

立法會 財經事務委員會 Legislative Council Panel on Financial Affairs

二零零七年五月七日會議 Meeting on 7 May 2007

重寫《公司條例》

Rewrite of the Companies Ordinance

財經事務及庫務局
Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau
www.fstb.gov.hk

重寫《公司條例》:目的 CO Rewrite: Purpose

□ 增強香港作為國際商貿及金融中心的競爭力和吸引力 Enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness and attractiveness as an international business and financial centre

□ 參考可資比較的司法管轄區的經驗,將本港公司法例現代化 Modernize our company law in light of the experiences of comparable jurisdictions



主要考慮因素 Key Considerations

- □ 照顧中小型企業的需要 Cater for the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises
- □ 加強企業管治 Enhance corporate governance
- □ 鼓勵使用資訊科技 Encourage the use of information technology
- □ 改善條文的編排,並將語文現代化
 Improved the structure and modernize the language
- □ 參考主要的普通法司法管轄區(例如澳洲、新加坡及英國)的經驗 Benchmark Hong Kong against major common law jurisdictions e.g. Australia, Singapore and the United Kingdom



分兩階段 Two Phases

□ 第一階段: 影響60萬家現存公司的運作的核心條文

1st Phase: Core company provisions affecting the

operation of 600 000 live companies

□ 第二階段: 清盤及其他與無力償債有關的條文

2nd Phase: Winding-up and other insolvency-related

provisions



第一階段:時間表 1st Phase: Timeframe

- □ 研究、諮詢和草擬工作(包括諮詢公司法改革常 務委員會和諮詢小組;就某些專題進行公眾諮詢) 二零零九年年中 consultations and drafting (incl. mid 2006 – mid 2009 Research. consulting the SCCLR and Advisory Groups; topical public consultations)
- 二零零六年年中至

□ 就白紙條例草案進行公眾諮詢 Consult the public on the White Bill 二零零九年年中至年底 mid – end 2009

□ 修訂白紙條例草案 Revise the White Bill 二零一零年上半年 1st half 2010

- 向立法會提交新《公司條例草案》 Introduce the New Companies Bill into the LegCo
- 二零一零年第三季 Q3 2010



公司條例草案專責小組 Companies Bill Team

- □ 立法會財務委員會於2006年1月13日批准撥出額外資源進行第一階段重寫工作 Additional resources approved by LegCo Finance Committee on 13 January 2006 for Phase I rewrite
- □ 公司條例草案專責小組於2006年年中成立,並已全力展開工作 A Companies Bill Team ("CBT") was formed in mid-2006 and is operating at full strength
 - ▶ 14名人員: 5人來自財經事務科及9人來自公司註冊處 14 officers: 5 from FSB and 9 from the Companies Registry
 - ▶ 7名律政司的律政人員提供支援
 Supported by 7 legal officers in the Department of Justice
 - ▶ 外聘法律顧問 External legal consultant



新《公司條例草案》的架構 Framework of the New Companies Bill

- □ 暫定有22個部分 Tentatively, there will be 22 parts
- □ 清盤和無力償債條文將於第二階段重寫工作處理 Winding-up / insolvency-related provisions to be covered under Phase II of the rewrite



諮詢小組 Advisory Groups (AGs)

■ 諮詢小組 1: 關於股本,利潤及資產分發和押記條文

AG 1: Share capital, distribution of profits and assets and charges

provisions

■ 諮詢小組 2: 關於公司的組成、註冊和重新註冊,以及公司會議和行政的條文

AG 2: Company formation, registration, re-registration, and company

meeting and administrative provisions

□ 諮詢小組 3: 與董事和高級人員有關的條文

AG 3: Directors and officers related provisions

□ 諮詢小組 4: 關於審查、調查、罪行和懲罰條文

<u>AG 4</u>: Inspections, investigations and offences and punishment provisions

成員來自有關的專業團體、商會、公司法學者、公司法改革常務委員會成員和有關的政府部門/機構的代表

Members are from relevant professional bodies and business organizations, company law academics, SCCLR members and government representatives.



