

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1) 2441/11-12
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/SS/12/11/1

**Subcommittee on Genetically Modified Organisms
(Control of Release) (Exemption) Notice**

**Minutes of second meeting
held on Tuesday, 29 May 2012, at 4:30 pm
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members present : Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
Hon CHIM Pui-chung
Hon KAM Nai-wai, MH
Hon CHAN Kin-por, JP

Members absent : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Hon CHAN Hak-kan

**Public officers
attending** : **For item I**

Environmental Protection Department

Mr Elvis AU
Acting Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (2)

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Mr CHAN Yiu-keung
Acting Assistant Director (Conservation)

Mr Simon CHAN
Senior Conservation Officer (Biodiversity)

**Attendance by
invitation**

: For item I

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Professor LAM Hon-ming
Deputy Director
State Key Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology

Tai Po Environmental Association

Mr Thomas CHEUNG
Chairman

Queen Elizabeth School Old Students' Association
Secondary School

Mr YIP Ka-lok

Greenpeace

Ms CHANG Wan-ki
Campaign Manager

The Federation of Vegetable Marketing Co-operative
Societies Ltd

Mr TANG Nuen-fun, MH
Chairman

Green Sense

Mr WONG Sin-hung

Sustainable Green Ltd

Ms CHIU Siu-wai
President

Individual

Ms MA Suk-ying

Individual

Mr TO Yat-man

The Conservancy Association

Mr Ken SO
Chief Executive

HK Wildlife.net

Ms WONG Hok-sze
Administrator of the website

The Green Patch

Mr David SANDERS
Director

Individual

Mr KWOK Tung-sum

Individual

Ms LIN Pui-yi

Individual

Mr Dominic WONG

Yuen Long Organic Farm House Association

Mr SHEA Sheung-kwong

Produce Green Foundation

Ms LAU Yuen-yee
Executive Secretary

農本多肥

Ms Sharon MAR
Member

支持香港無基改種植聯盟

Ms YEUNG Hoi-shan

健康有機農場

Mr LEUNG Pun-kin

Health Fruits Garden

Mr NGAI Sik-yuen

南涌有機蔬果

Mr LUEN Kwok-fai

歐羅有機農場

Mr WONG Yu-wing

Green Wish Farm

Mr David LEUNG

Green Collar

Ms LAU Wing-shan

SEED

Ms Jessica LAU

Green Resources

Ms CHEUNG Lai-ping
Chief Executive

Individual

Ms CHICK Hiu-lai

EM Bio Technology Company Ltd

Mr Philip Cavel Stubbings
Chairman

EM Association

Mr LAU Ka-keung
Vice-Chairman

HKUST Division of Life Science

Mr David LAU
Research Assistant Professor

New Choi Yuen Village Villager

Mr LO Ming-kwong

Individual

Ms Amy CHEUNG

Individual

Ms HAU Min-yim

R.T.C. Gaia School

Mr LAU Wing-kai

Ark Eden

Ms Jenny Qunton
Director

Heung Yee Kuk

Mr YU Hoi-fu

Individual

Mr MAK Sheung-yuen

Ground Works

Mr TSE Chun-man
Operations Officer

Individual

Ms CHUI Yee-ting

Individual

Ms Michelle Melana MITTRICH

Individual

Ms CHAN Yan-yiu

Hong Kong Sustainable Agriculture Association

Ms CHENG Shuke-ching
Consultant

集體購買隊

Ms ZHANG Li
Member

反基改種植聯會

Ms CHAN Shun-ching

Ma Po Po Farm

Ms AU Hei-man

Individual

Ms Fanny LEE

綠色人間

Mr WONG Wiu-wang

Individual

Mr TSANG Chu-kwong

Individual

Mr CHU Kam-ming

Individual

Mr NG To-sun

Individual

Ms KIU Kin-yan

Individual

Mr LING Yan-ying

Clerk in attendance : Miss Becky YU
Chief Council Secretary (1)1

Staff in attendance : Miss Winnie LO
Assistant Legal Adviser 7

Miss Jacqueline CHUNG
Council Secretary (1)1

Ms Clara LO
Legislative Assistant (1)10

I. Meeting with deputations and the Administration

Meeting with deputations

The Chairman invited views from the following organizations/individuals -

- (a) Professor LAM Hon-ming, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- (b) Tai Po Environmental Association
- (c) Queen Elizabeth School Old Students' Association Secondary School
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(01))
- (d) Greenpeace
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2017/11-12(01))
- (e) The Federation of Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Societies Ltd
(LC Paper Nos. CB(1) 1999/11-12(02) and CB(1) 2049/11-12(01))

- (f) Green Sense
- (g) Sustainable Green Ltd
- (h) Ms MA Suk-ying
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(02))
- (i) Mr TO Yat-man
- (j) The Conservancy Association
