

Panel on Constitutional Affairs

Meeting on 15 March 2004

**Issues raised by members relating to the agenda item
"Publicity for 2004 voter registration campaign"**

The Administration is requested to -

- (a) provide the basis for the Administration's estimate that 480,000 voter registration forms (180,000 new applications for registration as electors and 300,000 notifications of change of address and particulars of registered electors) would be received in the 2004 Voter Registration Campaign (raised by Dr Hon YEUNG Sum);
- (b) consider allocating more provision for the 2004 Voter Registration Campaign and conducting household visits to encourage the 1.6 million eligible persons to register as electors (raised by Hon Emily LAU and Dr Hon YEUNG Sum);
- (c) provide the ratio of registered electors in private residential developments and public housing estates (raised by Dr Hon YEUNG Sum);
- (d) draw up publicity measures, in the coming Voter Registration Campaign, to promote the awareness of the public that a person is eligible to be registered as an elector for a functional constituency (FC) only if he is a registered elector for a geographical constituency (GC), and any person, who for reasons such as inaccurate record of address, might be disqualified from being an elector for both GC and FC (raised by Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong);
- (e) consider preparing user-friendly guidelines on qualification for registration as an elector in the 28 FCs for reference of eligible persons (raised by Hon Audrey EU);
- (f) clarify whether all eligible electors of the 28 FCs will receive individual appeal letters, and if not, explain why (raised by Hon Audrey EU);
- (g) explain the rationale for the arrangement to send individual appeal letters to all eligible persons who have not registered as FC electors, and consider whether the same arrangement should apply to persons eligible for registration as GC electors for the sake of equity (raised by Hon Emily LAU); and
- (h) review whether the gap between the deadline for accepting applications for registration in the voter register and the polling day should be further reduced, and make reference to overseas practices in conducting the review (raised by Hon Martin LEE).