

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)175/09-10
(These minutes have been cleared
with the Chairman)

Ref : CB2/PL/HA

Panel on Home Affairs

Minutes of meeting
held on Thursday, 15 October 2009, at 9:50 am
in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building

- Members present** : Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon CHAN Tanya (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong
Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH
Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, GBS, JP
Hon KAM Nai-wai, MH
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, BBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon WONG Sing-chi
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun
- Members absent** : Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP
Prof Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Yuk-man
- Clerk in attendance** : Ms Betty FONG
Chief Council Secretary (2)2

Staff in attendance : Mrs Claren MOK
Senior Council Secretary (2)2

Miss Vivien POON
Council Secretary (2)1

Ms Anna CHEUNG
Legislative Assistant (2)2

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I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman
[Appendix III and IV to LC Paper No. CB(2)10/09-10]

Election of Chairman

The Chairman called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session. Mr IP Kwok-him, the incumbent Chairman, was nominated by Mr WONG Yung-kan and the nomination was seconded by Ms Cyd HO. Mr IP Kwok-him accepted the nomination. As the incumbent Chairman was nominated for the office, Miss Tanya CHAN, the incumbent Deputy Chairman, presided over the election of the Chairman.

2. As there was no other nomination, Miss Tanya CHAN declared Mr IP Kwok-him elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session. Mr IP Kwok-him then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

3. The Chairman called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session. Miss Tanya CHAN was nominated by Mr WONG Yung-kan and the nomination was seconded by Mr WONG Sing-chi and Ms Cyd HO. Miss Tanya CHAN accepted the nomination.

4. As there was no other nomination, the Chairman declared Miss Tanya CHAN elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session.

II. Schedule of meetings for the 2009-2010 session

5. Members agreed that the regular meetings of the Panel would be held on the second Friday of each month at 8:30 am, except for the meetings in February and March 2010. Members further agreed that the meetings for these two months would be held on 5 February 2010 and 19 March 2010 respectively.

6. Ms Emily LAU expressed concern that some Members of the Legislative Council were not able to visit the Mainland. The Chairman agreed to convey Ms LAU's concern to the Mainland authority where appropriate.

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III. Items for discussion at the next meeting
[Appendix V to LC Paper No. CB(2)10/09-10]

7. Referring to the "List of outstanding items for discussion", the Chairman invited further views from members on the items to be deliberated in the 2009-2010 session.

Regular meeting to be held on 13 November 2009

8. Members noted that the Administration had proposed to discuss the following items at the next regular meeting scheduled for 13 November 2009 -

- (a) additional funding for district events and activities; and
- (b) future development of museum services.

9. Pursuant to the Panel on Welfare Services's discussion on issues relating to the professional autonomy of social workers in the provision of subvented community development service, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che and Ms Emily LAU considered that the government's policy on the promotion of a harmonious community should be deliberated by the Panel on Home Affairs. As the funding proposal for district events and activities to be discussed at the next regular meeting was relevant to community building and social harmony, the Chairman suggested and members agreed that the issue as proposed by Mr CHEUNG and Ms LAU could be raised for discussion in conjunction with the funding proposal.

Clerk

10. Members raised no objection to Ms LAU's further proposal for the Administration to brief the Panel on the mechanisms, such as legislative framework, for handling public donations and items on loan to public museums when the subject of the future development of museum services was discussed at the next regular meeting.

Other items proposed for discussion at future meetings

Development of library services

11. Mr WONG Kwok-hing expressed concern about the inadequate resources for library facilities in new towns, and suggested that the issue be discussed under the item "Development of library service" in December 2009. The Chairman agreed to convey Mr WONG's view to the Administration.

Clerk

Government policy on youth development

12. Referring to the recent discussion on youth drug abuse and school drug testing, Ms Cyd HO suggested that the Administration's policy on youth

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development, in particular measures to promote positive value among young people should be discussed by the Panel. The Deputy Chairman shared Ms HO's view and added that the Commission on Youth should be invited to brief members on its work and the Youth Summit to be held in 2010. She also considered that the Panel should continue to monitor the development of the Hong Kong Centre for Youth Development in Chai Wan. Mr Paul TSE suggested that government subvention for youth uniformed groups should also be discussed. Members agreed that these issues should be deliberated in relation to youth development in the first quarter of 2010.

Clerk

Funding for major performing arts groups

13. The Deputy Chairman declared that she was a member of Zuni Icosahedron. She expressed concern over the significant reduction in funding support for the nine major performing arts groups (viz. about 10% for major arts groups and up to 50% for small sized arts groups), and suggested that the Government's funding policy for performing arts groups should be discussed by the end of 2009 under the item "Strengthening the arts and cultural software of Hong Kong". Members agreed.

Clerk

Support to Mutual Aid Committees

14. Mr WONG Kwok-hing considered that the Administration should review its policy on and enhance its support to Mutual Aid Committees which played an important role in district management. Members agreed that the subject be added to the list of outstanding items for discussion.

Clerk

Briefing on the Chief Executive's (CE's) Policy Address 2009-2010

15. The Chairman reminded members that a special meeting had been scheduled for Monday, 19 October 2009, from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, at which the Secretary for Home Affairs would brief members on Chief Executive's Policy Address 2009-2010 relating to the portfolios of home affairs.

IV. Any Other Business

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

16. The Chairman, who was also the incumbent Chairman of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project (the Subcommittee), briefed members of the Subcommittee's recommendation for the continuation of its work in the 2009-2010 session in accordance with House Rule 26(c), so as to keep monitoring various ongoing issues relating to the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District project. He then invited members' view on the proposal. Members raised no

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objection. The Chairman said that subject to the endorsement of members of the Panel on Development, a report to propose the extension of the Subcommittee for a period of 12 months would be made to the House Committee. As regards the membership of the Subcommittee, members agreed that it should be re-opened.

(Post-meeting note: Members of the Panel on Development endorsed the proposal at its meeting on 15 October 2009.)

17. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:19 am.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
2 November 2009