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(03))
- (k) HK Wildlife.net
- (l) The Green Patch
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2017/11-12(02))
- (m) Mr KWOK Tung-sum
- (n) Ms LIN Pui-yi
- (o) Mr Dominic WONG
- (p) Yuen Long Organic Farm House Association
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(03))
- (q) Produce Green Foundation
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049 /11-12(04))
- (r) 農本多肥
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(05))
- (s) 支持香港無基改種植聯盟
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(06))
- (t) 健康有機農場
- (u) Health Fruits Garden
- (v) 南涌有機蔬果
- (w) 歐羅有機農場
- (x) Green Wish Farm

- (y) Green Collar
- (z) SEED
- (aa) Green Resources
- (ab) Ms CHICK Hiu-lai
- (ac) EM Bio Technology Company Ltd
- (ad) EM Association
- (ae) HKUST Division of Life Science
- (af) New Choi Yuen Village Villager
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(07))
- (ag) Ms CHEUNG Wai-yee
- (ah) Ms HAU Min-yim
- (ai) R.T.C. Gaia School
- (aj) Ark Eden
- (ak) Heung Yee Kuk
- (al) Mr MAK Sheung-yuen
- (am) Ground Works
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(08))
- (an) Ms CHUI Yee-ting
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(09))
- (ao) Ms Michelle Melana MITTRICH
- (ap) Ms CHAN Yan-yiu
- (aq) Hong Kong Sustainable Agriculture Association
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(10))
- (ar) 集體購買隊
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(11))

(as) 反基改種植聯會
(LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(12))

(at) Ma Po Po Farm

(au) Ms Fanny LEE

(av) 綠色人間

(aw) Mr TSANG Chu-kwong

(ax) Mr CHU Kam-min

(ay) Mr NG To-sun

(az) Ms KIU Kin-yan

(aaa) Mr LING Yan-ying

2. Members also noted the following submissions from deputations not attending the meeting -

LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(04) — Submission from Dr Kenneth LEUNG Mei-yee, School of Biological Sciences, The University of Hong Kong (English version only);

LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(05) — Submission from Ms Tania WILLIS (English version only);

LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(06) — Submission from Transition South Lantau (English version only);

LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(07) — Submission from Green Lantau Association (English version only);

LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(08) — Submission from Ms Jacqueline HO (Chinese version only);

LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(09) — Submission from Green Power (English version only);

LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(10) — Submission from Mr CHENG Siu-kei (Chinese version only);

LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(11) — Submission from Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Expert Group (English version only);

- LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(12) — Submission from Professor Samuel SUN, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (English version only);
- LC Paper No. CB(1) 2017/11-12(03) — Submission from Professor Mei SUN, School of Biological Sciences, The University of Hong Kong (English version only); and
- LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(13) — Submission from Professor T H HUNG, National Taiwan University (Chinese version only)

Meeting with the Administration

- (LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(13) — List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 15 May 2012
- LC Paper No. CB(1) 2017/11-12(04) — Administration's response to CB(1) 1999/11-12(13))

3. The Subcommittee deliberated (Index of proceedings attached in **Annex**).
4. The Administration was requested to -
 - (a) provide (in tabular form) the Administration's response to all the written submissions from deputations, including those not attending the meeting;
 - (b) consider providing financial assistance to the voluntary one-to-one papaya exchange programme with a view to progressively phasing out all the genetically modified papayas in Hong Kong; and
 - (c) advise the consequences if the Exemption Notice was repealed.
5. The next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 6 June 2012, at 8:30 am.

