



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育統籌局
Education and Manpower Bureau
Government Secretariat, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

本局檔號 Our Ref. : EMB CR 5/2321/07
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3 July 2007

Miss Becky YU
Clerk to the Finance Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central

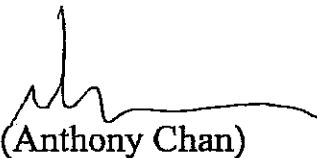
Dear Miss YU,

Finance Committee meeting on 22 June 2007

I refer to your letter of 25 June 2007 addressed to the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury regarding the follow-up action requested by the Finance Committee on the assessment of the progress of implementation of the Qualifications Framework.

I enclose for Members' information a note on the criteria and indicators for assessing the effectiveness of implementing the Framework. We will report the progress to the Manpower Panel of the Legislative Council on a half-yearly basis.

Yours sincerely,



(Anthony Chan)

for Secretary for Education

c.c. Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Attn: Mr. Alan Au)

教育統籌局已於二零零七年七月一日重組為教育局。為免浪費，我們繼續使用舊文具，直至存貨用罄為止。
The Education and Manpower Bureau has been re-organised as Education Bureau since 1 July 2007. To minimize waste, we are using our old stationery while stock lasts.

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Funding Proposals for the Development and Implementation of Qualifications Framework in Hong Kong

Purpose

At the last meeting of the Finance Committee of Legislative Council held on 22 June 2007, Members considered the funding proposals to support the development and implementation of the Qualifications Framework (QF) as set out in the paper No. FCR (2007-08)22, and requested the Administration to advise the criteria and indicators for assessing the effectiveness of implementation of QF.

Administration's Response

2. The primary aim of the QF is to provide a platform to promote life-long learning and continuing education, so as to enhance the overall competitiveness of our human capital in an increasing globalised and knowledge-based economy. The QF is nevertheless a new endeavour in Hong Kong and it is important that the Framework should continue to be developed in consultation with the stakeholders concerned.

3. With the enactment of the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance and the approval of the funding proposals by the Legislative Council, we aim to develop and implement the QF in a gradual and progressive manner. In assessing the effectiveness of implementation of QF, we shall take into account the following factors/indicators :

- (a) Extent of industry participation in the QF – so far we have assisted 12 industries to set up and Industry Training Advisory Committees (ITACs) for the development of Specifications of Competency Standards (SCS) for the respective industries. We shall collect feedback from stakeholders on whether the SCSs reflect accurately competency standards required of employees in the industry concerned;
- (b) Availability of SCS-based courses - We will monitor the number of courses designed in accordance with the SCSs developed by industries (i.e. SCS-based courses), and the number of participants enrolled on such courses;

- (c) Further development of the training market – we will monitor the development of the training market under the QF, with particular regard to the number of training providers and courses accredited by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), and the number of training courses registered by providers in the Qualifications Register;
 - (d) Implementation of the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) mechanism – we will implement a pilot RPL mechanism for three industries¹ in 2008, and will conduct a review of the pilot scheme after the mechanism has been in place for about a year’s time. Subject to the outcome of the review, we will implement the mechanism in other industries which have already drawn up their SCSs. We will also monitor the number of workers who have successfully sought recognition of their skills, knowledge and experience under the RPL mechanism and pursued further training/studies; and
 - (e) Implementation of a new accreditation approach - the new HKCAAVQ will adopt a new “fit-for-purpose” accreditation approach to meet the demand for accreditation services under the QF. We shall collect feedback from education and training providers on the new accreditation approach.
4. We will carefully monitor the progress of the development and implementation of the QF and will report progress to the Manpower Panel of the Legislative Council on a half-yearly basis.

Education and Manpower Bureau
June 2007

¹ These three industries are Watch & Clock, Hairdressing, and Printing & Publishing.