

Panel on Economic Development

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 18 November 2008)

**Proposed timing for
discussion**

**Policy issues under Commerce and Economic Development
Bureau**

1. Progress update on Hong Kong Disneyland

At the meeting on 21 December 2007, the Administration undertook to report to the Panel at the appropriate time the outcome of the feasibility studies on the financial options proposed by The Walt Disney Company (TWDC) and the details of the discussion on the injection of funds by the Government for the future development of Hong Kong Disneyland (HKD).

16 December 2008

The Administration proposes to brief members on the operation of HKD in 2008; and to seek members' views on a proposal to create a supernumerary directorate post to enhance support for the Government's negotiations with TWDC on HKD-related matters. The Administration plans to submit the staffing proposal for the consideration of the Establishment Subcommittee in due course.

2. Report on the public consultation on the competition law

The Panel was consulted on the detailed competition law proposals at the meeting on 6 May 2008. The Government launched a three-month consultation on detailed legislative proposals on a Competition Bill from 6 May 2008 to 5 August 2008. The Administration will brief members on the outcome of the public consultation.

16 December 2008

3. Replacement and upgrading of Hong Kong Observatory's meteorological facilities to enhance aviation weather services

The Administration plans to enhance the aviation weather services including windshear alerts by upgrading the meteorological facilities of the Hong Kong Observatory, in support of the growth in air traffic and the Civil Aviation Department's plan to set up a new air traffic control system. The Administration intends to submit the relevant funding proposal to the Finance Committee (FC) shortly.

16 December 2008

4. Hong Kong Tourism Board's Work Plan 2009-2010

The Administration and the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) briefed the Panel on HKTB's work plan for 2008-2009 at the meeting on 28 January 2008. Members welcomed HKTB's initiative to provide more information relating to its work in enhancing transparency and accountability.

19 January 2009

The Administration intends to present the work plan of HKTB for 2009-2010 and brief the Panel on tourism development in 2008 and the outlook in 2009.

5. Travel Industry Compensation Fund

According to the Administration, to address the concern of the travel trades over risk management, the Travel Industry Council (TIC) of Hong Kong commissioned a consultancy study in 2007 on the trade's operational risks and related management. The Government and the Travel Industry Compensation Fund (TICF) Management Board are examining proposals to be put forward by TIC, including whether it is necessary to use TICF to improve the risk management of the trade and to enhance the protection for outbound travellers who join group tours.

19 January 2009

The TICF Management Board will consult the travel trade and the public on proposals relating to TICF in end 2008/early 2009. The Administration intends to seek Members' views on the proposals.

6. Aberdeen Tourism Project

The Government proposes to develop a tourism project in Aberdeen. A business consultant has been engaged to examine the financial viability of the project, and will finalize its recommendations in the last quarter of 2008. The Administration will draw up proposals in the light of the consultant's recommendations, and discuss with members on the way forward in early 2009.

1st Quarter of 2009

7. Review of consumer protection legislation – public consultation

At the meeting on 25 June 2007, the Administration briefed the Panel that to strengthen the consumer protection regime in Hong Kong, the Consumer Council (CC) would conduct a

30 March 2009

Proposed timing for discussion

comprehensive review of existing measures to protect consumer rights, including ways to improve the relevant legislation to combat misleading and deceptive sales practices.

On 25 February 2008, CC published its findings entitled "Fairness in the Marketplace for Consumers and Business", which recommended that legislative provisions be enacted to combat certain unfair trade practices. The Administration is examining CC's recommendations and aims to consult the public on the way forward in the first half of 2009.

8. Lei Yue Mun Waterfront Enhancement Project

With a view to enhancing the attractiveness of Lei Yue Mun (LYM) as a popular tourism spot through further improving the facilities along the LYM waterfront area, the Administration will consult members on the LYM Waterfront Enhancement Project in mid 2009 before seeking funding support from the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) and FC in 2010.

Mid-2009

Policy issues under Environment Bureau

9. The Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd 2009-2013 Development Plan

Pursuant to the new Scheme of Control Agreement, The Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd (HEC) submitted to the Government its 2009-2013 Development Plan in June 2008, which covers, inter alia, HEC's electricity demand forecasts, proposed capital projects and projected Basic Tariff for each year up to December 2013. The Administration is reviewing the plan with HEC and will brief the Panel in due course.

To be confirmed

Policy issues under Transport and Housing Bureau

10. Merchant Shipping (Liability and Compensation for Oil Pollution) (Amendment) Bill

The Administration plans to brief members on the proposed legislative amendment to give effect to an international marine environmental convention on compensation regime for covering pollution damage caused by spills of bunker oil from seagoing non-tankers.

1st Quarter of 2009

Proposed timing for discussion

11. Proposed subsidiary legislation to prescribe the charges for the cross-boundary heliport at the rooftop of the Hong Kong – Macau Ferry Terminal

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the legislative proposals.

1st Quarter of 2009

12. Proposed amendments to the Hong Kong Air Navigation (Fees) Regulations and other fees under the purview of the Civil Aviation Department

The Administration proposes to brief members on the legislative amendments.

1st Quarter of 2009

13. Review of the regulatory regime of the Air Transport Licensing Authority for our local airlines

The Administration plans to brief members on the outcome of the review and the legislative proposals relating to the Air Transport (Licensing of Air Services) Regulations (Cap 448A).

1st/2nd Quarter of 2009

14. Proposed provision of customs, immigration and quarantine facilities for SkyPier of the Hong Kong International Airport

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the proposal before seeking funding approval from PWSC and FC

1st/2nd Quarter of 2009

15. Proposed amendments to legislation relating to the carriage of dangerous goods by air

The Administration proposes to brief members on the legislative amendments which seek to give legal effect to the new requirements to be promulgated by the International Civil Aviation Organization.

2nd Quarter of 2009

16. Proposed development of a government helipad near the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

The Administration briefed the Panel on the "Proposed shared-use of the Government helipad at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre with commercial operators" at the meeting on 25 February 2008. At the meeting, members expressed concern about the proposed shared-use arrangement and urged the Administration to conduct extensive consultation with the stakeholders before taking forward the project. The Administration undertook to consult the relevant

2nd/3rd Quarter of 2009

Panels on the proposal before submitting the project to PWSC and FC for funding approval.

17. Updates on the detailed feasibility study of the Lantau Logistics Park

Members asked to be kept informed of the development of Lantau Logistics Park (LLP) during the policy briefing by the former Secretary for Economic Development and Labour at the meeting on 23 October 2006 and during the meeting with the Secretary for Transport and Housing (STH) on 22 October 2007.

To be confirmed

On 24 October 2008, the Administration briefed members that it has updated the detailed feasibility study on LLP and will take forward the requisite statutory procedures in connection with the environmental impact and zoning of the site accordingly.

18. Aviation services

"Co-location" of immigration and customs facilities at Hong Kong International Airport

In order to enhance the competitiveness of the Hong Kong International Airport, views had been expressed that the Government should liaise with the Central People's Government and the relevant authorities with a view to implementing "co-location" of immigration and customs facilities at Hong Kong International Airport.

To be confirmed

At the Panel meeting on 24 January 2005, the Administration advised that co-location of immigration and customs facilities at cross-boundary control points involved complex legal and jurisdiction issues. There was no plan to provide co-location of immigration and customs facilities at SkyPlaza.