

Panel on Commerce and Industry

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 12 June 2009)

Proposed timing
for discussion

1. Copyright protection in the digital environment

At the Panel meeting held on 15 April 2008, members noted the Administration's preliminary proposals for strengthening copyright protection in the digital environment. The Administration will report to the Panel the results of the ensuing public engagement exercise, including deliberations among stakeholders on a voluntary code of practice for internet service providers to help combat on-line infringements. The Administration will also brief members on the proposed way forward.

July 2009

2. Promoting an innovation and technology culture in Hong Kong

To help foster an innovation and technology culture in the community, particularly among the young generation, the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) launches a wide variety of publicity and promotional activities. The Administration will brief members on the work done by the ITC in this area.

July 2009

3. Further development of wine-related business in Hong Kong

The Administration will brief members on the various measures introduced to fortify Hong Kong's position as a regional hub for wine trading and distribution, since the removal of wine duty in the 2008-09 Budget.

July 2009
(tentative)

4. Review on industrial estates policy

At the Panel meeting on 6 July 2004, the Administration was requested to conduct a review on the policy and procedures concerning the admission of industries into the industrial estates and the measures to ensure a level playing field and equitable treatment for interested parties seeking entry into the industrial estates. Members requested the Administration to report the outcome of the review to the Panel in due course. The Administration advised in June 2008 that the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC), which managed the industrial estates, was

December 2009
(tentative)

progressing with a strategic study on the revitalization of the industrial estates. The study would review, amongst other things, the admission criteria to the industrial estates and the admission mechanism. The study would be completed in the third quarter of 2009. The Administration would revisit relevant issues and provide a comprehensive report to the Panel in December 2009 after HKSTPC's consultancy study had been completed.

5. Consultancy study on investment promotion

At the Panel meeting held on 18 December 2007, Panel members considered that resources of Invest Hong Kong should be pooled together with other bodies which were also promoting Hong Kong. The Panel noted that a follow-up study on the comprehensive review on Hong Kong's investment promotion policy was being commissioned. The Administration is updating the consultancy study in the light of the latest global economic and investment environment, taking into account the impact of the financial crisis. The Administration will report to the Panel on the key findings of the study in due course.

To be confirmed

6. Progress report on Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)'s participation in the World Exposition 2010 Shanghai China (Shanghai Expo)

At the Panel meetings of 18 December 2007, 15 April and 17 June 2008, the Administration briefed/updated members on the plan for HKSAR's participation in the Shanghai Expo, including the construction of a stand-alone Hong Kong Pavilion, participation in the Urban Best Practices Area Exhibition and organization of a series of related activities as well as the Administration's revised cost estimate for the non-recurrent costs (excluding costs to be absorbed through internal redeployment of resource and before adding the estimated civil service staff cost) at \$201 million. The financial implications of supporting HKSAR's participation in the Shanghai Expo and the Hong Kong Pavilion Project were approved by the Finance Committee at the meetings on 9 May, 6 June and 4 July 2008 respectively.

To be confirmed

At the Panel meeting of 17 February 2009, the Administration updated members on the latest developments and consulted members on a staffing proposal to create a time-limited supernumerary Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (AOSGC) (D2) post to coordinate preparations and to oversee implementation of the project. The Panel supported in principle the staffing proposal for submission to the Establishment Subcommittee (ESC) in April 2009. The staffing proposal was endorsed by the ESC on 29 April 2009 and approved by the Finance Committee on 22 May 2009. The Administration undertook to update the Panel on progress and developments on a regular basis.

7. Progress of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda Negotiations

The Administration will update members on the latest state of play of the current round of multilateral trade negotiations under the World Trade Organization.

To be confirmed