

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)387/15-16

(These minutes have been
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/HS/1/12

Subcommittee on Poverty

**Minutes of the thirty-third meeting
held on Tuesday, 20 October 2015, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members present : Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon WONG Yuk-man
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP

Public Officers : Item II
attending

Mr Stephen SUI, JP
Under Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Ms Doris HO, JP
Head, Policy and Project Coordination Unit
Chief Secretary for Administration's Private Office

Mr Nick AU YEUNG
Principal Assistant Secretary (Community
Care Fund)
Home Affairs Bureau

Mr Byron LAM
Assistant Director, Efficiency Unit (3)
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office

**Attendance by : Item II
invitation**

殘疾人士及長期病患者就業關注組

Mr CHIU Ho-lam
Chairman

Ms YEUNG Fung-yee

Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse
(Kwan Fook)

Ms FUNG Yuen-ping

Hong Kong Women Workers' Association

Miss LEUNG Wei-ching
Organizer

推廣員及零散工工會

Miss NG Cheuk-ling
Organizer

Cleaning Workers' Union

Mr CHAN Tsz-kit
Organizer

Hong Kong Catholic Commission for Labour Affairs

Ms LAW Pui-shan
Policy Research Officer

單幢大廈保安關注組

Mr SIN Chi-man
Representative

保安護衛關注組

Ms CHOI Wai-fun
Representative

Catholic Diocese of HK Diocesan Pastoral Centre for
Workers (Kowloon)

Mr LI Ka-shu
Program Officer

A.I.M. Group

Mr Shoaib Hussain
Assistant Program Officer

葵涌劏房住客聯盟

Miss HE Lizhen
Member

葵涌劏房居民關注平台

Mr NG Kwan-lim
Member

葵涌基層住屋關注組

Miss YIU Tung-mui
Member

葵涌不適切居所居民關注組

Mr LEE Ying-ho
Member

葵涌低收入人士房屋關注平台

Mr CHEUNG Kam-yuen
Member

葵涌關注房屋小組

Mr TIN Ka-shun
Member

葵涌工廈居民平台

Miss LO Mei-chi
Member

Shadow Commission on Poverty

Mr CHAN Siu-ming
Member

政府第一標準薪級員工總會

Mr TSUI Yat-keung
Deputy Chairman

聽障人士就業促進會

Ms Eva LEUNG Yun-mei
Chairman

Alliance for Universal Pension

Mr Nicholas CHAN Hok-fung
Organizer

Oxfam Hong Kong

Ms WONG Shek-hung
Manager

輪椅政策關注小組

Mr TSANG Kai
Representative

League of Social Democrats

Miss CHAN Po-ying
Committee Member of League of Social Democrats

保安員關注組

Mr CHAN Chau-shing
Representative

Social Development For HK's Future

Ms LAI Yuen-mei
Spokesperson

Hong Kong Federation of the Blind

Mr SHING Li-lim
Executive Director

Supporting Grassroots' Bazaar Alliance

Miss CHIU Sin-ting
Social Worker

Tung Chung Community Development Alliance

Miss CHAN Suk-ki
Organizer

肌肉萎縮症倡議小組

Mr YAN Chun-kit
Vice-President

Hong Kong Neuro-Muscular Disease Association Limited

Ms Jintana SAE SOW
Senior Organizing Officer

Tin Shui Wai Hawkers' Concern Group

Miss SO Sim-yan
Member

Tin Shui Wai Universal Pension Concern Group

Mr WONG Chi-him
Member

Concern Group for TSW Public Market

Miss SO Chi-yung
Member

Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong Diocesan Pastoral Centre
for Workers (N.T.)

