

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CROP 48/07-08

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Paper for the House Committee meeting on 27 June 2008

Committee on Rules of Procedure

Proposed amendments to the House Rules regarding proposing new motions during the 15-minute period of extension or continuation of meeting allowed by the chairman of a committee

Purpose

This paper invites the House Committee to approve the proposed amendments to Rule 24A of the House Rules (HR) regarding proposing new motions during the 15-minute period of extension or continuation of meeting allowed by the chairman of a committee.

Background

2. Under the existing HR 24A, at a committee meeting, a new motion may be proposed during the period of extension or continuation of meeting allowed by the chairman, i.e. the period of not more than 15 minutes beyond the appointed ending time of the meeting referred to in HR 24A(a). However, no new motion may be proposed during the period of extension decided by the committee, i.e. any period of extension, which is beyond the 15-minute period extended by the chairman, referred to in HR 24A(b) or (c).

3. Some members have recently requested the Committee on Rules of Procedure (CRoP) to review HR 24A. They consider that a new motion should not be proposed during the 15-minute period of extension or continuation of meeting allowed by the chairman. This is because members of a committee may not have anticipated that a new motion may be moved during this 15-minute period and may have left the meeting by then. CRoP has therefore reviewed the arrangement.

CRoP's recommendation

4. CRoP agrees that no new motion should be allowed to be proposed during the period of extension or continuation of meeting allowed by the chairman referred to in HR 24A(a), and recommends that HR 24A should be amended to this effect. The proposed amendments to HR 24A is in the **Appendix**.

Advice sought

5. Members are invited to approve CRoP's recommendation in paragraph 4 above, and the proposed amendments to HR 24A in the Appendix.

Legislative Council Secretariat
25 June 2008

**Proposed amendments to the House Rules regarding
proposing new motion during the 15-minute period of extension
or continuation of meeting allowed by the chairman of a committee**

24A. Extension of Meetings

- (a) Subject to the availability of the meeting venue, the chairman of a committee may, with or without making an announcement, extend a meeting of the committee, or allow a meeting of the committee to continue, for not more than 15 minutes beyond the appointed ending time of the meeting.
- (b) A committee may extend a meeting for more than 15 minutes beyond the appointed ending time of the meeting or the period of extension or continuation of meeting referred to in (a), provided that:
 - (i) a proposal to extend the meeting for a specified period beyond 15 minutes has been put forward during the original appointed meeting time or the period of extension or continuation of meeting referred to in (a);
 - (ii) there is no dissenting voice to the proposal; and
 - (iii) the chairman of the committee has ascertained that the meeting venue would remain available throughout the period of the proposed extension.
- (c) Subject to the availability of the meeting venue, the period of extension decided by the committee under (b) may be extended for a further specified period if a proposal to further extend the meeting is put forward during that extended period and there is no dissenting voice to the proposal.
- (d) A proposal put forward under (b) or (c) shall be dealt with by the chairman forthwith by ascertaining whether there is no dissenting voice to the proposal without debate or discussion.
- (e) Where a motion has been proposed and agreed to be dealt with during the original appointed meeting time ~~or the period of extension or continuation of meeting referred to in (a)~~ but has not been so dealt with, the motion may be dealt with and disposed of during *the period of extension or continuation of meeting referred to in (a) and/or* the period of extension decided by the committee under (b) or (c).
- (f) No new motion shall be proposed during *the period of extension or continuation of meeting referred to in (a), or* the period of extension decided by the committee under (b) or (c).

Legend:

Texts proposed to be added are shown in *italics*.

Texts proposed to be deleted are shown with deletion line.