman informed Members that their respective replies of 28 and 29 March 2001 had been forwarded to Members by fax.

7. The Chairman said that Mr Donald TSANG had replied that he would take the initiative to contact the Chairman of the House Committee for a meeting with Members at a mutually convenient time and forum. Miss Emily LAU said that she hoped that Mr Donald TSANG would agree that a meeting of the House Committee would be an appropriate forum, and that a meeting with Mr TSANG would be arranged as soon as possible.

8. As regards Mr Antony LEUNG's reply, the Chairman said that Mr LEUNG would be attending the meeting of the Panel on Financial Affairs (FA Panel) on 4 June 2001. Mr LEUNG had indicated that he would be pleased to take the opportunity to exchange views on issues of mutual interest and concern with all Members, subject to the agreement of the Chairman of the FA Panel.

9. Ms Emily LAU said that the meeting of the FA Panel scheduled for 4 June 2001 was for FS to give a briefing on Hong Kong's latest economic situation. She asked whether the Chairman of the FA Panel would agree to expand the agenda to enable Members to exchange views with Mr LEUNG on his aspirations and plans for his new position.

10. Mr Ambrose LAU, Chairman of the FA Panel, said that the Panel meeting on 4 June 2001 was to discuss the latest economic situation of Hong Kong. He did not envisage any problem if the Panel was to discuss other financial and economic issues which were under the purview of FS. Mr LAU added that he would welcome the views of members of the FA Panel and other Members.

11. Mr CHAN Kam-lam said he was a member of the FA Panel. He was of the view that the FA Panel should discuss the matter at its regular meeting in May 2001. He added that a precedent should not be set for the House Committee to determine the agenda of a Panel meeting.

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12. Miss Margaret NG said that she believed that Mr LEUNG had proposed to make use of the FA Panel meeting on 4 June 2001 to exchange views with Members because it would be a convenient arrangement for both Members and himself. If the FA Panel did not consider that the meeting on 4 June 2001 was appropriate for the purpose, the House Committee could discuss with Mr LEUNG alternative meeting arrangements.

13. Mr SIN Chung-kai said that he was a member of the FA Panel and found Mr LEUNG's counter-proposal acceptable. He pointed out that it was a standing arrangement for FS to brief the FA Panel, twice a year, on the macro-economic situation of Hong Kong and such briefings were open to all Members. Given such background, he considered that it was appropriate for FS to attend a meeting of the FA Panel to exchange views with Members on issues and matters of mutual concern.

14. Ms Emily LAU said that she was not hopeful that Mr LEUNG would agree to attend a meeting of the House Committee even if Members were to invite him again. She had no strong views about Mr LEUNG's counter-proposal as long as Members would have an opportunity to exchange views with him.

15. Mr James TIEN said that if the meeting of the FA Panel on 4 June 2001 was open to all Members, he hoped that the meeting would be devoted solely for discussion with Mr Antony LEUNG so that Members would have more time to exchange views with Mr LEUNG. He suggested that if there were other urgent items of business that the Panel had to deal with, a separate meeting should be arranged to discuss such items.

16. Mr IP Kwok-him said that Members belonging to the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong respected Mr Antony LEUNG's preference to make use of the FA Panel meeting on 4 June 2001 to meet with all Members.

17. The Chairman proposed that the FA Panel should be invited to follow up the meeting arrangements as proposed in Mr Antony LEUNG's reply. Members agreed.

III. Legal Service Division's report on subsidiary legislation tabled in Council on 28 and 29 March 2001 (gazetted on 23 March 2001)
(*LC Paper No. LS 75/00-01*)

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18. Referring to the paper, the Legal Adviser said that the six Orders gazetted on 23 March 2001 were to update the schedule of bus routes operated by the five franchised bus companies. The Legal Adviser added that the legal and drafting aspects of these Orders were in order.

19. Members did not raise any query on the six Orders.

20. The Chairman reminded Members that the deadline for amending these Orders was 25 April 2001, or 2 May 2001 if extended by resolution.

IV. Business for the Council meeting on 25 April 2001

(a) Questions

(LC Paper No. CB(3) 545/00-01)

21. The Chairman said that 20 questions (6 oral and 14 written) had been scheduled.

(b) Bills - First Reading and moving of Second Reading

(i) Revenue Bill 2001

(ii) Revenue (No. 2) Bill 2001

(iii) Revenue (No. 3) Bill 2001

22. The Chairman said that these Bills would be introduced into the Council on 25 April 2001 and considered by the House Committee on 27 April 2001.

V. Bills Committee and subcommittee reports

(a) Position report on Bills Committees/subcommittees

(LC Paper No. CB(2) 1178/00-01)

23. The Chairman said that there were 13 Bills Committees and four subcommittees in action.

(b) Report of the Bills Committee on Rehabilitation Centres Bill

(LC Paper No. CB(2) 1172/00-01)

24. Introducing the report, Miss CHOY So-yuk, Chairman of the Bills Committee, said that the Bill was not controversial and the Administration had agreed to introduce Committee Stage amendments (CSAs) to address

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the Bills Committee's concerns. Subject to these CSAs, the Bills Committee supported the resumption of the Second Reading debate on the Bill on 2 May 2001.

25. Members did not object to the resumption of the Second Reading debate on the Bill on 2 May 2001.

(c) **Report of the Subcommittee on Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance (Cap. 59) (Appointed Day under Section 6BA(17)) Notice**

(LC Paper No. CB(2) 1173/00-01)

26. Referring to the report, Ms Cyd HO, Chairman of the Subcommittee, said that the Subcommittee was concerned about the training arrangements for the relevant employees in the specified undertakings and the publicity of the commencement date. The Administration had assured the Subcommittee that there would be no problem in providing safety training for all relevant employees before the commencement date. The Administration had also agreed to step up publicity on radio and television that from 1 May 2001, all relevant employees engaged in construction and container handling work would have to carry a valid certificate in respect of their attendance of a recognised safety training course.

27. Ms HO said that the subcommittee supported the commencement date as proposed in the Notice. Members did not raise any query on the report.

VI. Any other business

28. There being no further business, the meeting ended at 5:05 pm.

Legislative Council Secretariat

18 April 2001