

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)1063/09-10  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/HA

**Panel on Home Affairs**

**Minutes of meeting**  
**held on Friday, 8 January 2010, at 8:30 am**  
**in Conference Room A 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 Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP  
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS  
Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP  
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH  
Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, GBS, JP  
Prof Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, 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 Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP  
Hon WONG Yuk-man

**Public Officers attending** : Item IV  
Home Affairs Bureau

Mr TSANG Tak-sing, JP  
Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr Benjamin MOK  
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs(2) (Acting)

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mrs Betty FUNG, JP  
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Miss Olivia CHAN  
Assistant Director (Leisure Services)(2)

2009 East Asian Games (Hong Kong) Limited

Mr Johnny WOO, BBS  
Chief Executive Officer

Item V

Home Affairs Bureau

Mr TSANG Tak-sing, JP  
Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr Benjamin MOK  
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs(2) (Acting)

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mrs Betty FUNG, JP  
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Miss Olivia CHAN  
Assistant Director (Leisure Services)(2)

Hong Kong Sports Institute

Dr Trisha Leahy  
Chief Executive

Mr Tony CHOI  
Head Squash Coach

Hong Kong Elite Athletes Association

Ms Amy CHAN  
Vice Chairman

**Clerk in attendance** : Ms Betty FONG  
Chief Council Secretary (2)2

**Staff in attendance** : Mr Waston CHAN } Agenda item VI only  
Head (Research and Library Services) }

Miss Vivien POON  
Senior Council Secretary (2)2 (Acting)

Miss Amy WONG  
Legislative Assistant (2)2

Miss Monique TSEUNG  
Clerical Assistant (2)2

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**I. Confirmation of minutes**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)578/09-10 and CB(2)626/09-10]

The minutes of the meetings held on 19 October 2009 and 13 November 2009 were confirmed.

**II. Information paper(s) issued since the last meeting**

2. Members noted that an information paper on the proposed development of a joint-user complex at Bailey Street, To Kwa Wan Reclamation, prepared by the Administration [LC Paper No. CB(2)580/09-10(01)] had been issued since the last meeting.

**III. Items for discussion at the next meeting**

[Appendix I and II to LC Paper No. CB(2)652/09-10]

3. Members agreed to discuss the following items at the next meeting to be held on 5 February 2010 -

- (a) Future development of museum services; and
- (b) Government policy on youth development.

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4. Regarding the item in paragraph 3(a), the Chairman, Mrs Sophie LAU and Professor Patrick LAU requested the Administration to include in the discussion paper the following information -

- (a) the Administration's decision on the setting up of a statutory Museums Board;
- (b) measures to broaden the cultural horizon of members of the public and inspire their creative thinking in the exhibition planning for public museums;
- (c) initiatives to promote the development of private museums; and
- (d) arrangement for the display of collection/donation items relating to Hong Kong's history during the Japanese Occupation at the Hong Kong Museum of History.

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**IV. Review on the experience of the Hong Kong 2009 East Asian Games**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/09-10(01) and (02)]

5. Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA) commended the remarkable performances of Hong Kong athletes, who had achieved a total of 110 medals (including 26 gold medals) in the Hong Kong 2009 East Asian Games (EAG). SHA said that the success of the EAG also hinged on the participation of the whole community, the staunch support from different sectors and organisations, such as the 6 000 volunteers and various voluntary groups, the media, the private and corporate sponsors, as well as the concerted efforts made by related government bureaux and departments. He further commended the efforts of the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC) and the 2009 East Asian Games (Hong Kong) Limited (EAG Company) for staging the EAG in a prudent and creative manner. SHA added that the Games had helped enhance the image of Hong Kong and strengthen its social cohesion. Building on the valuable experience gained from the EAG, the Government would continue its efforts in promoting sports development and strengthening the support for athletes to further reinforce Hong Kong's profile as a capital of sports events.

6. Assistant Director (Leisure Services)(2) conducted a video and PowerPoint presentation, recapping some touching moments of the EAG and highlighting some key issues relating to its organisation as set out in the Administration's paper.

