

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1406/07-08
(These minutes have been
cleared with the Chairman)

Ref : CB2/HS/1/04

Subcommittee to Study the Subject of Combating Poverty

Minutes of meeting
held on Thursday, 31 January 2008, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

Members present : Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon Margaret NG
Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP
Hon LI Fung-ying, BBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Hon Mrs Anson CHAN, GBM, JP

Members absent : Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Clerk in attendance : Miss Betty MA
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

Staff in attendance : Mr Chris LAI
Senior Council Secretary (2) 7

Action

I. Draft report on "Development of social enterprise"
[LC Paper No. CB(2)941/07-08(01)]

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. The Chairman said that the Legislative Council (LegCo) Secretariat had prepared a draft report on "Development of social enterprise (SE)". He took members through Chapters 1 to 3 of the draft report and invited members' views on these Chapters. Members raised no questions on Chapter 1. Members' views on Chapters 2 (Present situation of SEs) and 3 (Problems faced by the SE sector) are summarised below.

Chapter 2

3. Referring to paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 of the draft report, Ms LI Fung-ying took the view that SE involved business with the ultimate mission of achieving social objectives. SE's aim was not to maximize profit, but to generate revenue in support of the social mission. Given that there was no common definition of SE in Hong Kong, Ms LI considered that the Subcommittee should highlight its understanding of SE in the report, i.e. the pursuit of social objectives was more important than business objectives. Mr Ronny TONG, Mrs Anson CHAN, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr Albert HO expressed similar views.

4. Ms LI Fung-ying suggested and members agreed that self-help groups and mutual-help groups should be included as examples of co-operative type SE in paragraph 2.4 (b) of the draft report.

Chapter 3

5. Pointing out that the Government had failed to come up with a concrete action plan for SE development in Hong Kong, Ms LI Fung-ying, Mr Ronny TONG, Ms Margaret NG, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Mrs Anson CHAN held the view that the lack of Government's role and commitment in promoting SE development was one of the major problems faced by the SE sector. This should be reflected in Chapter 3 of the draft report.

6. The Chairman said that the LegCo Secretariat would incorporate members' views and revise the draft report accordingly.

Meeting with the business sector

7. Mr James TIEN said that as SE would operate with a commercial approach, it would be useful for the Subcommittee to discuss with the business sector the recommendations in the draft report with a view to putting forward some feasible

Action

recommendations for the Administration's consideration and response. He suggested that a meeting with representatives from the business sector, who possessed relevant experience or were interested in SE development, should be arranged. Subject to members' views, he would approach the business sector and draw up a list of invitees for the Subcommittee's consideration.

8. Members expressed support for Mr James TIEN's suggestion. Mrs Anson CHAN said that she would meet with some entrepreneurs shortly, and would invite suggestions from them, if any, for members' consideration. Mrs Selina CHOW added that the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) should be invited to advise on the business organizations (including small and medium-sized enterprises) and non-governmental organizations which had participated actively in SE development in Hong Kong.

LegCo
Secretariat

9. Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that HKCSS had compiled some reference materials on SEs in Hong Kong, such as a SE Directory. To facilitate members' future discussion, Dr Fernando CHEUNG suggested that the LegCo Secretariat should contact HKCSS for copies of the SE Directory for members' reference.

LegCo
Secretariat

10. Members agreed that the Subcommittee would continue discussion on the draft report after meeting with the business sector.

11. The Chairman said that the date of next meeting would be fixed after the list of invitees had been drawn up. Members would be notified of the meeting date in due course.

II. Any other business

12. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 3:25 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
20 March 2008

**Proceedings of the meeting of the
Subcommittee to Study the Subject of Combating Poverty
on Thursday, 31 January 2008, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda Item I – Draft report on "Development of social enterprise"</i>			
000000 - 000950	Mr James TIEN Clerk Chairman	Chapter 1 of the draft report on "Development of social enterprise (SE)" prepared by the Legislative Council (LegCo) Secretariat	
000951 - 002253	Chairman Ms LI Fung-ying Mr Ronny TONG Mrs Anson CHAN Dr Fernando CHEUNG Mr Albert HO Mr James TIEN	Discussion on paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 of Chapter 2 of the draft report on the definition of SE in Hong Kong (HK)	
002254 - 002425	Chairman Ms LI Fung-ying	Discussion on paragraph 2.4 of the draft report on the mode of operation of SE in HK	
002426 - 002650	Chairman Mr James TIEN	Discussion on paragraph 2.12 of the draft report on the Summit on SE held on 20 December 2007	
002651 - 003409	Chairman Ms LI Fung-ying Mr Ronny TONG Ms Margaret NG Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Mrs Anson CHAN	Discussion on paragraph 3.1 of the draft report on the major problems faced by the SE sector in HK Members' views that the lack of Government's commitment in promoting SE development was one of the major problems faced by the SE sector	
003410 - 004505	Mr James TIEN Mr Fernando CHEUNG Mrs Anson CHAN Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Ms Margaret NG Chairman	Need for the Subcommittee to hold a meeting with the business sector on SE development in HK before finalising the recommendations in the draft report	
004506 - 004650	Dr Fernando CHEUNG Mrs Anson CHAN Ms Margaret NG Chairman	Dr Fernando CHEUNG's suggestion that the LegCo Secretariat should contact the Hong Kong Council of Social (HKCSS) for copies of SE Directory for members' reference	LegCo Secretariat
004651 - 004932	Chairman Mrs Selina CHOW	Mrs Selina CHOW' views that HKCSS should be invited to advise on the business organizations and non-governmental organizations which had participated actively in SE development in HK	LegCo Secretariat
004933 - 005337	Ms Margaret NG Mrs Anson CHAN Chairman Mr Albert HO Mrs Selina CHOW Ms LI Fung-ying	Need for the Administration to set up an effective mechanism to support the establishment and operation of SEs in HK Whether the policy purview of SE should be put under the Secretary for Home Affairs	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda Item II – Any other business</i>			
005338 - 005405	Chairman	Date of the next meeting	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
20 March 2008