II. Any other business

6. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 7:40 pm.

**Subcommittee on Genetically Modified Organisms
(Control of Release) (Exemption) Notice**

**Proceedings of the second meeting
on Tuesday, 29 May 2012, at 4:30 pm
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda Item I - Meeting with the deputations and the Administration</i>			
000938 - 001059	Chairman	Opening remarks.	
001100 - 001417	Professor LAM Hon-ming, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	<p>Expression of views -</p> <p>(a) the potential risk of genetically modified (GM) papaya to the local biodiversity was very low. There was also no evidence that consumption of GM papayas would pose a health risk; and</p> <p>(b) if GM papaya was not exempted from the application of section 5 of the Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Ordinance (Cap. 607) (the Ordinance), anyone who wished to grow or continue to grow GM papaya would need to obtain approval from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). Otherwise, the concerned papaya plants had to be removed.</p>	
001418 - 001709	Mr Thomas CHEUNG, Tai Po Environmental Association	<p>Expression of views -</p> <p>(a) no objection to the proposed exemption given the low potential risk of GM papaya to the local biodiversity;</p> <p>(b) if no exemption was granted, members of the public who were growing GM papayas would be subject to threats of enforcement; and</p> <p>(c) support for progressive replacement of existing GM papayas with non-GM ones.</p>	
001710 - 002009	Mr YIP Ka-lok, Queen Elizabeth School Old Students' Association Secondary School	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(01).	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
002010 - 002316	Ms CHANG Wan-ki, Greenpeace	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2017/11-12(01).	
002317 - 002659	Mr TANG Nuen-fun, MH, The Federation of Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Societies Ltd	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper Nos. CB(1) 1999/11-12(02) and 2049/11-12(01).	
002700 - 002937	Mr WONG Sin-hung, Green Sense	Expression of views - (a) the risk assessment conducted by AFCD was based on scientific publications of other countries without taking into account the impacts of GM papayas on the local biodiversity as well as their potential impacts on different levels of the food chain; and (b) as the effects of new GM papayas on the local biodiversity were not known, the proposed blanket exemption for all varieties of GM papayas might have safety implications and risks.	
002938 - 003249	Ms CHIU Siu-wai, Sustainable Green Ltd	Expression of views - (a) opposed to the blanket exemption for all varieties of GM papaya given the adverse impact on organic farmers in the event of contamination of organic papayas through cross-pollination; and (b) exemption should only be considered on a case-by-case basis subject to risk assessment.	
003250 - 003620	Ms MA Suk-ying	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(02).	
003621 - 003942	Mr TO Yat-man	Expression of views - (a) the exemption ran contrary to the policy intent of the Ordinance and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (Protocol); (b) enforcement difficulties should not be used as an excuse for the blanket exemption; and	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		(c) consideration should be given to dispensing with the proposed exemption given the far-reaching impact of GM papayas on the local biodiversity. Publicity efforts should also be stepped up to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Ordinance.	
003943 - 004300	Mr Ken SO, The Conservancy Association	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 1999/11-12(03).	
004301 - 004600	Ms WONG Hok-sze, HK Wildlife.net	Expression of views - (a) exemption should be considered on a case-by-case basis subject to risk assessment; and (b) skeptical about the scope of review of the proposed exemption to be conducted in three years' time.	
004601 - 004906	Mr David SANDERS, The Green Patch	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2017/11-12(02).	
004907 - 005220	Mr KWOK Tung-sum	Not supporting the proposed exemption in view of the health impact of GM products.	
005221 - 005347	Ms LIN Pui-yi	Consideration should be given to dispensing with the proposed exemption given the threats of GM crops on organic farming.	
