

**立法會**  
*Legislative Council*

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**Panel on Home Affairs**

**Proposed duty visit to study the experience  
relating to the development of cultural software  
in Japan and the Republic of Korea**

**Purpose**

This paper invites members to consider a proposal for the Panel on Home Affairs (the Panel) to conduct an overseas duty visit to study the experience relating to the development of cultural software in Japan and the Republic of Korea.

**Background**

2. The development of cultural software has been one of the key concerns of the Panel in recent years, particularly in view of the implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") project. To complement the WKCD project and to realise the vision of developing Hong Kong into a cultural metropolis, members have called for more Government efforts in the promotion of cultural software, such as bringing the arts and culture to the community, nurturing and developing artistic talents and arts administrators, and widening the audience base for the arts and culture. Members have also urged the Administration to devise long-term strategies and measures for the preservation of intangible cultural heritage ("ICH") with a view to promoting cultural development.

3. At the meeting of the Panel on 11 December 2009, some members suggested that a duty visit should be arranged to study the experience relating to the development of cultural software (including the preservation of ICH) in Asia. Members considered that the visit should enable the Panel to grasp first-hand information on the latest development on various issues relating to the subject, and facilitate its deliberations on the issues concerned.

4. At the Panel meeting on 8 January 2010, member took note of the policies in the development of cultural software and preservation of ICH in four selected places in Asia (namely, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Beijing and Shanghai), as presented in

the information notes issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)652/09-10(05). To facilitate planning and preparation for the proposed visit, the Panel agreed that members' further views should be invited on the scope, areas of interest and the timing of the visit. The questionnaire seeking members' views was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)776/09-10 on 18 January 2010.

5. The Panel took note of members' views as expressed in the questionnaire at its meeting on 5 February 2010. On the basis of the views collected, the Panel agreed that the duty visit should be arranged in early August 2010 to study the experience in the development of cultural software in Japan and the Republic of Korea, focusing particularly on the following areas -

- (a) development of arts programmes (such as community-driven initiatives in the development of the arts and culture; collaboration among official agencies, the arts community, private and commercial sector, and the public in the promotion of the arts and culture);
- (b) arts education and manpower training (such as nurturing and training of artistic talents and arts administrators; promotion of arts education in the community and schools; platforms to bring people together for exchanges in the arts and culture); and
- (c) preservation and promotion of ICH (such as strategies and efforts in safeguarding and development of ICH; initiatives in promoting public interest in and awareness of ICH).

### **Objectives of the visit**

6. The objectives of the proposed visit are as follows -

- (a) to obtain first-hand information on and study the experience in the development of the arts and culture (particularly in the areas of arts programme development, arts education and manpower training), and preservation and promotion of ICH; and
- (b) to exchange views with the relevant parties involved in the formulation and implementation of strategies and measures for the promotion of cultural software and preservation of ICH.

### **Proposed timing of the visit**

7. Having regard to members' views, the visit is tentatively proposed for early August 2010, say during the first week of August. Taking into account the flight time and the schedule for visiting the organisations concerned and exchanging views

with the relevant parties, it is suggested that the proposed visit lasts nine days from 4 to 12 August 2010.

### **Proposed budget of the visit**

8. As approved by The Legislative Council Commission, each Member is provided with an overseas duty visit account of \$55,000 for the purpose of duty visits outside Hong Kong organised by committees of the Council. The fund in the account is for use by the Member in a four-year term. Any expenditure incurred in excess of the available balance in a four-year term has to be paid by the Member personally.

9. A rough estimate of the expenditure to be incurred by each participating member for the proposed duty visit is about HK\$34,920 (economy class air passage) or HK\$46,650 (business class air passage).

### **Advice sought**

10. Members are invited to advise whether the Panel should open the membership of the delegation to non-Panel members. Subject to members' support for the Panel to conduct the proposed duty visit, the Secretariat will work out the relevant details. Members are also invited to note that the permission of the House Committee will have to be sought on the proposed visit.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
11 May 2010