*(Post-meeting note: The softcopy of the PowerPoint presentation materials was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)715/09-10 on 8 January 2010.)*

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Review on the experience of EAG

7. The Deputy Chairman said that a review on the experience of EAG was crucial to identify areas for further improvement. She highlighted a few issues which in her view, warranted further examination and follow-up for the benefits of sports events to be organised in future. These included the direct impact of the EAG on tourism; measures to improve the door sales services to cater for the needs of spectators; handling of empty VIP seats, particularly for popular events; arrangements to facilitate the work of volunteers; and the co-ordination between the EAG Company and the Hong Kong Tourism Board. Mrs Sophie LEUNG and Mr KAM Nai-wai echoed similar views. Mrs LEUNG added that the Administration could enhance its capabilities in the organisation of future events by considering the comments in an open and accommodating manner.

8. Dr LAM Tai-fai considered that minor logistical hiccups were inevitable in the organisation of large-scale sports events, and a comprehensive review would serve as a useful reference for future events. He added that on the whole, the EAG was a success as measured by the number of medals won by the Hong Kong delegation, the community's involvement, the happy atmosphere generated, and the limited amount of resources put into the organising of the EAG.

9. SHA concurred with members' view regarding the importance and usefulness of reviewing the invaluable experience of the EAG, and assured members that the Administration would examine areas for further improvement in a serious manner. He added that having regard to the experience in organising large-scale multi-sport events in other countries, the Administration was aware of the fact that unforeseeable circumstances, such as minor technical and logistical issues, might arise from time to time during the event period. To cater for these situations, a communication and response mechanism had been set up beforehand for the parties concerned to closely monitor and review the operation of the EAG on a daily basis, with a view to initiating swift follow up actions and contingency plans where necessary. While there was room for improvement, the commendations from past organisers and participating teams, as well as the positive feedback from the Hong Kong community all indicated that the EAG was an accomplishment of all parties concerned.

Promotion of sports development

10. Mr WONG Kwok-hing considered that to promote the long-term development of sports, the existing arrangement for the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to oversee both leisure and cultural services (including the management of sports venues and facilities) was not desirable. He called for the setting up a dedicated sports bureau supported by experienced professionals in sports management so as to take forward the development of sport in Hong Kong in a more structured manner. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che

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considered it important for the Administration to analyse factors contributing to the remarkable achievement of the Hong Kong athletes with a view to reinforcing their strengths and maintaining their competitiveness.

11. SHA said that the Administration would adopt an open attitude to members' comments and suggestions. He added that Hong Kong athletes' perseverance and unyielding spirit had largely contributed to their impressive performances in the EAG.

12. Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong urged the Administration to capitalize on the success of the Hong Kong Football Team in the EAG to seek a breakthrough in the development of local football. He also enquired about the progress on the development of the Football Academy at Tseung Kwan O, the establishment of which should alleviate the shortage of training grounds for football teams.

13. SHA said that the Administration was supportive of the establishment of the Football Academy at Tseung Kwan O, and was prepared to liaise with both the Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) and the Hong Kong Jockey Club over the funding for the project. On the provision of training facilities for football teams, Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (DLCS) advised that individual First Division teams had been accorded priority and would be allocated additional time slots in the use of their home pitch under the management of LCSD for training and practising purposes, subject to such an arrangement not affecting local residents adversely. Acting Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2) (DSHA(2)(Ag)) supplemented that the Administration had commissioned a consultancy study to review the development of local football, including the future development and operation of the Football Academy, and would revert to the Panel on the findings of the study in March 2010.

14. Dr LAM Tai-fai reminded the Administration that apart from football, it should give equal attention to the development of a variety of potential sports. Mr Paul TSE suggested that the Administration should allocate more resources to sports of good attendance rate during the EAG, such as DanceSport and Taekwondo.

Hosting of the 2019 Asian Games

15. Mr WONG Yung-kan asked the Administration for its view on the hosting of major sports event such as the 2019 Asian Games. Mr KAM Nai-wai said that the Administration should allow sufficient time for LegCo Members to consider the funding proposal should it decide to bid for the Asian Games. Dr LAM Tai-fai considered it necessary for the Administration to clarify the respective roles played by the Government and SF&OC in the hosting of major sports events to avoid confusion by the public.