005348 - 005636	Mr Dominic WONG	There were concerns about the safety of GM papaya.	
005637 - 005924	Mr SHEA Sheung-kwong, Yuen Long Organic Farm House Association	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(03).	
005925 - 010242	Ms LAU Yuen-ye, Produce Green Foundation	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(04).	
010243 - 010520	Ms Sharon MAR, 農本多肥	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(05).	
010521 - 010840	Ms YEUNG Hoi-shan, 支持香港無基改種植聯盟	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(06).	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
010841 - 011129	Mr LEUNG Pun-kin, 健康有機農場	GM papaya would affect organic farmers in the event of contamination of organic papayas by GM ones through cross-pollination. Measures should be taken to progressively phase out existing GM papaya plants.	
011130 - 011350	Mr NGAI Sik-yuen, Health Fruits Garden	Strong opposition to the proposed blanket exemption for all varieties of GM papaya given their potential impacts the local biodiversity, health, and organic crops.	
011351 - 011700	Mr LUEN Kwok-fai, 南涌有機蔬果	Efforts should be made to isolate GM crops from organic ones to prevent contamination through cross-pollination.	
011701 - 012029	Mr WONG Yu-wing, 歐羅有機農場	Strong opposition to the proposed blanket exemption for all varieties of GM papaya given their potential impacts on the local biodiversity, health, and organic crops.	
012030 - 012159	Mr David LEUNG, Green Wish Farm	Consideration should be given to dispensing with the proposed exemption in view of the possible damages of GM crops to the local biodiversity and the food chain.	
012200 - 012422	Ms LAU Wing-shan, Green Collar	Objection to the proposed exemption given the far-reaching impacts of GM produce on health and the local biodiversity. Efforts should be made to promote organic papaya.	
012423 - 012712	Ms Jessica LAU, SEED	Expressing concern about the safety of GM produce. Consideration should be given to dispensing with the blanket exemption given that the effects of new varieties of GM papaya on health were unknown.	
012713 - 013042	Ms CHEUNG Lai-ping, Green Resources	The blanket exemption was not acceptable in view of the potential impacts of new varieties of GM papaya on health and the local biodiversity.	
013043 - 013410	Ms CHICK Hiu-lai	Expression of views - (a) the proposed blanket exemption ran contrary to the policy intent of the Ordinance and the Protocol; (b) exemption should be considered on a	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>case-by-case basis taking into account the impacts of different varieties of GM papaya on the local biodiversity; and</p> <p>(c) the risk assessment conducted by AFCD was not comprehensive, which failed to include a field evaluation to assess the impacts of GM papaya on the local biodiversity.</p>	
013411- 013551	Mr Philip Cavel Stubbings, EM Bio Technology Company Ltd	Not convinced of the claim that GM papaya would unlikely cause any adverse effect to the local biodiversity which was still questionable.	
013552 - 013910	Mr LAU Ka-keung, EM Association	Not convinced of the reasons for the proposed blanket exemption which should be dispensed with taking into account the possible impacts of GM papaya on the local biodiversity and health. Efforts should be stepped up to enforce the Ordinance.	
013911 - 014110	Mr David LAU, HKUST Division of Life Science	There was a potential gene flow from GM papaya to its wild relatives, thereby affecting the local biodiversity.	
014111 - 014314	Mr LO Ming-kwong, New Choi Yuen Village Villager	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(07).	
014315 - 014422	Ms Amy CHEUNG Chairman	Not supporting the proposed exemption lest this would be extended to other GM crops, which would pose a threat to organic farming in the event of contamination through cross-pollination.	
014423 - 015116		Break	
015117 - 015434	Ms HAU Min-yim	Expressing concerns about the impact of GM products on health, and worry about further exemption would be given to other GM crops.	
015435 - 015802	Mr LAU Wing-kai, R.T.C. Gaia School	Objection to the proposed exemption given that the impacts of GM papaya on health and the local biodiversity were still unknown.	
015803 - 020140	Ms Jenny Qunton, Ark Eden	Since it had become an international trend to ban GM crops given their adverse	

