

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2) 1671/05-06

Ref : CB2/H/5/05

House Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 20th meeting held in the Legislative Council Chamber at 2:30 pm on Friday, 31 March 2006

Members present :

Hon Miriam LAU Kin-ye, GBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP
Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, S.B.St.J., JP
Hon Martin LEE Chu-ming, SC, JP
Dr Hon David LI Kwok-po, GBS, JP
Hon Margaret NG
Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS
Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP
Hon LAU Chin-shek, JP
Hon LAU Kong-wah, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon CHOY So-yuk, JP
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP
Hon LI Fung-ying, BBS, JP
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, JP
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, JP
Hon LEE Wing-tat
Hon LI Kwok-ying, MH
Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long

Mrs Vivian KAM	Principal Council Secretary (Complaints)
Miss Kathleen LAU	Chief Public Information Officer
Miss Odelia LEUNG	Chief Council Secretary (2)6
Mrs Betty LEUNG	Chief Council Secretary (3)1
Miss Anita HO	Assistant Legal Adviser 2
Ms Connie FUNG	Assistant Legal Adviser 3
Miss Lolita SHEK	Senior Council Secretary (2)7

Action

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 19th meeting held on 24 March 2006
(*LC Paper No. CB(2) 1555/05-06*)

The minutes were confirmed.

II. Matters arising

Report by the Chairman on her meeting with the Chief Secretary for Administration

2. The Chairman said that there was nothing special to report.

III. Business arising from previous Council meetings

(a) Legal Service Division report on bills referred to the House Committee in accordance with Rule 54(4)

Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2006
(*LC Paper No. LS 50/05-06*)

3. The Chairman said that the Bill sought to enhance copyright protection to copyright owners; improve the copyright exemption regime for copyright users; and improve the enforcement and the operation of the Copyright Ordinance.

4. The Chairman added that the Panel on Commerce and Industry had discussed the legislative proposals and considered that many issues raised in the Bill required careful study.

5. The Chairman proposed that a Bills Committee be formed to study the Bill in detail. Members agreed. The following Members agreed to join: Ms Margaret NG, Mrs Selina CHOW, Mr SIN Chung-kai, Dr YEUNG Sum (as advised by Mr SIN Chung-kai), Ms Audrey EU, Mr Jeffrey LAM, Mr Andrew LEUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong and Mr Ronny TONG.

Action

6. The Chairman said that as there were five vacant slots, the Bills Committee could commence work immediately.

(b) **Legal Service Division report on subsidiary legislation gazetted on 24 March 2006 and tabled in Council on 29 March 2006**
(*LC Paper No. LS 54/05-06*)

7. The Chairman said that four items of subsidiary legislation were gazetted on 24 March 2006 and tabled in Council on 29 March 2006.

8. Members did not raise any queries on these items of subsidiary legislation.

9. The Chairman reminded Members that the deadline for amending these four items of subsidiary legislation was 26 April 2006, or 17 May 2006 if extended by resolution.

IV. Further report by the Legal Service Division on outstanding bills

Births, Deaths and Marriages (Digital Image) Bill

(*LC Paper No. LS 52/05-06*)

[*Previous papers:*

LC Paper No. LS 39/05-06 issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2) 1348/05-06 dated 9 March 2006; and

Paragraphs 6 to 9 of the minutes of the 17th House Committee meeting on 10 March 2006 (LC Paper No. CB(2) 1383/05-06 issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2) 1402/05-06 dated 15 March 2006)]

10. The Chairman said that at the House Committee meeting on 10 March 2006, Members had deferred a decision on the Bill pending a further report on the Administration's reply to certain drafting issues raised by the Legal Service Division. The Administration had given its reply and agreed to move Committee Stage amendments to the Bill to address the drafting issues.

11. Members did not raise objection to the resumption of the Second Reading debate on the Bill.

V. Report of Bills Committees and subcommittees

Report of the Subcommittee on Proposed Senior Judicial Appointment

(*LC Paper No. CB(2) 1557/05-06*)

Action

12. Ms Margaret NG, Chairman of the Subcommittee, said that the Subcommittee had sought the views of the two legal professional bodies, which did not raise objection to the proposed judicial appointments. At the Subcommittee's request, the Administration had provided additional information on the appointees. Ms NG added that the Subcommittee supported the proposed judicial appointments.

VI. Position on Bills Committees and subcommittees

(LC Paper No. CB(2) 1556/05-06)

13. The Chairman said that there were 11 Bills Committees, including the Bills Committee on the Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2006 formed under agenda item III(a) above, and six subcommittees under the House Committee in action.

VII. Amendment to Rule 83(5)(a) of the Rules of Procedure proposed by the Committee on Members' Interests

(LC Paper No. CMI/29/05-06)

14. Mrs Sophie LEUNG, Chairman of the Committee on Members' Interests (CMI), said that to enhance transparency, CMI proposed to amend Rule 83(5)(a) of the Rules of Procedure to require Members to register the names of the parent companies of the companies in which they held remunerated directorships.

15. Mrs LEUNG further said that CMI had sought the views of all Members, and the majority of them supported the proposal. She would move a motion to amend Rule 83(5)(a) at the Council meeting on 26 April 2006.

16. Mrs LEUNG added that if the motion was passed, CMI's Clerk would seek the President's permission to amend the first page of the Registration Form on Members' Interests, and invite Members to register the relevant interests within 14 days.

VIII. Any other business

17. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:38 pm.