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16. SHA said that the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) required any bid to host the Asian Games to be submitted by the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of the relevant member state or territory. SF&OC was the NOC for Hong Kong, China. If the SF&OC considered that Hong Kong possessed the necessary conditions for hosting the 2019 Asian Games and made a formal request to the Government to support a bid to the OCA, the Government would proactively and carefully consider the matter and assess the relevant factors, such as the level of public support, adequacy of competition venues and other ancillary facilities, estimated economic and other benefits to Hong Kong, the contribution to the long-term development of sport locally, and the financial commitment to be borne by the Government. The Government would make sufficient preparation by allowing adequate time and resources for the planning and provision of the facilities required, formulating bidding strategies carefully, and forging a consensus within the community to improve Hong Kong's chance of winning the right to host the games. SHA further advised that to prepare athletes for the Guangzhou 2010 Asian Games and the London 2012 Olympic Games, the Government would enhance its resources to support the training of athletes to raise their chances of winning medals in these Games.

Other related issues

17. Mr Paul TSE highlighted the long-term benefits brought about by major sports events. For instance, the hardware development (such as competition venues) for these events was conducive to the promotion of tourism after the games. Pointing out that the EAG period was traditionally the peak season for tourism, he requested the Administration to provide a more detailed analysis on the increase in the number of tourists during that period so as to ascertain the effect of the Games in attracting tourists.

18. Chief Executive Officer of the 2009 East Asian Games (Hong Kong) Limited (CEO of the EAG Company) advised that the increase of more than 60 000 tourists (about 5.7%) visiting Hong Kong during the EAG period from 2 to 13 December 2009 was calculated in comparison with the corresponding period in 2008. The number represented an increase of 9.1% of Mainland tourists and 1.2% of non-Mainland tourists. SHA advised that as most EAG competition venues were converted from existing sports facilities, the legacy of the EAG would mainly be about the achievement of Hong Kong athletes and the sporting culture it generated in the community.

19. In response to Mr Paul TSE's enquiry about the financial position of the EAG, CEO of the EAG Company advised that a balanced budget had been achieved, with the total expenditure for the EAG being offset by the \$123 million allocated by the LegCo's Finance Committee and over \$120 million from private and corporate sponsorships.

20. Prof Patrick LAU said that arrangements should be made for the public to use the empty VIP seats if these invited guests did not show up. He also

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enquired about the licensing requirement for the floating stage used in the Opening Ceremony.

21. CEO of the EAG Company advised that of the 330 000 tickets available for sale, over 265 000 or about 80% of the tickets were sold to the public and about 66 000 or 20% were reserved for VIPs. Efforts had been made as far as practicable to allocate the empty VIP seats to the public. DLCS said that the floating stage for staging the EAG Opening Ceremony had met the safety requirements as stipulated by the Marine Department for the setting up of such facilities in the harbour. In response to Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che's query about the little coverage of EAG by the two free TV channels, SHA advised that arrangements made by individual TV channels in the broadcast of the EAG was a commercial decision outside the ambit of the Administration.

**V. Promotion of sports development**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/09-10(03) and (04)]

22. SHA briefed members on the existing administrative structure for sports development. He said that following a review on sports policy in 2002, the Government had put in place a revamped administrative structure to promote a sustainable and community-wide sporting culture. A new Sports Commission was established in 2005 to advise the government on all matters pertaining to sports development, including policies, implementation strategies and funding support for sports development, based on the three strategic directions, namely: (a) to provide support for elite athletes that would enable them to realize their potential at the highest levels of sport; (b) to develop programmes and facilities that would encourage and enable more people to take part in sport; and (c) to promote "M" Mark and other major sports events that would stimulate local interest in sport and reinforce Hong Kong's profile as an international sports event capital.

