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**Paper for Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of
the West Kowloon Cultural District Project**

**Proposed continuation of work of the Joint Subcommittee
in the 2009-2010 session**

Purpose

This paper seeks the views of members of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project (the Subcommittee) on the need for the Subcommittee to continue its work in the 2009-2010 session.

Background

2. At the joint meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development on 14 November 2008, members agreed that pursuant to the enactment of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority Ordinance (Cap. 601) and the establishment of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA), the Legislative Council (LegCo) should continue to monitor the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) project, having regard to the high expectation of the community on the project, the important impact of WKCD on Hong Kong's long term development especially on the cultural life of the populace, and the significant resources involved. The Joint Subcommittee was appointed by the two Panels in December 2008. According to its terms of reference, the Joint Subcommittee would monitor issues relating to the implementation of the WKCD project, including the work of WKCDA, the project's interface with arts and cultural development, and other related matters. As agreed by the two Panels, the Joint Subcommittee would focus on monitoring the WKCD project and work of WKCDA in the following areas -

- (a) preparation of the development plan for WKCD;
- (b) planning and construction of core arts and cultural facilities and other associated facilities;

- (c) the institutional and procedural arrangements of WKCDA, such as appointment of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and other senior staff of the Authority, appointment of Committees set up by the Authority, arrangements for enhancing the transparency of meetings of WKCDA and public access to information on its operations;
- (d) financial management and procurement procedures;
- (e) public engagement arrangements; and
- (f) development of cultural software which has a direct bearing on the planning or financing of the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD.

Work of the Joint Subcommittee

3. Under the chairmanship of Hon IP Kwok-him, the Joint Subcommittee has held six meetings with the Administration and members of the WKCDA Board, and received views of deputations/individuals at two of these meetings. The Joint Subcommittee has studied the following major issues in relation to the implementation of WKCD -

- (a) Development of WKCD
 - (i) preparation of the Development Plan for WKCD, including the planning approach for WKCD, selection of the three Conceptual Plan Consultants and the Project Consultant, public participation in the process;
 - (ii) planning of M+, including the theme of M+, appointment of curatorial professional, building up of collection items, promotion of public knowledge on M+, and implementation of the interim M+;
 - (iii) planning of the Core Arts and Cultural Facilities (CACF), including the design competitions for and development schedule of CACF, and realignment of the existing cultural facilities with those in WKCD; and
 - (iv) WKCD's connectivity with adjoining districts and the community and use of the WKCD site as a temporary performing and exhibition venue.

(b) The work of WKCDA

- (i) appointment of members to the WKCDA Board and six Committees of WKCDA;
- (ii) recruitment of CEO and other senior executives of WKCDA;
- (iii) public engagement for WKCD, including the establishment of the Consultation Panel (CP), the function and role of CP, arrangements for the three-stage public engagement (PE) exercise;
- (iv) accessibility of meeting papers and minutes of meetings of WKCDA to the public; and
- (v) use of the upfront endowment of \$21.6 billion to WKCDA.

(c) WKCD's interface with arts and cultural development

- (i) measures to promote the development of cultural software to complement the WKCD project, including nurturing of young artists, building of audience, training and development of arts administrators/stage management professionals; and
- (ii) resource allocation for software development and timeframe for WKCDA to implement programmes and activities for such purpose.

Need for continuation of work in the 2009-2010 session

4. Most of the issues highlighted in the preceding paragraph, such as the masterplanning of WKCD and its CACF, institutional and procedural arrangements of WKCD, public engagement exercise, and development of cultural software, are ongoing issues the development of which will have a significant bearing on the implementation of the WKCD project. There is a need for the Joint Subcommittee to continue to monitor these issues.

5. In addition, the work of WKCDA has reached/will soon reach some important landmarks: WKCDA has commissioned three Conceptual Plan Consultants and the Project Consultant in July 2009 for the preparation of the three Conceptual Plan options and Development Plan for WKCD; the Authority has rolled out Stage One of its PE exercise in October 2009 to gauge the public's expectations and inspirations for the WKCD project and stakeholders'

requirements for the facilities in the arts and cultural venues; it has embarked on the recruitment of the CEO and other senior executives in September 2009 pursuant to the completion of the consultancy study on the organizational structure for WKCD in May 2009; and the first annual report of the Authority which includes, among others, the audited statement of accounts and the work and activities of WKCD for the past financial year will soon be tabled at LegCo. The Joint Subcommittee will also need to continue to monitor the development of these issues, which are within the purview of its terms of reference.

6. For the reasons set out in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, it is envisaged that the Joint Subcommittee may need to continue to operate. The Joint Subcommittee may therefore wish to consider the need to continue its work in the 2009-2010 session according to its existing terms of reference.

7. The Joint Subcommittee may also wish to note that in accordance with House Rule 26(c), a subcommittee should complete its work within 12 months of its commencement and report to the relevant Panel. If it is necessary for a subcommittee to work beyond that 12 months, the subcommittee should, after obtaining the endorsement of the relevant Panel, report to the House Committee and give justification for an extension of the 12-month period.

Advice sought

8. Subject to members' views on the continuation of the work of the Joint Subcommittee, the approval of the Home Affairs Panel and Development Panel will be sought at their meetings on 15 October 2009 for the Joint Subcommittee to continue to work in the 2009-2010 session. Upon approval being given by the two Panels, a report will be made to the House Committee for the continuation of the work of the Joint Subcommittee beyond the 12-month period.

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