Mr Augustine YU Siu-po
Acting Centre Supervisor

New Territories Evangelical Ambassador

Mr Simon TAM
Member

North District Grassroots Workers Group

Mr NGAN Chi-yip
Member

Tin Shui Wai Community Development Network

Mr CHAN Wai-lun
Organizing Officer

Ms CHEUNG Kam-siu

Community Technology Development Concern Group

Mr KONG Kin-shing
Organizer

Disadvantaged Youth Concern Group

Miss LAU Chung-ki
Member

\$3600 Poor L Concern Group

Mr FUNG Tsz-chung

Hong Kong Federation of Women Centres

Mr LEUNG Shek-lun
Advocacy Officer

Homemakers Alliance Universal Pension Concern Group

Ms CHAN Shui-lin
Member

Concerning CSSA & Low-income Alliance

Mr LEE Tai-shing

CSSA Alliance Action Group

Mr Herrick LEE Yen-hao
Community Organizer

關學聯-青年小組

Miss LAI Wan-yiu
Youth Organizer

香港十八區窮等學生聯盟

Mr David CHU Wai-chung
Member

Special Educational Needs Rights Association

Miss PAN Qun-ying
Education Officer

Alliance for Social Protection of Low Income Families

Miss YU Cheuk-lam
Clerk

Mr LEE Kwok-kuen

關注草根生活聯盟

Ms PANG Lok-yan

天姿作圍

Ms FAN Pui-ying

Miss HO Sze-wai

關注基層住屋聯席

Mr LAI Kin-kei
Community Organizer

關注全港劏房聯盟

Mr HO Chi-chung
Community Organizer

大角咀劏房關注組

Mr CHAN Chiu-lung

大角咀惡劣居所關注組

Mr HO Fat-keung

香港天主教正義和平委員會

Ms YIP Po-lam

土地正義聯盟

Ms YEUNG Wing-chi

Youth Indigenous

Miss TAI Yuet-ching

The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation Centre on
Research and Advocacy

Mr NG Siu-lun
Project Officer

Alliance for Children Development Rights

Miss HO Yu-ying
Organizer

Silence

Ms PUN Ho-man
Employment Support Officer

有種精英叫廢青

Mr HONG Fu-yeuk

COME Groundworks

Miss PANG Ching-shan

Community Oriented Mutual Economy

Ms CHENG Shuke-ching
Community Economy and Social Enterprise
(GroundWorks) Project In-charge

長期病患者就業關注組

Mr CHAN Tsz-hei
Member

爭取殘疾人士就業配額制聯席

Mr SI Wai-san
Member

關注基層學童組

Ms Carmen CHEUNG

人手比例不符最低工資關注組

Mr WONG Kwai-sang

Clerk in attendance : Mr Colin CHUI
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

Staff in attendance : Ms Catherina YU
Senior Council Secretary (2) 4

Miss Kay CHU
Council Secretary (2) 4

Miss Maggie CHIU
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

Ms Ada TANG
Clerical Assistant (2) 4

Action

I. Item(s) for discussion at the next meeting

Members agreed that the Subcommittee should discuss the subject of "Poverty problems of ethnic minorities" at the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 17 November 2015 at 10:45 am.

II. Briefing by Commission on Poverty regarding Commission on Poverty Summit and work progress of the Commission and its Task Forces as well as the latest poverty situation

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)44/15-16(01) to (06), CB(2)72/15-16(01) to (09) and CB(2)73/15-16(01) to (05)]

2. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

III. Any other business

3. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 8:28 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
3 December 2015

