

Committee on Rules of Procedure

List of issues studied during the 2004-2005 Legislative Council Session

(as at 30 June 2005)

Item	Issue	Reference	Progress/Remarks
1	Procedure for debate on the Policy Address	Rule 13 of Rules of Procedure (RoP)	Arrangements for the debate, which were proposed by the Committee on Rules of Procedure (CRoP) and endorsed by the House Committee (HC), were adopted for the debate on the 2005 Policy Address held from 26 to 28 January 2005.
2	Members' attire during the Legislative Council (LegCo) meetings	Rules 42(a) and 45 of RoP; section 12 of the Administrative Instructions for Regulating Admittance and Conduct of Persons	The results of CRoP's deliberations were conveyed by the CRoP Chairman to the President, who referred the issue to CRoP, on 11 January 2005. The President made a written response on 13 January 2005. Copies of the correspondence between the CRoP Chairman and the President were issued to all LegCo Members for information on 14 January 2005.

Item	Issue	Reference	Progress/Remarks
3	Withdrawal of bills under RoP and the House Rules (HR)	Rules 53 to 64 of RoP; Rules 2 and 21 of HR	CRoP's proposed amendments to RoP and HR regarding withdrawal of bills were endorsed by HC on 15 April 2005 and passed in the Council on 4 May 2005.
4	Ringing of bell to notify members that voting will take place at committee meetings	Rules 47(1)(c), and 47(2)(c) of RoP; Rule 24(i) of HR; paragraphs 46 and 47 of the Finance Committee (FC) Procedure; paragraph 39 of Establishment Subcommittee (ESC) Procedure; paragraph 40 of Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) Procedure	CRoP's recommendations and proposed amendments to HR were endorsed by HC on 29 April 2005. FC, ESC and PWSC also amended their respective procedures on 27 May 2005.
5	Handbook for chairmen of committees	—	The Handbook for Chairmen of Panels was endorsed by HC at its meeting on 17 June 2005. The Handbook for Chairmen of Bills Committees, and Handbook for Chairmen of Subcommittees on Subsidiary Legislation are being prepared and will be presented to CROp for consideration in due course.

Item	Issue	Reference	Progress/Remarks
6	Extending the duration of committee meetings	Rule 24(c) and (m) of HR	CRoP is preparing the proposed amendments to HR on extending the duration of committee meetings with a view to implementing the procedure as soon as possible.
7	Voting rights of chairman of a committee /subcommittee	Rules 71(8), 72(7), 73(5), 73A(9), 74(5), 75(16), 76(8), 77(13) and 79(6) of RoP; paragraph 45 of FC Procedure	CRoP has sought the views of all LegCo Members on the voting rights of the chairman of a committee/subcommittee. CRoP will consider these views at its meeting to be held on 4 July 2005, with a view to presenting its proposed amendments to RoP to HC for endorsement and then to the Council for approval at the beginning of the next Legislative Council session in October 2005.
8	Formation of a subcommittee under two or more Panels	Rule 77(9) and (10) of RoP; Rule 22(l), (m), (n) and (s) of HR	The proposed amendments to RoP and HR on the formation of a subcommittee under two or more Panels will be considered by CRoP at its meeting to be held on 4 July 2005.