

**Consultative Committee on the
Core Arts and Cultural Facilities of the
West Kowloon Cultural District**

Museums Advisory Group

Arrangements of Consultative Forums

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' advise on the proposed arrangements of the consultative forums to solicit views from the public, particularly the arts and cultural sector and the tourism industry, on the museums and art exhibition facilities of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD).

Advice Sought

2. Members are invited to consider and endorse the proposal for the Museums Advisory Group (MAG) to hold three consultative forums in May 2006.

Background

3. During the last round of public consultation exercise

held in 2004/05 regarding the development of WKCD, the participants from various sectors generally expressed support for the development of the West Kowloon reclamation area as an arts and cultural district. However, there was not too much discussion on the need for and major requirements of Core Arts and Cultural Facilities (CACF). In view of the latest development of the project, views collected in the past and other factors like timing and emergence of new facilities in the past few years, we consider that it is appropriate to re-examine and re-confirm if appropriate the need for CACF.

4. We shall bear in mind the following basic principles in conducting this consultative forums -

- (a) to adhere to the original objective of developing WKCD into a world-class integrated arts, culture and entertainment district;
- (b) to make the best use of past efforts for WKCD; and
- (c) to develop WKCD in accordance with the current cultural policy, and to continue to uphold the principles of “partnership”, “community-driven” and “people- oriented” as put forward by the Culture and Heritage Commission for the WKCD development.

5. It is proposed that MAG holds three consultative forums to solicit public views (particularly those from arts,

cultural, entertainment and tourism sectors) on the museums and art exhibition facilities in WKCD in May 2006. The consultative forums will be arranged by the Secretariat with participation from Advisory Group Members. Representatives from the Home Affairs Bureau and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) would also be present to provide support on technical questions.

6. Members of the Consultative Committee (CC) and other Advisory Groups will be invited to attend these consultative forums. The Secretariat will take note of the views expressed. Newspaper advertisements will be placed to inform the general public of the consultative forums and invite them to participate. Individual invitations will be sent to key players and organizations in relevant sectors. A proposed list of invitees is at **Annex**.

7. In each consultative forum, the Secretariat will give an introduction and a short presentation on the original CACF. Interested members may also present their views at the forums as keynote speakers. Other members are encouraged to be present in one or more of these forums to listen to the public views and facilitate the discussion.

8. Interested persons who cannot attend the consultative forums are welcome to send their written comments to the Secretariat. The Secretariat will reflect their views as appropriate. To ensure a more focused discussion, WKCD

facilities should be the core topic for discussion. Specifically, we may aim to deliberate on issues like -

- What museum theme(s) do we need in WKCD? Why? Can Hong Kong establish world standard museum(s) under these themes?
- What are the major requirements for such thematic museum(s)? Size? Equipment? Ancillary facilities?
- Is there a need for having an Art Exhibition Centre in WKCD? If yes, what should be the major specifications?
- What are the target groups of users? Students? Local/Mainland/Overseas visitors?

Way Forward

9. The views received from the consultative forums will be summarized for CC and its three Advisory Groups for reference.

Home Affairs Bureau

April 2006

Proposed Invitees for the Consultative Forums

The proposed invitees for the consultative forums to be organized in May 2006 are as follows-

- (a) Statutory bodies
 - Hong Kong Arts Development Council
 - Hong Kong Arts Centre
- (b) Advisory Committees / Trusts
 - Committee on Museums
 - Antiquities Advisory Board
 - Lord Wilson Heritage Trust
- (c) Visual Arts Groups, curators and gallery owners
- (d) LCSD Museums curators / LCSD Museum Advisers
- (e) Non-LCSD Museums operators / curators
- (f) Design and film Sectors
- (g) Academics in relevant fields
- (h) District councils and district arts bodies