

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)2835/07-08
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/BC/2/06

**Bills Committee on
Race Discrimination Bill**

**Minutes of meeting
held on Wednesday, 26 March 2008, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present** : Hon Margaret NG (Chairman)
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon Martin LEE Chu-ming, SC, JP
Dr Hon LUI Ming-wah, SBS, JP
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon Bernard CHAN, GBS, JP
Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP
Dr Hon YEUNG Sum, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon CHOY So-yuk, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Hon TAM Heung-man
Hon Mrs Anson CHAN, GBM, JP
- Member attending** : Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP
- Members absent** : Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Howard YOUNG, SBS, JP
Hon LI Fung-ying, BBS, JP

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Hon Daniel LAM Wai-keung, SBS, JP
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Public Officers attending : Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Mr Arthur HO
Deputy Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (1)

Mr Victor NG
Principal Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and
Mainland Affairs (5)

Mr Stanley NG
Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs (5)A

Education Bureau

Ms Bernadette LINN
Deputy Secretary for Education (2)

Mr Daniel CHENG
Principal Assistant Secretary (Further Education)

Ms Pecvin YONG
Assistant Secretary (Infrastructure & Research Support)2

Labour and Welfare Bureau

Ms Karyn CHAN
Acting Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)1

Employees Retraining Board

Ms Rebecca PUN
Executive Director

Food and Health Bureau

Mr Patrick NIP Tak-kuen
Deputy Secretary for Food and Health (Health)1

Hospital Authority

Mr Raymond WONG
Chief Manager (Business Support Services)

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Department of Justice

Miss Betty CHEUNG
Senior Government Counsel

Miss Shandy LIU
Senior Government Counsel

Clerk in attendance : Ms Joanne MAK
Senior Council Secretary (2)2

Staff in attendance : Mr KAU Kin-wah
Assistant Legal Adviser 6

Ms Anna CHEUNG
Legislative Assistant (2)2

I. Meeting with the Administration

LC Paper No. CB(2)1385/07-08(01) -- Administration's paper entitled "Vocational Training and Interpretation Services at Hospitals for Ethnic Minorities"

LC Paper No. CB(2)1200/07-08(01) -- Administration's paper entitled "Follow-up action on outstanding issues concerning education for ethnic minorities"

LC Paper No. CB(2)1180/07-08(05) -- Administration's paper entitled "Progress of support measures for non-Chinese speaking students including ethnic minorities" issued for the meeting of the Panel on Education on 29 February 2008

LC Paper No. CB(3)176/06-07 -- The Bill

The Bills Committee deliberated the Administration's paper entitled "Vocational Training and Interpretation Services at Hospitals for Ethnic Minorities" [LC Paper No. CB(2)1385/07-08(01)].

Admin

2. The Administration was requested to provide the following supplementary information -

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Vocational training for ethnic minorities

- (a) dedicated placement-tied courses for ethnic minorities launched by the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) and information on vocational Chinese programme for ethnic minorities and training courses for interpreters working for ethnic minorities planned to be offered by ERB;
- (b) dedicated vocational training courses subvented by the Labour and Welfare Bureau and organized by the Vocational Training Council for ethnic minorities, including any vocational Chinese programme for ethnic minorities;
- (c) statistical data collected by the Census and Statistics Department on the population of ethnic minorities, including their age distribution, education attainment and geographical distribution;
- (d) courses provided by the Construction Industry Council Training Academy and the measures taken to meet the vocational training needs of ethnic minorities;
- (e) a list of the ethnic minority groups and non-governmental organizations which had been consulted by ERB in developing training courses for ethnic minorities;
- (f) what would be done to convey to non-Chinese speaking students the availability of dedicated vocational training and vocational education courses for ethnic minorities after completion of their secondary school education, and to identify the sort of programmes which would be in demand; and
- (g) the criteria for accrediting courses under the Qualifications Framework and whether this would have a bearing on the design and assessment mode of training programmes meeting the needs of ethnic minorities.

Interpretation services at hospitals

- (h) statistics on usage of interpretation service at hospitals and the implementation plan for enhancement of service;
- (i) arrangement details in relation to the provision of off-site telephone interpretation support services and the average time required for recruiting an interpreter; and
- (j) feasibility of introducing pilot duty interpreter service at selected

Action

public hospitals and establishing a network of ethnic minority volunteers in each district to provide interpretation services at hospitals.

Admin

3. The Administration was also requested to explain the Government's obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and whether Clauses 20(2) and 26(2) would result in lowering the standard of protection for ethnic minorities.

Date of next meeting

4. Members noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 9 April 2008, at 8:30 am to continue the clause-by-clause examination of the Bill.

5. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:35 am.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
30 September 2008

**Proceedings of the meeting of Bills Committee on
Race Discrimination Bill
on Wednesday, 26 March 2008, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
000000 - 000416	Chairman	Opening remarks	
000417 - 013925	Admin Chairman Dr YEUNG Sum Executive Director /Employees Retraining Board (ED/ERB) Dr Fernando CHEUNG Miss CHAN Yuen-han Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Dr LUI Ming-wah Ms Emily LAU Miss CHOY So-yuk	<u>Vocational training</u> Briefing by Acting Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)1 and Deputy Secretary for Education (2) on the paper entitled "Vocational Training and Interpretation Services at Hospitals for Ethnic Minorities " [LC Paper No. CB(2)1385/07-08(01)] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dedicated vocational training courses subvented by the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and organized by the Vocational Training Council for ethnic minorities, dedicated placement-tied courses for the ethnic minorities by ERB, and training courses for interpreters working for ethnic minorities planned to be offered by ERB; - the possibility of conducting surveys on the demand and supply of vocational training to address the needs of ethnic minorities; - the planning of vocational training services and courses for the ethnic minorities and involvement of relevant non-governmental organizations in the planning process; and - courses provided by the Construction Industry Council Training Academy and the measures taken to meet the vocational training needs of the ethnic minorities. 	Admin to provide details of the relevant vocational training courses and services for the ethnic minorities (para. 2(a)-(g) of minutes)

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
		<p><u>Obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (the Convention)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - obligations of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the above convention, and whether clauses 20(2) and 26(2) would result in lowering the standard of protection for ethnic minorities. 	<p>Admin to explain Government's obligations under the Convention and whether clauses 20(2) and 26(2) would result in lowering of standard of protection for ethnic minorities (para. 3 of minutes)</p>
013926 - 020509	<p>Chairman Admin Dr YEUNG Sum Dr Fernando CHEUNG Miss CHAN Yuen-han Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Mr SIN Chung-kai Ms Emily LAU Chief Manager (Business Support Services) /Hospital Authority</p>	<p><u>Interpretation services at hospitals</u></p> <p>Briefing by Deputy Secretary for Food and Health (Health)1 on the paper entitled "Vocational Training and Interpretation Services at Hospitals for Ethnic Minorities " [LC Paper No. CB(2)1385/07-08(01)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - existing interpretation service available at hospitals and clinics under the Hospital Authority (HA); and - pilot measures to be introduced by HA to enhance the provision of interpretation services to ethnic minority patients and other possible enhancement measures to be considered. 	<p>Admin to provide further information and to consider the enhancement measures suggested by members (para. 2(h)-(j) of minutes)</p>
020510 - 020628	Chairman	Date of next meeting	