

**Panel on Manpower**

**List of follow-up actions**

(position as at 9 November 2007)

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Follow-up action required</b>	<b>Administration's response</b>
1. Progress of the implementation of the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) System	18.1.01	The Administration was requested to provide monthly progress reports on the implementation of the MPF System.	The progress report as at the end of September 2007 was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)82/07-08 on 15 October 2007.
2. Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals	4.4.03 (Joint meeting with the Panel on Security)	The Administration agreed to provide members with progress reports on the Scheme on a regular basis.	Progress report on the Scheme for the period from 1 April 2007 to 30 September 2007 circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)133/07-08 on 23 October 2007.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Follow-up action required</b>	<b>Administration's response</b>
3. Prevention of abuse of the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF)	15.12.05	<p>The Administration was requested -</p> <p>(a) to consider providing a paper setting out its legal view on the issue of requiring all restaurant proprietors to provide bank guarantees for the statutory entitlements of employees; and</p> <p>(b) to provide information on the outcome of suspected fraudulent cases involving PWIF where prosecution had been instituted.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Ditto -</p>
4. Measures to protect the statutory entitlement of employees under the Employment Ordinance	16.2.06	The Administration was requested to consider executing Labour Tribunal awards on behalf of employees.	Response awaited.
5. Training and refresher courses for workers who operate the specified loadshifting machines used in construction sites	28.4.06	(a) The Administration was requested to look into the various issues raised by members in conjunction with the relevant parties and revert to the Panel.	Response awaited.

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	<p>13.6.06 (Meeting of the Subcommittee on Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Loadshifting Machinery) Regulation (Commencement) Notice 2006)</p>	<p>(b) The Administration was requested -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to revert to the Panel on the issue of extending the proposed subsidy scheme of the Occupational Safety and Health Council to refresher courses for the loadshifting machines in the second phase; and</li> <li>(ii) to provide the revised timetable for conducting the consultancy study on introducing a smart card to replace the various certificates relating to industrial safety training.</li> </ul>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Ditto -</p>
<p>6. Strategic review of the Employees Retraining Board</p>	<p>30.5.06</p>	<p>The Administration undertook to provide members with details of its plan for the strategic review, including its scope and coverage.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p>

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7. Training for ethnic minorities	24.10.06	(a) The Administration was requested to provide information on the details of training courses offered to ethnic minorities, provision of assistance to help them secure employment and the number of persons who had secured employment.	Response awaited.
	17.5.07	(b) The Administration was requested to provide information on the number of CEF-approved training courses designed to meet the specific needs of ethnic minorities. The Administration also agreed to provide information on career-oriented training programmes and retraining courses offered by the Vocational Training Council and the Employees Retraining Board for these people.	- Ditto -
8. Effectiveness of training programmes under the Task Force on Continuing Development and Employment-related Training for Youth (Task Force)	24.10.06	The Administration was requested to report to the Panel on the effectiveness of the training programmes when the findings of the study on the overall effectiveness of the programmes under the Task Force were available.	Response awaited.

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<p>9. Wage Protection Movement for employees in the cleansing and guarding services sectors (WPM)</p>	18.1.07	<p>(a) The Administration was requested to provide information on the impact of wage requirement in WPM on the vacancies placed by employers through the Labour Department (LD) and specifically, the number of vacancies which LD had rejected after the launch of WPM.</p>	Response awaited.
	19.4.07	<p>(b) The Administration was requested -</p> <p>(i) to provide the Panel with a written response to issues raised by deputations attending the meeting;</p> <p>(ii) to consult the Equal Opportunities Commission whether the intent to make special arrangements for the more vulnerable groups if a statutory minimum wage was introduced would constitute discrimination under the Disability Discrimination Ordinance; and</p> <p>(iii) to provide the Panel as soon as possible with details of the mechanism and criteria for assessing the overall effectiveness of WPM.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>

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	5.7.07	<p>(c) The Administration was requested to collect the following data for the mid-term review -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the average monthly salaries of cleaning workers and security guards; and</li> <li>(ii) the number of workers who were employed by entities participating in WPM and receiving wages not lower than the relevant market averages in the market.</li> </ul> <p>(d) Regarding the cases referred to in the submission from the Hong Kong Buildings Management and Security Workers General Union, the Administration was requested to provide the Panel with a report, in which details of the cases (e.g. the name/type of entities involved, the number of workers affected, and the expiry date of these workers' existing contracts etc.) should be included.</p>	<p>) Mid-term review of the            ) Wage Protection            ) Movement for cleaning            ) workers and security            ) guards will be discussed            ) at the meeting on            ) 15 November 2007.            )            )            )            )</p> <p>Response awaited.</p>
10. Occupational injuries and accidents	21.12.06	(a) The Administration was requested to provide a breakdown of the occupational injuries or accidents of employees in the Hospital Authority, including the rehabilitation personnel.	Response Awaited.

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	15.3.07	(b) The Administration was requested to provide in respect of the study undertaken by the Administration to consider whether mesothelioma should be designated as a statutory compensable occupational disease and the feasibility of extending the Pneumoconiosis (Compensation) Ordinance to cover mesothelioma, a concrete timetable for completing the study.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>) The proposal to make</li> <li>) mesothelioma a</li> <li>) compensable disease</li> <li>) under the</li> <li>) Pneumoconiosis</li> <li>) (Compensation)</li> <li>) Ordinance will be</li> <li>) discussed at the meeting</li> <li>) on 15 November 2007.</li> </ul>
11. Protection against unreasonable and unlawful dismissal by reason of the fact that an employee has given evidence, or agreed to give evidence, in any proceedings in relation to the enforcement of the Employment Ordinance (EO)	18.1.07	The Administration agreed to provide members with statistics on cases in which the employers were ordered to pay remedies under EO in respect of unreasonable and unlawful dismissal in the past few years.	Response awaited.

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12. Implementation of Qualifications Framework (QF)	Meeting of the Bills Committee on Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Bill	<p>The Administration has undertaken to report to the Panel -</p> <p>(a) the progress of implementation of QF in individual industries on a half-yearly basis; and</p> <p>(b) the results of the review of the pilot scheme on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the Printing and Publishing, Watch and Clock, and Hairdressing industries.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>
13. Issues relating to the payment of death grant under the Pneumoconiosis Ex Gratia Scheme	21.6.07	<p>The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel in October 2007 on its discussion with the Pneumoconiosis Medical Board on measures to expedite the payment of death grant to the family members of pneumoconiotics who died of pneumoconiosis.</p>	<p>Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)135/07-08 on 23 October 2007.</p>
14. Arrears of wages in the construction industry	5.7.07	<p>(a) The Administration was requested to provide the Panel with the number of labour disputes/claims involving arrears of wages which were reported by Labour Relations Officers (LROs), and information on whether LROs had been unfairly treated by the principal contractors for having reported the cases to the Labour Department (LD); and</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p>



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		(b) The Administration was requested to map out a policy to require principal contractors to make wage payments direct to their subcontractors' workers, and revert to the Panel in the new legislative session.	Response awaited.
15. "One-stop" employment service	18.10.07	The Administration was requested to provide information on the employment situation of trainees and the number of those who failed to secure a job after attending the training programmes on a three-month basis.	Response awaited.
16. Operation of Labour Tribunal	18.10.07	The Administration undertook to follow up with the Judiciary on the latest development on the operation of the Labour Tribunal and revert to the Panel.	Response awaited.