23. SHA further advised that in the promotion of sports development, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) had the overall responsibilities for the formulation and implementation of sports policies, coordination of planning of sports projects, and decisions on the related funding allocation, whereas LCSD would take up executive responsibilities of promoting community sports, managing sports facilities and administering funding support schemes to the relevant bodies. Furthermore, the Administration also collaborated closely with the SF&OC and National Sports Associations (NSAs), which were wholly autonomous bodies operating under the Olympic Charter and the constitution of the individual sport federations respectively. SHA considered that the mode of operation under the existing framework was effective in taking forward sports development in Hong Kong.

24. Chief Executive of HKSI then briefed members on the measures taken by HKSI, as the key delivery agent for elite sports development, in addressing



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the four critical success factors for the promotion of a sustainable elite sports system which encouraged higher level performances. These factors included world-class training facilities, high-performance coaching, evidence-based scientific/medical support system to facilitate coaching/training, and support system for elite athletes. The key initiatives as highlighted by Chief Executive of HKSI are summarised as below -

- (a) the \$1.8 billion HKSI Redevelopment Project would enhance HKSI's position as a base for elite sports training and development. Upon the full completion of the Project in 2013, HKSI would provide a state-of-the-art, barrier-free, integrated and synergized training environment for elite athletes;
- (b) comprehensive and direct financial support was provided since 2007 to elite athletes to allow them to focus on developing their sporting career and thereby give their best in competitions. In the three years since HKSI launched these initiatives, the number of top-tier elite athletes had increased by nearly 30%, and the total number of athletes receiving full-time training had increased by 50%. More than 80% of the medallists in the EAG were full-time elite athletes of HKSI. To improve elite athletes' educational and career prospects after retirement, HKSI had worked in collaboration with the SF&OC to develop a streamlined educational/career development path for these athletes; and
- (c) HKSI had adopted an outcome-based approach to allocate funding strategically to high-performance sports in which Hong Kong athletes had regularly performed well at Asia and world level, with a view to improving their prospects for achieving good results at major sports events. Additional resources had been allocated to strengthen the support for four elite sports with strong track records. These "priority target sports" included badminton, cycling, table tennis and windsurfing.

25. At the request of the Deputy Chairman and Mr Paul TSE, SHA said that a visit to the HKSI could be arranged to update members on the progress of the redevelopment project at an appropriate time.

HKSI

Establishment of a policy bureau for sports development

26. To give due recognition to the pivotal role and status of sports in Hong Kong, Mr WONG Kwok-hing reiterated the need for the Administration to set up a policy bureau headed by a dedicated professional to take forward sports development in Hong Kong. Dr LAM Tai-fai suggested that the Administration should consider adopting the operation mode of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and establish a sports development council to take

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charge of all matters pertaining to sports development, given that the Sports Commission was only playing an advisory role in sports development, and the planning of elite/professional sports should be distinguished from recreational activities/sports. Mr Paul TSE said that while HAB and LCSD were responsible for the promotion of sports development, their names did not reflect such function. He considered that the bureau/department overseeing the promotion of sports development should be properly named to reflect explicitly this core responsibility. SHA took note of members' suggestions.

Funding for sports development

27. The Deputy Chairman expressed concern about the substantial disparity between the amount of monthly subsidy provided to non-disabled elite athletes and disabled elite athletes. SHA explained that the disparity was largely attributed to the different historical backgrounds under which the respective schemes were drawn up, and adjustments had been made to narrow the gap over the years. He agreed to provide supplementary information in this regard. Referring to the strategic funding for elite sports development mentioned in paragraph 24(c), the Deputy Chairman enquired about areas which could be further improved. Chief Executive of HKSI said that the existing funding approach had already been steered towards activities for enhancing the four critical success factors mentioned in paragraph 24, with a view to encouraging high-level performances and yielding the best outcome from elite athletes. Head Squash Coach of HKSI affirmed the effectiveness of elite training in promoting the performances and achievements of athletes, as well as the development of sports in the long run.

