

Paper for the Legislative Council Panel on Manpower

Progress on Implementation of the Admission of Mainland Professionals Scheme

Introduction

This paper informs Members of the latest progress on the implementation of the Admission of Mainland Professionals Scheme (“the Scheme”).

Implementation of the Scheme

2. The Scheme commenced operation on 1 June 2001. The Scheme initially targets at the information technology (IT) and financial services sectors. No quota is set on the number of eligible professionals to be admitted. Apart from meeting the sectoral requirement, applicants must possess skills and expertise in shortage locally, with remuneration broadly comparable to the local market level for professionals.

3. The Government is promoting the Scheme and its eligibility criteria through various channels. Publicity pamphlets are distributed in the headquarters and branch offices of Immigration Department, District Offices, and the Immigration Section of the Office of the Government of the HKSAR in Beijing. A copy of the publicity pamphlet is at Annex for Members’ reference. Information on the Scheme and application forms have been uploaded onto the Immigration Department’s website. A new section has been included in the Labour Department’s Interactive Employment Services website to provide a forum for employers to display job vacancies so that interested Mainland professionals can approach the relevant employers direct for job application. The website has been hyperlinked to the Immigration Department’s homepage for easy access. Immigration Department has held briefings for major chambers of commerce and trade-related organizations on the Scheme. The Department will continue to promote the Scheme by giving briefings and seminars to trade-related bodies and prospective tenants of the

Science Park and Cyberport.

Application statistics

4. As at 13 June 2001, the Immigration Department has received 38 applications. Thirty of these applications are from the information technology sector, while eight are from the financial services sector. The Immigration Department will carefully scrutinize the applications received to ensure the applications' bona fides and to assess whether they fulfil the Scheme's eligibility criteria. Every effort will be made to honour the Department's undertaking that processing of an application will be completed and a decision on approval or otherwise taken within four weeks, provided that all necessary supporting information is available. Members will be kept informed of the progress on the Scheme on a quarterly basis.

Security Bureau
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