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		impacts on agriculture, the Administration should dispense with the proposed exemption for GM papaya.	
020141 - 020450	Mr YU Hoi-fu, Heung Yee Kuk	While supporting the proposed exemption to avoid undue burden on those people who wished to grow or continue to grow papaya as a hobby, consideration should be given to progressively replacing existing GM papaya plants with non-GM ones on a voluntarily basis.	
020451 - 020645	Mr MAK Sheung-yuen	Need to re-consider the proposed blanket exemption in the light of concerns about the safety of GM papaya.	
020645 - 021010	Mr TSE Chun-man, Ground Works	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(08).	
021011 - 021239	Ms CHUI Yee-ting	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(09).	
021240 - 021450	Ms Michelle Melana MITTRICH	Objection to the proposed exemption.	
021451 - 021650	Ms CHAN Yan-yiu	Expressing concerns about the safety of GM papaya.	
021651 - 022025	Ms CHENG Shuke-ching, Hong Kong Sustainable Agriculture Association	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(10).	
022026 - 022220	Ms ZHANG Li, 集體購買隊	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(11).	
022201 - 022500	Ms CHAN Shun-ching, 反基改種植聯會	Expression of views as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1) 2049/11-12(12).	
022501 - 022820	Ms AU Hei-man, Ma Po Po Farm	Objection to the proposed blanket exemption. Consideration should be given to phasing out existing GM papaya through the one-to-one papaya exchange programme. There was also a need to promote organic farming for the benefits of both farmers and consumers.	
022821 - 023410	Ms Fanny LEE	Expressing disappointment at the Administration's failure to address public concern about the adverse impact of GM produce on health and the local	

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		biodiversity. Efforts should be stepped up to promote the trend towards healthy eating.	
023141 - 023505	Mr WONG Wiu-wang, 綠色人間	No exemption should be given to GM papaya. The Administration should endeavour to replace GM papayas by non-GM ones. Assistance should also be provided to farmers to develop a market for local non-GM produce.	
023506 - 023734	Mr TSANG Chu-kwong	Farmers adopted an open attitude towards the one-to-one papaya exchange programme. There was a need for closer communication between the Administration and local farmer organizations to promote local produce.	
023735 - 023949	Mr CHU Kam-ming	GM crops could increase productivity. Hence, the livelihood of those farmers who grew GM papaya would be affected if no exemption was given for GM papayas.	
023950 - 024146	Mr NG To-sun	While local farmers had an open attitude towards organic farming practices, productivity remained their major concern.	
024147 - 024344	Ms KIU Kin-yan	Local farmers were not opposed to the one-to-one papaya exchange programme, but efforts should be made to promote both conventional and organic farming for the benefits of farmers, consumers and the environment.	
024345 - 024700	Mr LING Yan-ying	It would be undesirable to eradicate GM papayas in one go as this would affect farmers' livelihood. There was a need to balance the interests between organic and conventional farmers, as well as promote local agriculture.	
024701 - 025713	Chairman Administration	Administration's responses - (a) to assess the potential risks associated with GM papaya (including gene flow to wild relatives of papaya, potential to become a weed, production of harmful substances, horizontal gene transfer and impact on soil microbial diversity), a risk assessment was conducted by AFCD in accordance with the requirements of the Protocol	

