Panel on Economic Development

List of outstanding items for discussion

(position as at 8 October 2007)

<u>Policy issues under Commerce and Economic Development Bureau</u>

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Operation of Ngong Ping 360

At the special meeting on 18 September 2007, the Panel was briefed on the findings and recommendations of the independent investigation into the falling of a cabin from the Ngong Ping cable car system on 11 June 2007 (the Incident) and in relation to the operation, maintenance and management of the cable car system. The parts of the report concerning the cause of the Incident was withheld according to the sub judice rule. The Administration will brief the Panel on the cause of the Incident after completion of the prosecution. Separately, the Administration will update Members of the progress made in implementing the recovery plan for re-launching the cable car system.

Upon request by a member, the Administration has provided further information on the contractual arrangement between Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited and Skyrail-ITM (Hong Kong) Limited which was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)2435/06-07(01) on 5 October 2007.

2. Development of competition policy in Hong Kong

The Panel was consulted on the issues highlighted in the public discussion document on the way forward for competition policy in Hong Kong at the meeting on 21 December 2006. Members were also briefed on the outcome of the public consultation and the proposed way forward at the meeting on 26 March 2007. Members noted that the Administration had begun work in drafting a cross-sector competition law and it was the Administration's target to introduce the relevant Bill into the Council by the end of 2007. The Administration also indicated that where appropriate, it would consult the Panel on major aspects of the legislation during the drafting process.

Proposed timing for discussion

Policy issues under Environment Bureau

3. Future development of electricity market in Hong Kong

The Panel discussed issues related to the future development of the electricity market in Hong Kong at a series of special meetings during the 2005-2006 session. Members noted that the Government hoped to conclude the post-2008 regulatory arrangements with the two power companies within 2007, and would make all the necessary preparations for the further opening up of the electricity market within the next ten years.

Policy issues under Transport and Housing Bureau

4. Logistics development

Lantau Logistics Park (LLP)

Members expressed concern on the development of LLP during the policy briefing by the Secretary for Economic Development and Labour at the meeting on 23 October 2006. The Administration plans to brief members on the findings of the feasibility study and other relevant consideration for the development of the proposed LLP.

5. Aviation services

"Co-location" of immigration and customs facilities at Hong Kong International Airport

In order to enhance the competitiveness of the Hong Kong International Airport, views had been expressed that the Government should liaise with the Central People's Government and the relevant authorities with a view to implementing "co-location" of immigration and customs facilities at Hong Kong International Airport.

At the Panel meeting on 24 January 2005, the Administration advised that co-location of immigration and customs facilities at cross-boundary control points involved complex legal and jurisdiction issues. There was no plan to provide co-location of immigration and customs facilities at SkyPlaza.

Council Business Division 1
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