

**立法會**  
*Legislative Council*

LC Paper No. CB(2)210/07-08  
(These minutes have been cleared  
with the Chairman)

Ref : CB2/PL/FE

**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**held on Thursday, 11 October 2007, at 9:50 am**  
**in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building**

**Members present** : Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP  
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH  
Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, JP  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

**Members absent** : Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

**Clerk in attendance** : Miss Flora TAI  
Chief Council Secretary (2)2

**Staff in attendance** : Mrs Vivian KAM  
Assistant Secretary General 2

Ms Alice LEUNG  
Senior Council Secretary (2)1

Ms Joanne MAK  
Senior Council Secretary (2)2

Ms Anna CHEUNG  
Legislative Assistant (2)2

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Action

**I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman for the 2007-2008 session**

Election of Chairman

Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Chairman of the Panel for the 2006-2007 session, presided over the election of the Chairman of the Panel for the 2007-2008 session, and invited nominations for the chairmanship. Mr Tommy CHEUNG was nominated by Mr WONG Yung-kan and the nomination was seconded by Mr Vincent FANG. Mr CHEUNG accepted the nomination.

2. As the incumbent Chairman was nominated for the office, Mr Fred LI, the incumbent Deputy Chairman, presided over the election of the Chairman. As there was no other nomination, Mr LI declared Mr Tommy CHEUNG elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2007-2008 session. Mr CHEUNG then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

3. The Chairman called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2007-2008 session. Mr WONG Yung-kan nominated Mr Fred LI and the nomination was seconded by Mr Vincent FANG. Mr Fred LI accepted the nomination.

4. As there was no other nomination, the Chairman declared Mr Fred LI elected as Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2007-2008 session.

**II. Schedule of meetings for the 2007-2008 session**

5. Members agreed that the regular meetings of the Panel be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30 pm. Members also agreed that the next regular Panel meeting would be held on 13 November 2007.

6. Noting that the date of the regular meeting in February 2008 would be the sixth day of Lunar New Year, members agreed to re-schedule the meeting for Tuesday, 19 February 2008, at 4:30 pm. The Clerk would issue the schedule of meetings for the 2007-2008 session for members' reference.

Clerk

*[Post-meeting note: The meeting schedule was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)60/07-08 on 12 October 2007].*

Action

**III. Items for discussion at the next meeting**

[Appendices V and VI to LC Paper No. CB(2)11/07-08]

Regular meeting on 13 November 2007

7. Members agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting in November 2007 -

- (a) regulation of pesticide residues in food;
- (b) proposed amendments to the Preservatives in Food Regulations; and
- (c) poultry slaughtering and processing plant.

Clerk 8. To allow sufficient time for discussion, members also agreed that the next regular Panel meeting scheduled for 13 November 2007 would be held from 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

Items proposed for discussion

*Nutrition labelling*

9. Mr Vincent FANG expressed concern over recent newspaper reports on the Administration's revised proposal for taking forward the nutrition labelling scheme (i.e. a one plus six mandatory scheme with a two-year grace period before implementation). Noting that the Administration proposed to discuss with the Panel the subject in December 2007, Mr FANG considered that the Administration should advance the proposed timing for discussion.

Clerk 10. The Chairman also expressed dissatisfaction that the information had been released to the media before the Panel was consulted on the Administration's revised proposal. At the Chairman's suggestion, members agreed that the Panel should write to the Administration to convey members' concern and urge the Administration to brief members on its revised proposal at the Panel meeting in December 2007.

*List of outstanding items for discussion*

Clerk 11. Members noted that the Administration had suggested to delete item no. 6 "Sustainable development of agricultural and fisheries industries" and item no. 14 "Use of artificial trans fat in food production" from the list of outstanding items for discussion by the Panel [Appendix V to LC Paper No. CB(2)11/07-08]. Members decided that these items should be kept on the list.

Action

*Overseas duty visit*

Clerk 12. Members noted that a proposal for the Panel to undertake a duty visit to Europe on food safety mechanism and food labelling requirements during the Chinese New Year holidays in 2008 would be submitted to the Panel for consideration at the meeting in November. Mr Vincent FANG suggested that the proposed visit should also include food processing plants and food manufacturers' associations, if possible, in the European Union in Brussels, France and the United Kingdom. He said that it would help members to better understand whether the food trade there had encountered any difficulty or problem in complying with the regulations on food labelling requirements. Members agreed.

**IV. Any other business**

13. The Chairman reminded members that the next Panel meeting would be held at 4:30 pm on 12 October 2007 to receive a briefing by the Secretary for Food and Health on the Chief Executive's Policy Address 2007-2008.

14. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:12 am.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
30 October 2007