**Proceedings of the thirty-third meeting of the
Subcommittee on Poverty
on Tuesday, 20 October 2015 at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda item I – Item(s) for discussion at the next meeting</i>			
000418 - 000947	Chairman	Opening remarks Item(s) for discussion at the next meeting	
<i>Agenda item II – Briefing by Commission on Poverty regarding Commission on Poverty Summit and work progress of the Commission and its Task Forces as well as the latest poverty situation</i>			
<u>Session One</u>			
000948 - 001324	殘疾人士及長期病患者 就業關注組	Presentation of views [LC Paper Nos. CB(2)72/15-16(01) to (07)]	
001325 - 001658	Ms YEUNG Fung-yee	Presentation of views	
001659 - 002015	Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse (Kwan Fook)	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)72/15-16(08)]	
002016 - 002321	Hong Kong Women Workers' Association	Presentation of views	
002322 - 002713	推廣員及零散工工會	Presentation of views	
002714 - 003027	Cleaning Workers' Union	Presentation of views	
003028 - 003323	Hong Kong Catholic Commission for Labour Affairs	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)73/15-16(01)]	
003324 - 003653	單幢大廈保安關注組	Presentation of views	
003654 - 003955	保安護衛關注組	Presentation of views	
003956 - 004313	Catholic Diocese of HK Diocesan Pastoral Centre for Workers (Kowloon)	Presentation of views	
004314 - 004556	A.I.M. Group	Presentation of views	
004557 - 004757	葵涌劏房住客聯盟	Presentation of views	
004758 - 005105	葵涌劏房居民關注平台	Presentation of views	
005106 - 005404	葵涌基層住屋關注組	Presentation of views	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
005405 - 005654	葵涌不適切居所居民關注組	Presentation of views	
005655 - 005710	葵涌低收入人士房屋關注平台	Presentation of views	
005711 - 010051	葵涌關注房屋小組	Presentation of views	
010052 - 010331	葵涌工廈居民平台	Presentation of views	
010332 - 010647	Shadow Commission on Poverty	Presentation of views	
010648 - 010943	政府第一標準薪級員工總會	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)44/15-16(03)]	
010944 - 011019	聽障人士就業促進會	Presentation of views	
011020 - 011344	Alliance for Universal Pension	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)73/15-16(02)]	
011345 - 011715	Oxfam Hong Kong	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)44/15-16(04)]	
011716 - 012048	League of Social Democrats	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)73/15-16(03)]	
012049 - 012442	輪椅政策關注小組	Presentation of views	
012443 - 012605	保安員關注組	Presentation of views	
012606 - 012952	Social Development For HK's Future	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)73/15-16(04)]	
012953 - 013315	Hong Kong Federation of the Blind	Presentation of views	
013316 - 014841	Chairman Admin	<p>In response to the major views and concerns of deputations, the Administration gave a succinct briefing on its paper [LC Paper No. CB(2)44/15-16(01)] and supplemented that –</p> <p><i>Support measures for and issues relating to different needy groups</i></p> <p>(a) in 2015-2016, government recurrent spending on social welfare would reach \$59.7 billion (\$42.8 billion in 2014-2015), accounting for 18.4% of the total recurrent government expenditure of the year, second only to education;</p>	

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		<p>(b) in addition to the assistance programmes under the Community Care Fund ("CCF"), the Administration had implemented recurrent measures to alleviate poverty and would continue doing so, e.g. the Old Age Living Allowance and the Low-income Working Family Allowance ("LIFA"), and the latter would be launched in the second quarter of 2016;</p> <p>(c) to further promote the employment of persons with disabilities, the Administration would continue to enhance the targeted measures, e.g. the Talent-Wise Employment Charter and Inclusive Organisations Recognition Scheme and support services for employers and job-seekers with disabilities. Moreover, the Administration would consider refining the arrangements of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") for providing incentives for persons with disabilities to take up open employment;</p> <p>(d) the Administration would continue to strengthen interpretation and employment services as well as other support for ethnic minorities;</p> <p>(e) the Census and Statistics Department ("C&SD") had been commissioned to conduct the survey on households with school children of South Asian ethnicities since mid-2014. The Special Needs Groups Task Force under the Commission on Poverty ("CoP") would invite C&SD to give a briefing on the preliminary findings of the survey in early November 2015;</p> <p>(f) a consultancy study on long-term development of child care services would be commissioned in 2015-2016. In the meantime, the Administration would continue to strengthen the child care services to enhance the support for women;</p> <p>(g) CoP would launch the public consultation on retirement protection in December 2015;</p>	

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		<p><i>Setting and analysis of poverty line</i></p> <p>(h) the poverty line was set at 50% of the median monthly household income before tax and social benefits transfers (i.e. before government policy intervention). This definition was easy to understand and in line with the international practice adopted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and local organizations, such as Oxfam Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Council of Social Service ("HKCSS"). However, there were limitations in the poverty line, e.g. only household income was counted while assets were not. With due regard to the limitations, the Administration would consider poverty alleviation measures based on the needs of different underprivileged groups and would not link the poverty line to the eligibility criteria of various means-tested social welfare schemes;</p> <p>(i) CoP would explore how to include the poverty alleviation impact of public rental housing in the main analysis of the poverty line to provide a more comprehensive analysis of the poverty situation. C&SD was conducting the 2014-2015 Household Expenditure Survey, the results of which should be helpful in understanding further the expenditure pattern of poor households, including housing expenditure, for improving the analysis of the poverty line;</p> <p>(j) according to the latest poverty line analysis, over half of the about 250 000 poor elderly persons not on CSSA indicated that they did not have financial need. Such finding was mainly based on the data collected from the General Household Survey, which was conducted by C&SD; and</p> <p>(k) after policy intervention, the poverty rates of males and females were 13.8% and 14.6% respectively.</p>	
014842 - 015154	Chairman Deputy Chairman	The Deputy Chairman declared that he was currently a member of CoP. He was of the view that –	

