

LC Paper No. CB(2)2026/05-06

Ref : CB2/BC/2/05

(These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Bills Committee on Interception of Communications and Surveillance Bill

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday, 12 April 2006 at 2:30 pm in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building

Members present	:	Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP (Chairman) Hon LAU Kong-wah, JP (Deputy Chairman) Hon Albert HO Chun-yan Hon LEE Cheuk-yan Hon Martin LEE Chu-ming, SC, JP Hon Margaret NG Hon Bernard CHAN, JP Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, SBS, JP Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, SBS, JP Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, SBS, JP Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Members absent	:	Dr Hon David LI Kwok-po, GBS, JP Dr Hon LUI Ming-wah, SBS, JP Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, GBS, JP Hon James TO Kun-sun Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS Hon Howard YOUNG, SBS, JP Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

		Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP Hon LI Kwok-ying, MH Hon Daniel LAM Wai-keung, BBS, JP Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC Hon CHIM Pui-chung Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP
Public Officers attending	:	Mr Stanley YING Permanent Secretary for Security
		Miss S H CHEUNG Deputy Secretary for Security
		Mrs Apollonia LIU Principal Assistant Secretary for Security
		Mr Ian WINGFIELD Law Officer (International Law) Department of Justice
		Ms Sherman CHAN Senior Assistant Law Draftsman
		Ms Frances HUI Senior Government Counsel
Clerk in attendance	:	Mrs Sharon TONG Chief Council Secretary (2)1
Staff in attendance	:	Mrs Justina LAM Assistant Secretary General 2
		Ms Bernice WONG Assistant Legal Adviser 1
		Ms Sandy HAU Legislative Assistant (2)6

I. Meeting with the Administration

The Bills Committee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at Annex).

- 2. The Bills Committee requested the Administration to
 - (a) consider the feasibility of providing in the Bill that if in the course of a duly authorised interception of communications or surveillance operation, certain communications were found to be subject to legal professional privilege (LPP), the interception or surveillance should stop immediately;
 - (b) clarify the meaning of "intercept a private communication" in section 186(2) of the Canadian Criminal Code, to consider prohibiting authorisation of interception or surveillance of communications at a lawyer's office or residence unless there were reasonable grounds to believe that the lawyer was a party to an offence, and to provide the draft Committee Stage amendment;
 - (c) consider providing the Chief Justice with the reports of extended checking of judges to enable the Chief Justice to decide whether the judges should be recommended for appointment as panel judge or to enable the Chief Justice to appoint panel judges;
 - (d) explain the meaning of "a panel judge shall act judicially" and review the drafting of the expression "以司法身份行事"in section 4 of Schedule 2;
 - (e) explain the criteria adopted in determining whether an appointee could pass an extended checking; and
 - (f) explain how postal interception and covert surveillance products would be used by the prosecutor to carry out his duty to ensure a fair trial in a proceeding, and to provide the draft Committee Stage amendments in respect of use and destruction of products protected by LPP.

II. Date of next meeting

3. The Bills Committee noted that the next meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday, 19 April 2006 at 2:30 pm to continue discussion with the Administration.

4. The meeting ended at 4:35 pm.

Council Business Division 2

Legislative Council Secretariat 16 May 2006

Annex

Proceedings of meeting of the Bills Committee on Interception of Communications and Surveillance Bill on Wednesday, 12 April 2006 at 2:30 pm in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
000000 – 000348	Chairman	Opening remarks	
000349 – 001415	Admin	Briefing on the Administration's response to issues raised at the meetings on 3 and 6 April 2006 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1693/05-06(01))	
001416 - 003009	Hon Margaret NG Chairman Admin	Interception of communications and covert surveillance in respect of a lawyer and legal professional privilege; providing in the Bill that if in the course of a duly authorised interception of communications or surveillance operation, certain communications were found to be subject to legal professional privilege (LPP), the interception or surveillance should stop immediately; mechanism for appointment of judges; proposed checking for judges	Admin to consider the feasibility of providing in the Bill that if in the course of a duly authorised interception of communications or surveillance operation, certain communications were found to be subject to LPP, the interception or surveillance should stop immediately
003010 – 005202	Hon Audrey EU ALA1 Chairman Admin	Whether there was any exception to LPP; circumstances under which interception of communications and surveillance would be conducted in respect of a lawyer	

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Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action
005000			Required
005203 -	Hon Albert HO	Whether it would be expressly	Admin to consider
011528	Admin	provided in the Bill that	providing CJ with the
	Chairman	products from interception of	reports of extended
		communications or surveillance	checking of judges to
		that had not been properly	enable CJ to decide
		authorised should not be	whether the judges
		admissible as evidence;	should be
		providing the Chief Justice (CJ)	recommended for
		with the reports of extended	appointment as panel
		checking of judges to enable CJ	judge or to enable CJ
		to decide whether the judges	to appoint panel
		should be recommended for	judges
		appointment as panel judge or to	
		enable CJ to appoint panel	
		judges; how consistency could	
		be maintained in the	
		authorisation by panel judges	
011529 –	Hon Ronny TONG	Prohibiting authorisation of	Admin to clarify the
013141	Chairman	interception or surveillance of	meaning of "intercept
	Admin	communications at a lawyer's	a private
		office or residence unless there	communication" in
		were reasonable grounds to	section 186(2) of the
		believe that the lawyer was a	Canadian Criminal
		party to an offence; meaning of	Code; to consider
		"intercept a private	prohibiting
		communication" in section	authorisation of
		186(2) of the Canadian Criminal	interception or
		Code; effect of the proposed	surveillance of
		mechanism for appointment of	communications at a
		judges on the independence of	lawyer's office or
		panel judges	residence unless there
			were reasonable
			grounds to believe
			that the lawyer was a
			party to an offence,
			and to provide the

Whether the proposed mechanism for authorisation of interception of communications and surveillance and the appointment of panel judges was desirable

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

013142 – 013953 draft Committee Stage amendment

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
013954 – 014526	Hon Martin LEE Chairman Admin	Use and destruction of interception or surveillance products protected by LPP	
014527 – 014951	Hon Audrey EU Chairman Admin	Circumstances where an application for authorisation would be considered by a panel judge at a place other than within the court precincts; safekeeping of the relevant documents and records	
014952 – 015401	Hon LAU Kong-wah Chairman Admin	Prohibiting the use of interception or surveillance products protected by LPP; how postal interception and covert surveillance products would be used by the prosecutor to carry out his duty to ensure a fair trial in a proceeding; providing the draft Committee Stage amendments in respect of use and destruction of products protected by LPP	Admin to explain how postal interception and covert surveillance products would be used by the prosecutor to carry out his duty to ensure a fair trial in a proceeding, and to provide the draft Committee Stage amendments in respect of use and destruction of products protected by LPP
015402 – 015846	Hon Margaret NG Hon Albert HO Chairman Admin	Mechanism for the appointment of judges; meaning of "a panel judge shall act judicially" and drafting of the expression "以司 法身分行事" in section 4 of Schedule 2	Admin to explain the meaning of "a panel judge shall act judicially" and review the drafting of the expression "以司法身 分行事" in section 4 of Schedule 2
015847 – 020241	Hon Albert HO Chairman Admin	Provisions on the use of interception and surveillance products protected by LPP; criteria for determining whether an appointee could pass an extended checking	Admin to explain the criteria adopted in determining whether an appointee could pass an extended checking

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
020242 – 020303	Chairman	Date of next meeting	

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 16 May 2006