

Panel on Commerce and Industry

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 9 November 2011)

Proposed timing
for discussion

1. Comprehensive review of the Research and Development Centres

The Administration will report on the overall performance of the Research and Development Centres in the first 5-year operating period. 20 December 2011

2. 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

3. 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. The Administration will report the outcome of the review to the Panel. 20 December 2011

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

4. Rent allowance for officers posted to offices in the Mainland and Taiwan

The Administration will brief the Panel on the outcome of the review of the rent allowance (RA) mechanism conducted by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, and seek members' support for a proposal to rationalize the current system for RA payable to officers posted to offices in the Mainland and Taiwan.

20 December 2011

5. Promotion of inward investment

The Administration will update the Panel on the work of Invest Hong Kong in promoting inward investment in 2011 and outline the way forward for 2012.

17 January 2012

6. 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

7. Support for Hong Kong enterprises in branding, upgrading and domestic sales

The Administration will brief the Panel on the proposal to set up a dedicated fund to support Hong Kong enterprises in developing their brands, upgrading their operation in the Mainland and promoting domestic sales, so as to help them capture the opportunities arising from the National 12th Five-Year Plan.

First quarter of
2012

8. Further measures to promote the development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong

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

First quarter of
2012

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Innovation and Technology Fund, and also the progress of work of the Steering Committee on Review of Intellectual Property Issues in the Innovation and Technology Sector.

9. Annual progress report of the Research and Development Centres

The Administration will update the Panel on the operation of the Research and Development Centres for 2011-2012.

Second quarter of 2012

10. Review of the patent system in Hong Kong

The Administration will brief the Panel on the results of the public consultation on the review of the Hong Kong patent registration system and the Administration's proposed way forward.

Second quarter of 2012

11. Trade relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong

The Administration will update members on the latest developments of trade relations between Hong Kong and the Mainland (including Hong Kong/Guangdong, Hong Kong/Shenzhen, Hong Kong/Beijing, Hong Kong/Shanghai Economic and Trade Co-operation)

Second quarter of 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 as and when there are significant developments.

To be confirmed

13. Relocation of the information technology facilities to Kai Tak Government Offices for the Trade and Industry Department

The Administration will brief members on the project of relocation of information technology facilities from the Trade and Industry Department (TID) Tower to Kai Tak Government Offices to tie in with TID's relocation tentatively in 2015.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

**14. 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

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
9 November 2011