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		<p>(a) the public consultation exercise on retirement protection to be launched in December 2015 was not a real consultation given that the Administration had already expressed objection to universal retirement protection; and</p> <p>(b) in addition to the provision of financial assistance, CoP should allocate more resources to facilitate the economic development and create more employment opportunities for people in need.</p>	
015155 - 015549	Chairman Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Admin	<p>Noting the high poverty rate of elderly persons, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan considered that the Administration's saying that "the poverty situation of elderly persons might be overstated" was an understatement.</p> <p>Mr LEE asked the Administration to provide justifications for setting the working hour requirement of LIFA at 144 hours per month. The Administration responded that the working hour requirement of 144 hours per month (i.e. about 36 hours per week) was considered reasonable. As LIFA was granted on a family basis, other needy working members of a LIFA household might apply for other financial assistance, e.g. Working Incentive Transport Subsidy. An overall review of LIFA would be conducted one year after its implementation in the second quarter of 2016.</p>	
015550 - 020532	Chairman Mr Albert HO	<p>Mr Albert HO held the view that –</p> <p>(a) it was not acceptable to have over one million people living below the poverty line. Those living at or just above the poverty line were also facing a heavy financial burden, in particular, on private housing rental. The Administration should help ease their hardship;</p> <p>(b) the poverty statistics did not truly reflect the poverty situation if the setting of the poverty line did not take account of the household expenditure on basic needs items;</p> <p>(c) outsourcing of public services and the offsetting arrangement of the Mandatory Provident Fund were examples of policies</p>	

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		which had contributed to the increasingly severe wealth gap problem; and (d) the Administration had to conduct a public consultation on universal retirement protection in 2015.	
<u>Session Two</u>			
020533 - 020854	Supporting Grassroots' Bazaar Alliance	Presentation of views	
020855 - 021232	Tung Chung Community Development Alliance	Presentation of views	
021233 - 021554	肌肉萎縮症倡議小組	Presentation of views	
021555 - 021924	Hong Kong Neuro-Muscular Disease Association Limited	Presentation of views	
021925 - 022245	Tin Shui Wai Hawkers' Concern Group	Presentation of views	
022246 - 022557	Tin Shui Wai Universal Pension Concern Group	Presentation of views	
022558 - 022924	Concern Group for TSW Public Market	Presentation of views	
022925 - 023236	Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong Diocesan Pastoral Centre for Workers (N.T.)	Presentation of views	
023237 - 023601	New Territories Evangelical Ambassador	Presentation of views	
023602 - 023922	North District Grassroots Workers Group	Presentation of views	
023923 - 024243	Tin Shui Wai Community Development Network	Presentation of views	
024244 - 024542	Ms CHEUNG Kam-siu	Presentation of views	
024543 - 024928	Community Technology Development Concern Group	Presentation of views	
024929 - 025241	Disadvantaged Youth Concern Group	Presentation of views	
025242 - 025614	\$3600 Poor L Concern Group	Presentation of views	
025615 - 025928	Hong Kong Federation of Women Centres	Presentation of views	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
025929 - 030246	Homemakers Alliance Universal Pension Concern Group	Presentation of views	
030247 - 030624	Concerning CSSA & Low-income Alliance	Presentation of views	
030625 - 031031	CSSA Alliance Action Group	Presentation of views	
031032 - 031453	Chairman Mr LEE Cheuk-yan 關學聯-青年小組	<i>(Mr LEE Cheuk-yan was elected Chairman to act during the temporary absence of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.)</i> Presentation of views	
031454 - 031829	香港十八區窮等學生聯盟	Presentation of views	
031830 - 032154	Special Educational Needs Rights Association	Presentation of views	
032155 - 032539	關注草根生活聯盟	Presentation of views	
032540 - 032924	天姿作圍	Presentation of views	
032925 - 033310	Alliance for Social Protection of Low Income Families	Presentation of views	
033311 - 033648	Mr LEE Kwok-kuen	Presentation of views	
033649 - 034036	Miss HO Sze-wai	Presentation of views	
034037 - 034407	關注基層住屋聯席	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)44/15-16(05)]	
034408 - 034758	關注全港劏房聯盟	Presentation of views	
034759 - 040615	Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Admin	In response to the major views and concerns of deputations, the Administration reiterated its reply at (i) above regarding poverty line and its reply to Mr LEE Cheuk-yan regarding LIFA, and added that – (a) LIFA applicants who were taking up more than one job could accumulate their working hours for meeting LIFA's working hour requirements. LIFA would be widely publicized in the community, and details of the application procedures would be announced in late 2015; (b) the Labour and Welfare Bureau ("LWB") had set up an inter-departmental working	

