

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

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**Finance Committee of the Legislative Council**

**Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting**  
**held at the Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**  
**on Friday, 25 May 2012, at 4:00 pm**

**Members present:**

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP (Chairman)  
Prof Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, SBS, S.B.St.J., JP  
Dr Hon Margaret NG  
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP  
Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP  
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS  
Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP  
Hon LAU Kong-wah, JP  
Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP  
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH  
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP  
Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, GBS, JP  
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS, JP  
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC  
Hon CHIM Pui-chung  
Hon KAM Nai-wai, MH  
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP  
Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, BBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Hak-kan  
Hon CHAN Kin-por, JP

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, JP  
Hon WONG Sing-chi  
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, BBS  
Hon IP Wai-ming, MH  
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yea, GBS, JP  
Dr Hon PAN Pey-chyou  
Hon WONG Yuk-man

**Members absent:**

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan  
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan  
Dr Hon David LI Kwok-po, GBM, GBS, JP  
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, SBS, JP  
Hon James TO Kun-sun  
Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP  
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP  
Hon LI Fung-ying, SBS, JP  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP  
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP  
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP  
Hon LEE Wing-tat  
Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP  
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP  
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan  
Hon Paul CHAN Mo-po, MH, JP  
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP  
Dr Hon Samson TAM Wai-ho, JP  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon Tanya CHAN  
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

**Public officers attending:**

Professor K C CHAN, SBS, JP	Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
Mr Stanley YING, JP	Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)
Ms Esther LEUNG, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)1
Ms Elsie YUEN	Principal Executive Officer (General), Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (The Treasury Branch)
Ms Mable CHAN, JP	Deputy Secretary for Education (2)
Miss Wendy CHUNG	Principal Assistant Secretary for Education (Infrastructure and Research Support)
Mr Joe WONG Chi-cho, JP	Deputy Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Technology)
Mr Aaron LIU Kong-cheung	Principal Assistant Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Technology) A
Mr Roy TANG, JP	Director of Broadcasting
Mr TAI Keen-man	Deputy Director of Broadcasting (Programmes)
Miss Jace AU Lai-ngar	Deputy Head, Public Affairs Unit, Radio Television Hong Kong

**Clerk in attendance:**

Mr Andy LAU	Assistant Secretary General 1
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**Staff in attendance:**

Ms Anita SIT	Chief Council Secretary (1)5
Mr Daniel SIN	Senior Council Secretary (1)7
Mr Frankie WOO	Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3
Ms Christy YAU	Legislative Assistant (1)8

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**Item No. 1 - FCR(2012-13)26  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT  
SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 2 MAY 2012**

The Chairman advised that the item sought the Committee's approval for the staffing proposals in FCR(2012-13)26, which were recommended by the Establishment Subcommittee on 2 May 2012.

2. The Chairman put the item to vote. The Committee approved the proposals.

**Item No. 2 - FCR(2012-13)27  
RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS  
SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 7 MAY 2012**

3. The Chairman advised that the item sought the Committee's approval for the proposal in FCR(2012-13)27, which was recommended by the Public Works Subcommittee held on 7 May 2012.

4. The Chairman put the item to vote. The Committee approved the proposal.

**Item No. 3 - FCR(2012-13)28  
LOAN FUND  
HEAD 252 – LOANS TO SCHOOLS/TEACHERS  
Subhead 104 Loans to non-profit-making international schools  
Capital assistance loan to the Hong Kong Academy Educational  
Foundation Limited**

5. The Chairman advised that the item sought the Committee's approval for an increase in commitment by \$157.72 million under Head 252 Loans to Schools / Teachers, Subhead 104 Loans to non-profit-making international schools, and allocation of the amount to the Hong Kong Academy Educational Foundation Limited as an interest-free loan for meeting part of the construction cost of its new school premises at the juncture of Mei Yuen Street and Wai Man Road, Sai Kung, New Territories.

6. The Chairman said that the Panel on Education was consulted on the proposal on 13 February 2012.

7. The Chairman put the item to vote. The Committee approved the proposal.

**Item No. 4 - FCR(2012-13)29**

**HEAD 160 – RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG**

**Subhead 700 General non-recurrent**

**New Item "Community Involvement Broadcasting Fund"**

8. The Chairman advised that the item sought the Committee's approval of the creation of a new commitment of \$45 million for setting up a Community Involvement Broadcasting Fund (CIBF) to support and encourage community and ethnic minority involvement in broadcasting. She said that the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting (ITB Panel) was consulted on 14 May 2012.

9. Mr WONG Yuk-man, Chairman of the ITB Panel, reported that the Panel was consulted on 14 May 2012 on the funding proposal. Panel members supported the proposal in principle. Some members considered that Radio and Television Hong Kong (RTHK) should involve more community groups and individuals in becoming community involvement broadcasting producers and should address the interest of minority audience. Panel members pointed out that some of the application requirements, such as the submission of audited accounts, might create hurdles for smaller community groups. In this connection, RTHK had agreed to provide relevant templates for reference by potential applicants, and would arrange facilitators to provide assistance. Some Panel members considered that the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service Selection Committee should comprise members from a wider cross-section of the community and the selection process should be apolitical. Other members urged the Administration to step up promotion of digital audio broadcasting (DAB) and should tackle the reception problems of digital signals in remote parts of the territory.

10. Mrs Regina IP sought clarification on whether CIBF would only be available for application by ethnic minority groups and would exclude other community groups such as sexual minority groups. Director of Broadcasting (D of B) confirmed that CIBF would be open to the whole community. He explained that ethnic minority groups were highlighted in the paper to underline the Administration's concerns towards these minority groups. Other groups serving disadvantaged people in the community, including people with different sex orientation, new arrivals, people with disabilities or children in poverty would also be covered under CIBF.

11. The Chairman hoped that many people in the community could participate in community broadcasting through CIBF. As CIBF applied to radio programmes and there were audio channels on the Internet, she enquired when there would be opportunities for the public to participate in community television broadcasting.

12. D of B responded that Internet access to audio information was constrained by network bandwidth. Only around a few thousands or up to ten or twenty thousands Internet users could access a web broadcast programme at any one time. On the other hand, community broadcasting using RTHK's DAB platform could reach a much wider audience, and the technology threshold for public involvement would be lower. The Administration therefore selected DAB as a starting point for the pilot community broadcasting project. D of B further advised that community involvement in production of television programmes would only be possible when RTHK had set up its television channel. In this connection, RTHK would conduct television signals tests in July 2012. The Administration would consider the possibility of community involvement in television broadcasting in the future, and would discuss with the community and the Legislative Council on the way forward.

13. The Chairman enquired if statistics on the DAB audience population and ownership of the DAB radio were available. She also enquired about the Administration's projection on the growth of DAB audience base.

14. D of B advised that infrastructure, transmission and coverage of digital signals were critical factors affecting the popularity of DAB. While statistics on ownership of the DAB radio were not available, more people should be attracted to buy digital radio when a wide range of radio programmes was launched. RTHK planned to air DAB programmes in the end of the year, and was conducting trials at present. He understood that other digital broadcasting companies were doing the same. The Administration would step up publicity to raise community awareness of DAB.

15. The Chairman put the item to vote. The Committee approved the proposal.

16. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.