

**Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs**

**Electoral Affairs Commission Report on  
the 2012 Chief Executive Election**

**INTRODUCTION**

This paper informs Members of the major findings and recommendations in the Electoral Affairs Commission (“EAC”) Report on the 2012 Chief Executive Election (“the Report”).

**BACKGROUND**

*The Report*

2. The 2011 Election Committee Subsector (“ECSS”) Elections and the 2012 Chief Executive (“CE”) Election were held on 11 December 2011 and 25 March 2012 respectively. Section 8 of the Electoral Affairs Commission Ordinance (Cap. 541) (“the Ordinance”) requires, inter alia, that the EAC shall make a report to the CE, within three months of the conclusion of the CE Election, on matters relating to the two elections in respect of which the EAC has any function under the Ordinance or any other Ordinance. Accordingly, the EAC submitted the Report to the CE on 8 June 2012.

3. The Report describes how the EAC conducted and supervised the 2011 ECSS Elections and the 2012 CE Election and sets out the detailed arrangements and key incidents which occurred during the two elections and relevant follow-up actions. The Report also contains a review on the electoral procedures and arrangements in the light of the experience and improvement measures recommended for future elections.

4. The Administration agrees with the EAC’s recommendation that the Report should be made public. The Report can be downloaded from the website of the EAC ([www.eac.gov.hk](http://www.eac.gov.hk)). We have also distributed copies of the Report to Members for reference.

### *Major Findings and Recommendations*

5. On the whole, the EAC considers that the 2011 ECSS Elections and the 2012 CE Election were conducted smoothly. A number of areas requiring improvements have been identified and a number of recommendations have been proposed. In addition, some good practices are identified and their continuous implementation is suggested. These are set out in Chapter 14 of the Report. A summary of the recommendations in the Report are set out at **Annex**.

### **Way Forward**

6. In overall terms, the Administration considers the findings and recommendations of the Report acceptable. We will work with the EAC to pursue follow-up actions.

Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau  
June 2012

**The Recommendations in the Electoral Affairs Commission Report on  
the 2012 Chief Executive Election**

On the 2011 Election Committee Subsector (“ECSS”) Elections

1. Setting up of polling stations: To continue to make every effort, to the extent possible and reasonable, to set up polling stations at conveniently-located venues (*paragraphs 14.2 to 14.3 of the Report*).
2. Election deposit: To continue to remind nominees of the advantage of making the election deposit in cash or by cashier order; and to alert nominees to the risk that dishonoured cheques may result in insufficient time to make good a nomination (*paragraphs 14.4 to 14.5 of the Report*).
3. Quoting the name of an organisation as political affiliation in Introduction to Candidates: To remind the candidates in the Introduction to Candidates of the need to obtain the prior consent of an organisation before quoting its name in the entry of political affiliation in the Guide on Completion of Grid Paper (*paragraphs 14.6 to 14.7 of the Report*).
4. Delivery of ballot boxes to the counting tables: To continue to arrange accommodating both the counting zones and the ballot box reception and deposit areas on the same floor at the central counting station, to facilitate smooth and efficient vote counting (*paragraphs 14.8 to 14.9 of the Report*).
5. Design of ballot paper: To continue to allow voters to bring along a piece of paper listing out the numbers of candidates they intend to vote for when marking ballot papers, provided that they would neither show that piece of paper to other persons inside the polling station, nor leave behind that piece of paper when leaving the polling station (*paragraphs 14.10 to 14.13 of the Report*).
6. Provision of address labels to candidates: To avoid wastage, to make stronger appeal to candidates in future elections to plan carefully how they would need the address labels for sending out election advertisements (*paragraphs 14.14 to 14.15 of the Report*).

7. Inaccurate information on address labels and Candidate Mailing Label System CD-ROM: To enhance the checking process to ensure the accuracy of information before the production of the address labels and Candidate Mailing Label System CD-ROM for distribution to the candidates (*paragraphs 14.16 to 14.17 of the Report*).
8. Deployment of Ballot Box Tracking System: To explore the possibility of deploying the Ballot Box Tracking System in the 2012 Legislative Council Election, as the system has enhanced the efficiency of the counting process of the 2011 ECSS Elections (*paragraphs 14.18 to 14.19 of the Report*).

#### On the 2012 Chief Executive (“CE”) Election

1. Polling hours and advice to EC members: To continue to keep the duration of the first round of voting to two hours, to appeal to the Election Committee (“EC”) members to arrive early at the polling station, and to set up a waiting lobby outside the main polling station for early arrivals. These arrangements were conducive to the smooth conduct of the poll in the 2012 CE Election (*paragraphs 14.20 to 14.21 of the Report*).
2. Name badges with barcodes for verification : To continue to make similar arrangements of requiring EC members to display name badges printed with barcodes and colour codes, to facilitate verification and smooth access into polling station, and directing EC members to the right ballot paper issuing desks (*paragraphs 14.22 to 14.24 of the Report*).
3. Traffic control and designation of drop-off and pick-up points: To continue to adopt similar traffic control arrangements as those in the 2012 CE Election which were effective in regulating traffic and facilitating EC members’ timely arrival (*paragraphs 14.25 to 14.26 of the Report*).
4. Order in the main polling station: To continue to send appeal letters to EC members before the polling day reminding them of the need to follow the relevant rules and regulations in the main polling station, in order to ensure an orderly voting process (*paragraphs 14.27 to 14.28 of the Report*).