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		<p>and the Ordinance. Reference had also been made to various scientific publications;</p> <p>(b) the risk assessment concluded that GM papaya would unlikely pose any biosafety effect to the biological diversity of the local environment. The Expert Group (comprising members from the academic, environmental protection, farming, biotechnology and trading sectors) established under the Ordinance had discussed and endorsed the risk assessment report on GM papaya. Some other experts also confirmed that the release of GM papaya to the environment would unlikely result in gene contamination given the species barrier;</p> <p>(c) given the prevalence of papaya growing in Hong Kong and the fact that the continued planting of GM papaya would have no adverse effect on the local biological diversity, it was sensible to exempt GM papaya from the application of section 5 of the Ordinance in order to avoid causing unnecessary nuisance to those members of the public who grew papaya as a hobby;</p> <p>(d) there was no question of blanket exemption since prior approval from AFCD would need to be obtained for importing any unexempted varieties of GM papayas for planting in Hong Kong, which had addressed the concerns of some local organic farmers;</p> <p>(e) it had been an established agricultural policy to advocate diversified farming practices, including the promotion of both conventional and new farming methods. Since 2000, AFCD had been providing assistance to local agricultural sector in developing organic farming. AFCD would continue to provide assistance on GM test and other relevant technical</p>	

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		<p>support. Publicity efforts and education on organic farming practices would be stepped up; and</p> <p>(f) food safety aspect of GM food had to be dealt with separately as this fell outside the ambit of the Ordinance.</p> <p>On the instruction of the Chairman, the meeting had been extended by 15 minutes to allow more time for discussion.</p>	
025714 - 030050	Mrs Sophie LEUNG	<p>Mrs Sophie LEUNG's views -</p> <p>(a) declared interest as the chairperson of Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre Certification Limited; and</p> <p>(b) given the strong desire of the public for organic products, consideration should be given to assisting conventional farmers to switch to organic farming through say the one-to-one papaya exchange programme, with a view to phasing out GM papayas in the long run. Efforts should also be made to promote the branding of non-GM papaya for the benefit of local agriculture sector.</p>	
030051 -030418	Mr KAM Nai-wai Chairman Administration	<p>Mr KAM Nai-wai's enquiries -</p> <p>(a) whether a member of the public who grew GM papaya as a hobby would be subject to prosecution if no exemption was given;</p> <p>(b) whether direct subsidy would be provided to support the one-to-one papaya exchange programme; and</p> <p>(c) the timetable to phase out all GM papaya plants grown in Hong Kong.</p> <p>Administration's responses -</p> <p>(a) the voluntary one-to-one papaya exchange programme was launched by some non-governmental organizations (including environmental and organic farming groups) to promote the planting of non-GM papaya. They</p>	<p>The Administration to -</p> <p>(a) consider providing financial assistance to the voluntary one-to-one papaya exchange programme with a view to progressively phasing out all the GM papayas in Hong Kong; and</p> <p>(b) advise the consequences if</p>

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>might seek funding from relevant statutory funds (such as the Environment and Conservation Fund) to implement the exchange programme. If needed, AFCD would continue to provide assistance on GM test and other relevant technical support; and</p> <p>(b) if no exemption from application of section 5 of the Ordinance was given, anyone who intended to grow or continue to grow GM papaya would commit an offence and would be subject to criminal prosecution.</p>	<p>the Exemption Notice was repealed.</p>
030419 - 030804	Mr WONG Yung-kan	<p>Mr WONG Yung-kan's views -</p> <p>(a) to allay public concern, there was a need to progressively phase out existing GM papaya plants within a given timeframe; and</p> <p>(b) more efforts should be made to develop organic farming in Hong Kong.</p>	
030805 - 030939	Chairman	<p>The Chairman thanked the 53 deputations for their views, and urged the Administration to address their concerns on the Exemption Notice.</p> <p>Date of next meeting.</p>	<p>The Administration to provide (in tabular form) response to all the written submissions from deputations, including those not attending the meeting.</p>