

Panel on Commerce and Industry

CB(1)933/03-04(02)
(revised)

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 5 February 2004)

Subject	Date of Meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Liberalization of Trade in Services under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA)	13.10.2003	Under Annex 4 of the main text of CEPA, Hong Kong residents after obtaining the Mainland's insurance qualification and being employed or appointed by a Mainland insurance institution would be allowed to engage in the relevant insurance business. A member was concerned on why there was no similar requirement for Hong Kong securities practitioners in the Mainland. The Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau (CITB) undertook to follow up with the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB) on the practising requirement of the services in question.	CITB has conveyed the member's concern to FSTB for consideration and follow-up action and will revert to the Panel in due course.
2. Scope of the Individual Visit Scheme	13.10.2003 14.1.2004	In addressing a member's concern on the possibility of allowing Mainland residents from more provinces to visit Hong Kong individually, CITB undertook to convey his concern to the Economic Development and Labour Bureau (EDLB) for consideration and follow-up.	CITB has conveyed the member's concern to EDLB and the Security Bureau for consideration and follow-up action and will revert to the Panel in due course.
3. Expert Groups under the Hong Kong Guangdong Cooperation Joint Conference (Joint Conference)	10.11.2003	The Administration undertook to provide members with a paper outlining the areas of work of the 15 Expert Groups established under the Joint Conference.	The Administration's response was circulated for members' reference vide LC Paper Nos. CB(1)529/03-04 and 591/03-04 on 8 and 15 December 2003 respectively.

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4. Publicity on trade promotional activities in the Mainland	10.11.2003	A member suggested that the Administration should consider strengthening the publicity of and notify relevant business associations in advance of any trade promotional activities including trade missions for opening up business opportunities in the Mainland.	The Administration has taken note of the suggestion.
5. Seminars for re-vitalising Hong Kong's economy	10.11.2003	A member suggested that the Administration should consider organizing some seminars with the participation of the business sector to explore the ways for re-vitalizing Hong Kong's economy.	The Administration has taken note of the suggestion.
6. Work and services of the Hong Kong Export Credit Insurance Corporation (ECIC)	14.1.2004	A member suggested that the Administration should consider strengthening the publicity to the service sector on the work of ECIC and its insurance protection services provided for Hong Kong exporters who trade with overseas including the Mainland buyers on credit terms against non-payment risks.	The Administration has taken note of the suggestion.
7. Measures for attracting foreign investment	14.1.2004	In addressing members' concern on the work of Invest Hong Kong, the Administration undertook to provide the Panel with further information including measures taken to attract foreign investment, the position of foreign investment in Hong Kong and its impact on Hong Kong's economy and employment situation.	The subject has been included in the Panel's "List of outstanding items for discussion" and will be discussed at the March 2004 meeting.

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8. Core Industries in Hong Kong	14.1.2004	A member enquired about the percentage of Gross Domestic Product accounted for by the four core industries stated in the Chief Executive's 2004 Policy Address, namely financial services, producer services, logistics and tourism and expressed concern on the impact of their development on Hong Kong's employment situation. CITB will convey his concern to FSTB for follow-up and revert to the Panel after obtaining the requested information from FSTB.	CITB is obtaining the requested information from FSTB and will revert to the Panel in due course.
9. Update on the operation of the Applied Research Fund (ARF)	11.12.2000	Members were briefed on the operation of ARF. It was agreed that the Administration would submit quarterly reports to the Panel to keep members informed of the latest development of ARF.	The Administration has issued 11 updates (LC Paper Nos. CB(1) 989/00-01, 1834/00-01, 939/01-02, 1232/01-02(04), 2185/01-02, 24/02-03, 582/02-03, 1415/02-03, 2008/02-03, 2522/02-03(01) and 616/03-04(01)) on the operation of ARF since January 2001. The next report will be due for March/April 2004.