

Proposed Research Outline

The Regulatory Framework of Political Parties in Germany, New Zealand, and Singapore

1. Scope

1.1 The Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs, at its meeting on 18 November 2002, requested the Research and Library Services Division (RLSD) to conduct a research on political party law in overseas places.

2. Proposed Outline

2.1 Introduction

2.2 A detailed discussion of the regulatory framework of political parties in selected political systems, including:

- modes of regulatory framework;
- registration requirements;
- rules for party and campaign financing;
- regulation of candidates for election; and
- rules on party operations such as their organizational principles and relationships with foreign organizations.

2.3 Analysis

- A comparison of the various attributes of the regulatory framework of political parties

3. Proposed Overseas Places to be Studied

3.1 RLSD proposes to study the following places:

1. Germany;
2. New Zealand; and
3. Singapore

3.2 Germany is chosen because its political parties are regulated by detailed provisions in its constitution and legislation. New Zealand is chosen because of its experience in formalizing rules for the regulation of political parties with the introduction of a proportional representation electoral system in 1996. Singapore is chosen because it may serve as a useful reference in the Asian context.

4. Proposed Completion Date

4.1 RLSD proposes to complete the research by February 2003.