

Panel on Commerce and Industry

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 17 October 2011)

Proposed timing
for discussion

1. Development of the exhibition industry in Hong Kong

At the Panel meeting on 21 December 2010, the Panel discussed the development of the exhibition industry in Hong Kong, in particular the promotion of the Meetings, Incentive travels, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) industry, measures to encourage the utilization of the existing convention and exhibition facilities, as well as the Hong Kong Trade Development Council's assistance for local small and medium enterprises and new exhibitors. Members urged the Administration to provide a more level playing field for AsiaWorld-Expo to compete with the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on an equal footing, and help sort out their differences which posed barriers to co-operation. The Administration will update the Panel on the latest development of the exhibition industry in Hong Kong.

15 November 2011

2. Progress report of the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification

The Administration will update members on the work progress of the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification (HKCTC) in implementing its development plan for the industry and seek members' support to extend a supernumerary Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post created to support the work of HKCTC. The post will lapse on 15 March 2012.

15 November 2011

3. Report on the comprehensive review of the Research and Development Centres

The Administration will brief members on the results of the comprehensive review of the Research and Development Centres.

20 December 2011

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

4. Update on Review of Industrial Estates

The Administration will update members on the latest developments of Industrial Estates (IEs) and considerations to be taken into account in examining whether or not to develop a fourth IE. 20 December 2011

5. Review of the governance of the Hong Kong Export Credit Insurance Corporation

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Report No. 56 was tabled in the Council on 6 July 2011. One of the chapters in the Report is on the Hong Kong Export Credit Insurance Corporation (ECIC). As the ECIC was established in 1966, PAC is concerned that the governance structure of ECIC as prescribed by the ECIC Ordinance may not be in line with modern-day practices and requirements. Noting that the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau does not micro-manage the daily operations of the ECIC, PAC considers it all the more important for the Advisory Board to play the role of a governing board to monitor the work and performance of the ECIC as well as to oversee its governance. In this connection, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development undertook to conduct a review of the governance of the ECIC and report the outcome to the Panel before the end of 2011. 20 December 2011

6. Promotion of inward investment

The Administration will update the Panel on the work of Invest Hong Kong in promoting inward investment. 17 January 2012

7. Development and promotion of Chinese medicine

At the Panel meeting on 13 October 2011, members noted the concern raised by Dr Priscilla LEUNG about the disbandment of the Hong Kong Jockey Club Institute of Chinese Medicine (HKJCICM). Members agreed that the Administration should brief the Panel on the follow-up arrangements regarding the disbandment of HKJCICM, including termination of employment of HKJCICM staff, disposal of intellectual properties, and the progress of the setting up of the new Government-led committee in the promotion of research and development of Chinese medicine. 17 January 2012
(tentative)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

8. Progress report on the Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme

The Administration will report to the Panel the outcome of the review of the Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme and the enhancement measures under the Scheme.

Early 2012

9. Review of the Hong Kong Patent Registration System

The Administration will brief the Panel on the proposed way forward on the review of the Hong Kong patent registration system.

First half of 2012

10. Trade relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong

The Administration will update members on the latest developments of Mainland policies and legislation that will affect Hong Kong-owned enterprises, and the latest developments relating to trade, industries and technological cooperation between the Mainland and Hong Kong.

Second quarter of 2012

11. Reports on the work of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices and the Office of the Government of the HKSAR in Beijing

The Heads of Economic and Trade Offices and the Office of the Government of the HKSAR in Beijing will brief the Panel on their work since their last report in June 2011.

November 2012

12. Progress on further liberalization under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest development of the economic and trade co-operation and exchanges between the HKSAR Government and the Central People's Government under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

13. Progress of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda Negotiations

The Administration will update members on the latest round of multilateral trade negotiations under the World Trade Organization, as and when there are significant developments.

To be confirmed

14. Progress on improving the Innovation and Technology Fund

The Administration will brief the Panel on the latest progress on making improvements to the Innovation and Technology Fund mechanism, including the progress of work of the Steering Committee on Review of Intellectual Property Issues in the Innovation and Technology Sector.

To be confirmed