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		<p>group to review the eligibility criteria for the Disability Allowance and related matters. The working group would finalize the review report in end-2015 and the Administration aimed to announce the outcome before mid-2016;</p> <p>(c) to strengthen support for children with special educational needs and their families, the Administration would launch a pilot scheme on on-site pre-school rehabilitation services in 2015-2016. Besides, some 5 000 additional places for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services would be provided in phases in the coming five to 10 years. Low-income families might apply for the "Training Subsidy for Children who are on the Waiting List for Subvented Pre-school Rehabilitation Services"; and</p> <p>(d) regarding the development of community economy, the Administration had adopted a district-led approach in the choice of venues for holding bazaars. If district-led proposals with community consensus were put forward, the Food and Health Bureau and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department would facilitate liaison with relevant bureaux and departments ("B/Ds"). At its meeting in December 2015, CoP would invite representatives of the Home Affairs Department to give a briefing on district-based poverty alleviation work, and further discussion of community economy development and related issues would be considered after launching the public consultation on retirement protection in December 2015.</p>	
<u>Session Three</u>			
040616 - 041052	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che 大角咀劏房關注組	<p><i>(Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che was elected Chairman to act during the temporary absence of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.)</i></p> <p>Presentation of views</p>	
041053 - 041247	大角咀惡劣居所關注組	Presentation of views	
041248 - 041631	香港天主教正義和平委員會	Presentation of views	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
041632 - 041954	土地正義聯盟	Presentation of views	
041955 - 042399	Youth Indigenous	Presentation of views	
042400 - 042722	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation Centre on Research and Advocacy	Presentation of views	
042723 - 043056	Alliance for Children Development Rights	Presentation of views	
043057 - 043415	Silence	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)72/15-16(09)]	
043416 - 043748	有種精英叫廢青	Presentation of views	
043749 - 044107	長期病患者就業關注組	Presentation of views	
044108 - 044423	COME Groundworks	Presentation of views	
044424 - 044744	Community Oriented Mutual Economy	Presentation of views	
044745 - 044955	爭取殘疾人士就業配額制聯席	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)73/15-16(05)]	
044956 - 045210	關注基層學童組	Presentation of views	
045211 - 045540	人手比例不符最低工資關注組	Presentation of views	
045541 - 051019	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Admin	<p>In response to the major views and concerns of deputations, the Administration reiterated some of the points it had made at the earlier sessions of the meeting regarding the employment of persons with disabilities, LIFA and the development of community economy. It added that –</p> <p>(a) LIFA applicants who were unable to provide statement of income or documentary proof of working hours would be required to make relevant declarations;</p> <p>(b) the CCF's two-year pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of the elderly persons from low income families was launched in June 2014. The scheme was now under evaluation which included, inter alia, whether the scope of the scheme should be extended to carers of persons with severe disabilities;</p>	

