

**Progress Report on Actions Taken in Respect of the
Motion on “Development diversified hawking and bazaar
economic activities” Moved at the Legislative Council
Meeting on 14 November 2007**

At the Legislative Council (LegCo) meeting on 14 November 2007, Members passed the motion on “Development diversified hawking and bazaar economic activities”. The latest position of follow-up actions taken in respect of the recommendations put forward by Members in the motion is summarized as follows:

Recommendations	Responses of the Administration and the Progress of Work
(a) Preserve and revitalize existing bazaars which have local economic, cultural and native characteristics, and launch beautification works, enhance management and promotion, so as to foster the viability and promote the sustainable development of such bazaars	<p>The relevant Government departments and the Urban Renewal Authority briefed the Subcommittee on Heritage Conservation of the LegCo Panel on Home Affairs on the proposed traffic arrangements for the preservation of the entire open-air bazaar at Tai Yuen Street and Cross Street in Wan Chai at the Subcommittee meeting on 13 November 2007, and will consult the Wan Chai District Council on the proposed arrangements in January 2008.</p> <p>The Hong Kong Tourism Board will continue to publicize among visitors various thematic retail links and open bazaars in Hong Kong. These local attractions could help visitors explore Hong Kong’s living culture and enhance their travelling experience, thereby helping us promote the diversity of Hong Kong tourism.</p>
(b) Establish and develop new marketplaces with various characteristics, such as creativity bazaars and marketplaces for organic fishery and agricultural produce	<p>The gathering of people at specific locations to form marketplaces and develop new marketplace economy relies on the uniqueness and attractiveness of the commercial activities themselves. Since 2002, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) and District Councils (DCs) have jointly launched a number of new initiatives. For example, the Sheung Wan Promenade, Sham Shui Po Hong Kong Computer Festival, Wan Chai Book Festival, Tsuen Wan Jewellery and Goldsmith Square and FARM Youth Culture and Innovation Bazaar at the Victoria Park have been well received by the public and tourists. In future, HAD will continue to support DCs on these initiatives.</p>
(c) Set up designated zones for street art performance, arts fairs and the like in order to encourage and promote the culture of	<p>“Arts Corners” organized by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) are held at the Hong Kong Park, Victoria Park, Kowloon Park and Lai Chi Kok Park respectively on weekends and public holidays. The scheme aims to make our parks more appealing to</p>

<p>street art performance, preserve collective memories, and maintain, discover and nurture the culture and talents of folk art performance</p>	<p>park goes and create a relaxed environment for arts appreciation. Stalls are set up for selling of handicrafts and artworks such as pottery, paper craftworks and accessories; and for providing arts services including painting, calligraphy and sketching.</p> <p>The LCSD also organizes the “Arts and Crafts Fair” at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, providing a similar platform for creative talents to display their works and share their creativity with visitors. The LCSD will continue to enhance its projects on arts fairs to enliven the city’s cultural life and nurture creative talents.</p> <p>It is worth noting that some non-government venues like the Hong Kong Gold Coast Shopping Mall also organize arts fairs, which are well received by residents and visitors alike.</p> <p>In respect of promotion and preservation of traditional Chinese arts and provision of performance opportunities for upcoming artists, the LCSD organizes territory-wide festive events in celebration of traditional festivals, including the Lunar New Year Lantern Carnivals and Mid-Autumn Lantern Carnivals. Apart from stage performances, traditional cultural and folk arts activities like palm reading, lantern riddles and spectacular lantern displays are also offered.</p> <p>Furthermore, regular free entertainment programmes organized on a monthly basis at various outdoor/indoor venues in the 18 districts, also cover a wide range of traditional performing arts programmes like Cantonese operas and operatic songs, Chinese folk songs and dances, Chinese acrobatic shows, magic shows, traditional puppet shows, etc, serving to promote Chinese traditional culture.</p>
<p>(d) Set up various types of dawn markets and night markets at suitable locations so that those running small businesses who are self-reliant and self-supporting can have a way out</p>	<p>The Administration is open to proposal for setting up dawn markets and night markets. However, the proposed locations have to be supported by the concerned DCs, residents and the relevant government departments.</p>
<p>(e) Explore the setting up of on-street cooked food designated zones featuring specialty food and drinks</p>	<p>DCs and residents may have different views on setting up of on-street cooked food designated zones. While some people may be supportive of such zones, others are concerned about the food safety and environmental</p>

	<p>hygiene problems brought by these cooked food zones. Some residents have requested the Administration to re-site some existing on-street cooked food stalls in their districts to off-street locations as soon as possible.</p> <p>Given the diverse views of the public on this subject, the proposal of setting up on-street cooked food stalls at designated locations must have the support of the respective DCs and local residents. Should there be available sites and community support for such project and provided that the food safety and environmental hygiene standards are satisfied, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will provide appropriate assistance to facilitate the setting up of these stalls.</p>
<p>(f) Expeditiously conduct a comprehensive review on the policies for hawker licensing and management, and handle licence renewal applications with flexibility to tie in with the objectives of increasing employment, promoting diversified hawking and bazaar economic activities</p>	<p>The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) is now conducting a review on hawker licensing policy covering issues such as whether new licences should be issued and arrangements for the transfer and succession of existing licences. FHB will consult various hawker associations, Legislative Council and the DCs concerned in the course of the review. The review is expected to be completed by mid-2008.</p>
<p>(g) Proactively explore with various District Councils to implement the above measures and means for revitalizing the diversified economy and culture in the districts</p>	<p>DCs are key partners of the Government on district matters. Through the concerted effort of the DCs and government departments, various initiatives to improve economic and environment have been successfully implemented in the past and the living quality of residents in the districts have also been lifted. In future, the Government will continue to work with DCs on matters of local concern. HAD will continue to provide funding and appropriate support to assist DCs in revitalizing the diversified economy and culture in the districts.</p>