

**Panel on Commerce and Industry**

**List of outstanding items for discussion**  
(position as at 18 February 2008)

**Proposed timing**  
**for discussion**

**1. Progress in relation to the development of the convention and exhibition industry**

Last discussed at the meeting on 13 March 2007. In August 2007, the Panel conducted an overseas duty visit to Dubai, Europe and the United States to obtain first-hand information on the development of convention and exhibition facilities in these places. A motion on the "Development of the Convention and Exhibition Industry" was carried at the Council meeting on 24 October 2007. The progress report on the motion provided by the Administration was circulated to all Members vide LC Paper No. CB(3)265/07-08 on 31 December 2007. The Panel has completed the Report on the Study of the Development of Convention and Exhibition Facilities in Hong Kong and reported its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on 11 January 2008. The Administration will brief members on its response to the Panel's findings and recommendations made in the study report at the Panel meeting to be held in March 2008.

18 March 2008

**2. Copyright protection in the digital environment**

The Administration launched a public consultation exercise in December 2006 on how best to strengthen copyright protection in the digital environment. The Administration briefed the Panel on 16 January 2007. The consultation exercise ended in April 2007. Some 600 submissions were received. The Administration is consolidating and analyzing the views received and intends to release preliminary proposal in the first quarter of 2008 for further consultation.

15 April 2008

**3. Progress report on Hong Kong Design Centre (HKDC)**

At the Panel meeting held on 17 April 2007, the Panel supported in principle the Administration's funding proposal to provide \$100 million to support the operation of HKDC as it would be conducive to the development of

15 April 2008

local enterprises as well as the long-term economic development of Hong Kong. The Administration undertook to report to the Panel on a regular basis the progress of the work of HKDC and the relevant initiatives taken to promote design and innovation. Following consultation with the Panel, the above funding proposal was approved by the Finance Committee on 25 May 2007.

**4. Furthering of trade relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong**

Following the implementation of various initiatives such as CEPA and PPRD Regional Cooperation, bilateral trade relation between the Mainland and Hong Kong has strengthened. The Administration will update the Panel on the latest position and explore areas (including CEPA implementation) that could be further enhanced.

20 May 2008

At the Panel meeting held on 18 December 2007, Panel members agreed that a public hearing for Hong Kong businessmen to exchange views with the Panel on difficulties they encountered in operating in the Mainland be held at the May meeting. The purpose of the meeting would be to discuss the implications of the Mainland's laws and regulations and its policies on Hong Kong businessmen operating in the Mainland instead of dealing with particular cases.

**5. Progress report on Research and Development (R&D) Centres**

The Panel discussed the issue on the new framework at its meeting on 21 November 2006 and requested the Administration to inform the Panel of the estimated expenditure of the R&D Centres against the funding approved. The Administration reported to the Panel on 17 July 2007 the income and expenditure of the R&D Centres and updated members of their progress achieved since their establishment in April 2006 to June 2007. The Administration undertook to report to the Panel the income and expenditure of the R&D Centres on an annual basis and to provide the requisite information (i.e. the total cost of each project, the actual level of industry contribution secured by the Centres for each project, and the administrative cost involved for each project) in the future progress reports.

17 June 2008

**6. Promotion of Inward Investment**

At the Panel meeting held on 18 December 2007, Panel members considered that resources of Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) should be pooled together with other bodies which were also promoting Hong Kong. Since a follow-up study on the comprehensive review on Hong Kong's investment promotion policy was being commissioned by the Administration, the outcome of which was expected to be available in the second quarter of 2008, the Panel requested the Administration to report to the Panel on the key findings of the study to facilitate discussion on the future development of InvestHK.

Second quarter of 2008

Council Business Division 1  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
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