

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)1111/08-09(08)

Ref: CB1/PL/EDEV

Panel on Economic Development
Meeting on 30 March 2009

Proposed duty visit to Pearl River Delta

Purpose

This paper invites members to consider the proposal for the Panel on Economic Development (the Panel) to conduct a duty visit to Pearl River Delta (PRD) on the latest development of logistics and tourism services.

Background

2. In December 2008, the National Development and Reform Commission promulgated the "Framework for Development and Reform Planning for Pearl River Delta Region (2008-2020)" (the Framework). Under the Framework, the PRD area would continue to take a leading role to expand reforms and deepen opening-up through measures such as accelerating economic restructuring and enhancing cross-boundary cooperation with Hong Kong and Macau. Other delta cities would also strengthen coordination and cooperation with Hong Kong in the development of airports, ports, expressways, logistics businesses and tourism. The objective is to develop PRD into a "globally competitive" and the "most vigorous area in the Asia-Pacific region" by 2020.

3. The Panel has all along been monitoring Government policies and examining issues of public concern relating to economic infrastructure and services, including air and sea transport, logistics and tourism services. The Panel had recently raised concerns about the future development of Hong Kong International Airport (including the operation of cross-boundary ferry services to cater for non-transit passengers and airspace management among the airports and civil aviation authorities in the PRD region), the development of cross-boundary heliport facilities, and enhancement of consumer protection for Mainland visitors in Hong Kong.

4. A Panel member, Hon WONG Ting-kwong moved a motion on actively implementing complementary policies for the Framework at the Council meeting on 4 March 2009. The motion which was carried urged the Administration to

formulate corresponding policies complementary to the Framework, such as expediting the implementation of the Hong Kong Section of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai Bridge and the transport connection works between the airports in Guangdong and Hong Kong, delineating the roles and division of work between the ports and terminals in Guangdong and those in Hong Kong; and strengthening tourism co-operation among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

5. The Panel Chairman, having consulted some Panel members, has proposed that the Panel should conduct a visit to the PRD region to exchange views with the relevant organizations and authorities in PRD region on the latest development of airport and port facilities as well as logistics and tourism services in PRD, and also the plans for these areas under the Framework.

The proposed visit

6. It is proposed that the visit should cover the following areas: -
- (a) to observe the latest development of airport, port and cross-boundary infrastructural facilities in PRD to enhance cargo movement and passenger flow between Guangdong and Hong Kong; and
 - (b) to understand the development of multi-destination itineraries including Hong Kong and PRD cities to promote tourism.
7. The visit will likely last for two to three days.

Advice sought

8. Members are invited to consider the proposal to visit PRD in paragraph 6.
9. Subject to members' decision, the House Committee's permission will also be sought for the Panel to undertake the duty visit to PRD under rule 22(v) of House Rules. A circular will be issued to invite Panel members to indicate interest in joining the duty visit.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
24 March 2009