諮詢小組工作 AGs' Work

□ 自2006年十月起陸續展開工作,至今共舉行了18次會議, 討論了11個課題

Started work in phases since October 2006 and convened 18 meetings with 11 subjects discussed

□ 諮詢小組的工作進展大致合乎預期計劃
Progress of AGs are in line with our planned timetable



公司法改革常務委員會 The Standing Committee on Company Law Reform (SCCLR)

□ 在一九八四年成立,主要負責向財政司司長提供修訂《公司條例》的 意見

Established in 1984 to advise the FS mainly on amendments to the Companies Ordinance

□ 在重寫中擔當重要的角色,就重寫條例工作所提出的主要建議(包括 諮詢小組提出的建議)提供意見

A key body to advise on all major rewrite proposals, including recommendations by the AGs

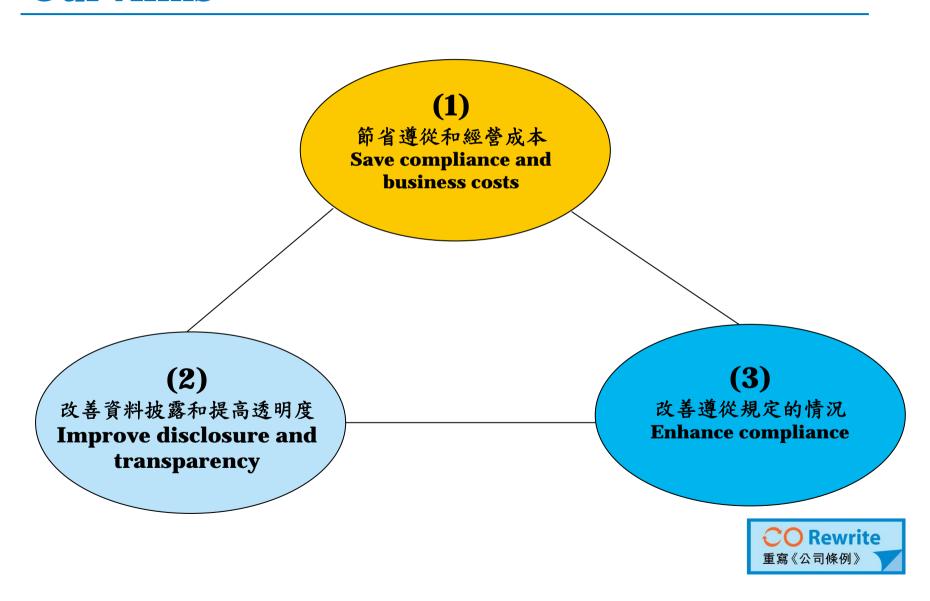


專題公眾諮詢 Topical Public Consultants

- □ 會計及審計條文 Accounting and Auditing Provisions 2007年3月29日 - 2007年6月29日 29 March - 29 June 2007
- □ 股本、利潤及資產的分發
 Share Capital, Distribution of Profits and Assets 2008年初
 Early 2008
- □ 公司押記 Company Charges 2008年初 Early 2008



我們的目標 Our Aims



(1) 節省遵從和經營成本 Save Compliance and Business Costs

- 讓更多私人公司可遵從簡化的匯報和披露規定
 Enable more private companies to take advantage of simplified reporting and disclosure requirements
- □ 使有關財務摘要報告的條文更簡便易行
 Make the summary financial report provisions more user-friendly
- 型 控股公司如已把本身的資產負債表列為集團帳目的註釋,可獲免除擬備本身帳目的責任
 Relieve a holding company from the obligation to prepare its own accounts, provided that the company has included its own balance sheet as a note to its group accounts



(2) 改善資料披露和提高透明度 Improve Disclosure and Transparency

□ 董事報告書須包括:

The directors' report should include:

- 提供更具分析性和前瞻性的業務回顧(主要就公眾公司而言); a more forward-looking, analytical and informative business review (mainly in the case of public companies)
- **董事就向核數師披露資料一事作出陳述**,目的是協助核數師取得所有相關的核數資料
 - a statement by directors concerning disclosure of information to auditors, so as to facilitate the latter to obtain all relevant audit information
- □ 使董事酬金條文更為精簡和現代化
 - Modernise and streamline the provisions on directors' remuneration
- □ 明確訂定有關公司財政年度的條文
 Provide explicitly for a company's financial year



(3) 改善遵從規定的情況 Enhance Compliance

- □ 加強核數師的權力,例如擴大核數師向公司僱員及其他相關人士索取公司資 料的權利
 - Enhance auditors' rights, e.g. expand auditors' right to obtain company information from the employees of a company and other relevant persons
- □ 擴大核數師的責任,例如要求所有退任核數師作出陳述,說明他認為與其停任該職有關的情況
 - Increase auditors' responsibilities, e.g. requiring all outgoing auditors to provide a statement of the circumstances connected with his ceasing to hold office
- □ 檢討《公司條例》的會計披露規定(例如附表10和附表11)、《香港財務報告 準則》和《中小企財務報告準則》的相對角色
 - Review the relative roles of the accounting disclosure requirements in the Companies Ordinance, e.g. the Tenth and Eleventh Schedules, the Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and the Small and Medium-sized Entities Financial Reporting Standards

多謝各位 Thank you

