LegCo Panel on Financial Affairs Work plan for the 2003-2004 session

Date of regular Panel meeting	Discussion items proposed by FS Office	Discussion items proposed by FSTB (including HKMA)	Discussion items proposed by members
6 Dec 2003 (Sat)	1. Briefing on Hong Kong's latest overall economic situation	 2. Proposed deletion and redeployment of directorate post in the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) Proposes to delete one D1 post and to redeploy one D2 post in view of its business process re-engineering plans. Plans to submit the proposal to ESC and FC on 10 December 2003 and 16 January 2004 respectively. 	3. Examination of the regulatory work in respect of authorized institutions in the light of the "Report of the Special Committee on the Corporate Governance, Credit Approval Process, Risk Management and Internal Control Mechanism of Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited" • Proposed by Hon James TO.

Date of regular Panel meeting	Discussion items proposed by FS Office	Discussion items proposed by FSTB (including HKMA)	Discussion items proposed by members
5 Jan 2004 (Mon)		 Accrual-based accounts of the Government To brief members on the first set of accrual-based government accounts for 2002-2003. Agreement between the HKSAR of the PRC and the Kingdom of Belgium for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital This will be the first comprehensive DTA signed by the HKSAR. Members will be consulted before the legislative process is initiated to give effect to the agreement. Review on the financial regulatory framework for securities dealers and securities margin financing providers (Timing to be confirmed) To consult members on proposals seeking to address the risks facing the practitioners and investors in the securities market. The working group convened by the Securities and Futures Commission is conducting the Review, and is considering a number of options. 	

Date of regular Panel meeting	Discussion items proposed by FS Office	Discussion items proposed by FSTB (including HKMA)	Discussion items proposed by members
2 Feb 2004 (Mon)		 Briefing on the work of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority To update the Panel on key responsibilities of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority. 	 2. Governance of Hong Kong Monetary Authority Following the resignation of the former FS, the Panel decided that the special meeting scheduled for 31 July 2003 for discussion of the subject be cancelled and postponed to the 2003-2004 session. FS and CE/HKMA would be invited to attend the meeting. 3. Functions and responsibilities in monetary and financial affairs Proposed by Hon Emily LAU. FS and CE/HKMA would be invited to attend the meeting to discuss about the functions and responsibilities between FS and the Monetary Authority in monetary and financial affairs.

Date of regular Panel meeting	Discussion items proposed by FS Office	Discussion items proposed by FSTB (including HKMA)	Discussion items proposed by members
1 March 2004 (Mon)		 Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority (MPFA) Disclosure Project (Timing to be confirmed) To brief the Panel on MPFA's proposals to enhance the transparency regarding the fees and charges and investment performance for MPF funds. The need, and if so the timing, for legislative amendments will be worked out after the way forward is decided. Study on the feasibility of establishing an Insurance Policyholders Protection Fund Proposes to brief the Panel and seek members' views on the proposal to establish insurance policyholders' protection funds in Hong Kong. Regulation of the Accounting Profession (Tentative timing Q1/Q2 2004) With a view to enhancing the regulatory regime of the accounting profession and improving the quality of financial statements of companies, the Administration issued a consultation paper on 19 September 2003 to seek public views on proposals to set up an Independent Investigation Board and a Financial Reporting Review Panel. The consultation period ended on 	
		31 October 2003.	

Date of regular Panel meeting	Discussion items proposed by FS Office	Discussion items proposed by FSTB (including HKMA)	Discussion items proposed by members
2 Apr 2004 (Fri)		1. Regulation of listing (Tentative timing Q1/Q2 2004) • To follow up the recommendations of the Expert Group to Review the Operation of the Securities and Futures Market Regulatory Structure, the Administration issued a consultation paper on 3 October 2003 to seek public views on proposals to enhance regulation of listing. The consultation period will end on 31 December 2003.	
3 May 2004 (Mon)		 Briefing on the work of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority To update the Panel on key responsibilities of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority. 	
7 June 2004 (Mon)	1. Briefing on Hong Kong's latest overall economic situation	 2. Latest progress on the establishment of a commercial credit reference agency (CCRA) in Hong Kong To update the Panel on the latest progress of the establishment of a CCRA in Hong Kong. 	
5 July 2004 (Mon)	_		_

Remarks:

According to the Administration, it may submit the following possible items for information of the Panel:

1. Disposal of Government Assets

- The Administration announced its intention to dispose of some \$21 billion worth of assets within this financial year. It intends to brief the Panel on the other items to be included in this year's disposal programme on a case-by-case basis when the detailed format and terms of disposal are available.
- 2. Proposal to establish the Rating and Valuation Department Trading Fund
 - The proposal is under consideration by the Administration. It will report to the Panel once ready.

Council Business Division 1 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 21 November 2003