Admin

28. Ms Cyd HO opined that the outcome-based approach in funding allocation for elite sports training was problematic, as it might overlook the developmental needs of potential athletes at schools or in local communities. To formulate a more comprehensive funding strategy for elite sports development, Ms HO suggested that an audit on the sports facilities/programmes in the community should be conducted with a view to identifying potential sports for inclusion in the strategic funding plan, in particular those sports which suited the local circumstances and developmental needs of Asian athletes. She also highlighted the potentials of both elite and non-elite sports in generating economic benefits for the society through their development and transformation into an enterprise.

29. DSHA(2)(Ag) responded that the Administration attached significant importance to the nurturing of young athletes. In 2009-2010, \$10 million had been earmarked for 21 NSAs and the two sports associations for athletes with disabilities to enhance their feeder programmes to identify and train more young athletes with potential. Vice-Chairman of the Hong Kong Elite Athletes Association considered that the Administration was working towards a holistic approach in sports development. She took the view that more efforts could be

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made in the promotion of sports to students and nurturing of young athletes through close collaboration among HAB, the Education Bureau and NSAs.

Support for retired athletes

30. Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong opined that the lack of brighter prospects for elite/professional athletes beyond retirement had deterred parents from encouraging their children to pursue a career in sports. He further enquired about the number of retired athletes who had been offered vocational/educational opportunities in recent years. Mr Paul TSE expressed concern about the uncertain prospects faced by retired athletes and enquired about the support for these athletes.

31. DSHA(2)(Ag) advised that seven Hong Kong athletes had completed degree courses on sports training offered by the Beijing Sport University and eight athletes were currently undertaking such studies. A total of 13 and 19 elite athletes were admitted to University Grants Committee-funded institutions respectively in 2008 and 2009 on the recommendation of HKSI/SF&OC. Vice-Chairman of the Hong Kong Elite Athletes Association remarked that the initiatives of HKSI/SF&OC to enhance the educational/career development opportunities for athletes beyond retirement were able to address their needs.

Sporting culture

32. Dr LAM Tai-fai opined that the Administration should take a leading role in the cultivation of a sporting culture in the community, so that participation in sports activities and viewing of sports events would become part and parcel of the public's daily life. Dr LAM considered that a strong sporting culture was a prerequisite for the effective promotion of elite sports and community sports in Hong Kong. Head Squash Coach of HKSI said that the provision of more educational opportunities for athletes, particularly in the pursuit of tertiary education or coach training programmes, could help generate greater interest/participation in sports and enhance the sporting culture. Mr Paul TSE expressed support for the hosting of "M" Mark events which in his view would help generate tourism revenue and enhance sporting culture and health-awareness in the community.

Development of local football

33. Mrs Sophie LEUNG pointed out that the development of local football had been hindered by the inadequate funding to HKFA, as well as the historical malpractices in the management and operation of the Association. She urged the Administration to examine these issues in the context of the consultancy study on football development in Hong Kong. SHA advised that the study would review, among other things, the Government's role in the development of football and issues raised by Mrs LEUNG.

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34. The Chairman decided to extend the meeting for 15 minutes beyond the appointed ending time of the meeting at 10:30 am in accordance with House Rule 24A(a).

**VI. Proposal to undertake overseas duty visit to study the experience relating to the development of cultural software**  
[LC Paper No. CB(2)652/09-10(05)]

35. The Chairman took members through the information paper on the proposed duty visit, which set out: (a) the tentative scope and topics of the proposed duty visit as discussed at the Panel meeting on 11 December 2009; (b) past discussions by the Panel on the development of cultural software in Hong Kong; and (c) policies in the development of cultural software and preservation of intangible cultural heritage in selected Asian countries/cities (including Japan, South Korea, Beijing and Shanghai), as well as cultural facilities/establishments in these places. To facilitate further planning and preparation for the proposed visit, the Chairman suggested and members agreed that -

- (a) a questionnaire should be prepared to seek members' views on the scope/topics/timing of the visit, and specific organisations/establishment/persons to be covered and issues/questions to be raised in the visit; and
- (b) the proposed visit should be further discussed at the next regular meeting in February 2010.

Clerk

**VII. Any other business**

36. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:40 am.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
9 March 2010