

# 立法會

## *Legislative Council*

LC Paper No. CB(2)2463/08-09

### **Paper for House Committee**

#### **Outcome of consultation with Members on arrangements for meetings with District Council members**

This paper reports on the outcome of the consultation with Members on the arrangements for holding meetings-cum-luncheons with District Council (DC) members and on recommendations for enhancing Members' attendance at these meetings.

#### **Consultation paper**

2. On 18 August 2009, a consultation paper was issued to seek Members' views on the timing when such meetings should be held. Members were invited to indicate their preference for:

- (a) *Option A* whereby the meetings-cum-luncheons would be re-scheduled to Monday, Tuesday or Friday from 10:45 am to 2:00 pm; or
- (b) *Option B* under which the existing arrangement of holding meetings-cum-luncheons on Thursdays from 10:45 am to 2:00 pm would remain unchanged, but if the Council meeting were to have to continue on such a day, it should be recommended to the President that the Council meeting be resumed at 2:30 pm, instead of 9:00 am.

3. To enhance Members' attendance at these meetings, it was also recommended that Duty Roster Members under the Legislative Council Redress System would, in addition to the 14 Members on the roster for each meeting, also be invited to attend such meetings. Furthermore, committees should avoid, as far as possible, scheduling meetings which would clash with meetings with DC members.

#### **Outcome of consultation**

4. Of the 55 Members who have responded, 10 have indicated a preference for Option A, 39 for Option B, and six accept either option. On the

recommendations for enhancing Members' attendance at these meetings, 28 Members are in support of inviting also Duty Roster Members to attend the meetings while 43 Members agree that committees should avoid, as far as possible, scheduling meetings which would clash with meetings with DCs.

### **Arrangement regarding Council meetings**

5. In accordance with the preference of the majority of Members for Option B, a recommendation has been made to the President that if a Council meeting has to continue on Thursday for continuation of the unfinished business on the Agenda, it should be resumed at 2:30 pm if meetings-cum-luncheons have been scheduled on that day. Other Council meetings will resume at 9:00 am as under the existing arrangement. The President has indicated his agreement with this arrangement.

### **Arrangement regarding enhancement of Members' attendance**

6. In relation to the recommendations which are supported by most Members for enhancing Members' attendance at meetings with DCs, the Secretariat will invite Duty Roster Members, in addition to the 14 Members on the roster for each meeting, to attend such meetings. At the same time, Members are urged to avoid schedule meetings which would clash with meetings with DCs as far as possible.

### **Way Forward**

7. The Secretariat will contact the 18 District Councils through the Home Affairs Department to make arrangements for the meetings-cum-luncheons in the 2009-2010 session, and will consult Members on the roster once the meeting schedule has been finalized. Members are invited to note that in proposing topics for discussion at the meetings, DCs have to undertake consultation with their members and at times relevant DC committees have to hold meetings to discuss and agree on the topics to be raised. In view of the importance which DC members attach to these meetings and the efforts made, Members on the roster are urged to make themselves available to attend these meetings-cum-luncheons.