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		<p>(c) to promote the use of sign language, LWB had formed a working group under the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee which had made notable progress in the past two years, e.g. facilitating the provision of certificate courses on professional sign language interpretation which had been pegged at Level 3 of the Qualifications Framework;</p> <p>(d) amongst the some 500 guests attending the CoP Summit on 10 October 2015, about 70-80 of them were young people who were nominated by schools, HKCSS and various B/Ds;</p> <p>(e) the Administration had provided various programmes and funds, such as "Life Buddies" Mentorship Programme organized by the Youth Education, Employment and Training Task Force ("YEETTF") under CoP, Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged and Child Development Fund, to enhance youth upward mobility. Moreover, the Administration would continue to take steps to develop a diversified economy and create employment opportunities for young people;</p> <p>(f) a study on the earnings mobility of post-secondary graduates from underprivileged backgrounds in different generation had been conducted for understanding their social mobility. YEETTF would follow up the study and made public the findings later this year;</p> <p>(g) if the Administration decided to implement 15-year free education, the CCF Task Force under CoP would explore whether and how to launch an interim programme to address the needs of kindergarten students from low-income families before such implementation; and</p> <p>(h) the Education Bureau had been implementing measures to alleviate the financial burden of post-secondary graduates who borrowed student loans.</p>	
051020 - 051657	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Miss CHAN Yuen-han	Whilst appreciating the work of CoP and its Task Forces in providing assistance to the underprivileged, Miss CHAN Yuen-han said that the Administration should formulate a	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		policy on land use to facilitate the development of community economy and small and medium enterprises with an aim to alleviate poverty. She also considered that there was a long delay in taking forward retirement protection.	
051658 - 052619	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Dr KWOK Ka-ki Admin	<p>Dr KWOK Ka-ki was of the view that the poverty line was not able to truly reflect the poverty situation in Hong Kong, and the current poverty alleviation measures were not effective in lifting the underprivileged above the poverty line. He asked –</p> <p>(a) when the Administration would establish employment quota system to facilitate the employment of persons with disabilities; and</p> <p>(b) whether there were any concrete measures to enhance the development of community economy and youth upward mobility.</p> <p>The Administration responded that –</p> <p>(a) according to international experience, most of the overseas countries which had introduced an employment quota system were doubtful of the effectiveness of the system in helping persons with disabilities secure employment;</p> <p>(b) to facilitate the employment of persons with disabilities, the Administration had enacted the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487). In addition, a series of support measures, such as the provision of allowance and subsidies to employers for employing persons with disabilities, procuring the assistive device and conducting modification works at workplace, provision of job matching and counselling services for employers and job-seekers with disabilities, implementation of the "Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project", were taken to provide incentives and support to employers and persons with disabilities, and create more employment opportunities;</p> <p>(c) the Administration would launch the Pilot Scheme on Peer Supporters for</p>	

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		<p>Ex-mentally Ill Patients in early 2016 for trained ex-mentally ill persons to serve as peer supporters to provide encouragement for others in rehabilitation through their recovery experience; and</p> <p>(d) CoP would continue to follow up issues relating to the employment of persons with disabilities.</p>	
052620 - 053410	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung	<p>Noting that Hong Kong was now in a state of full employment, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung cast doubt on the effectiveness of the poverty alleviation measures on promoting employment. He was of the view that –</p> <p>(a) the Administration should refine the policies on Statutory Minimum Wage, standard working hours and social welfare to enhance the upward mobility of grass-roots, and implement universal retirement protection to address the needs of the growing population of poor elderly persons; and</p> <p>(b) redistribution of resources and wealth in the community was required to address the poverty situation.</p>	
053411 - 054042	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Mr Alan LEONG	Mr Alan LEONG said that the Administration should accord priority to the needs of working poverty. He considered that the Administration did not provide sufficient resources and assistance to address different needs of the underprivileged groups, leaving the problems of wealth gap and poverty unsolved.	
054043 - 054452	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Admin	<p>The Administration briefed members on the establishment and objectives of the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund ("SIE Fund") under CoP mentioned in paragraph 22 of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(2)44/15-16(01)].</p> <p>On the point of facilitating economic development and creating employment opportunities, the Administration explained that it had made reference to overseas experiences when designing the various key initiatives of the SIE Fund with a view to encouraging entrepreneurial development to address poverty issues. The Fund also acted as catalyst to facilitate cross-sector collaboration amongst businesses, the</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		community and the Administration to promote social innovation.	
054453 - 054559	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che	<p>The meeting time was extended for 10 minutes beyond the appointed ending time by Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che.</p> <p>Mr CHEUNG invited interested deputations/individuals to give further views on the work of CoP and its Task Forces.</p>	
054600 - 054808	Youth Indigenous	Presentation of views	
054809 - 055019	Alliance for Children Development Rights Admin	<p>Presentation of views</p> <p>In response to the questions raised by the Alliance for Children Development Rights, the Administration advised that -</p> <p>(a) for those needy children who could not benefit from LIFA and CSSA, the Administration would examine their needs and follow up, e.g. exploring whether their special needs could be met under CCF; and</p> <p>(b) the level of CSSA standard payment rates would be adjusted according to the movement of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices ("SSAIP"), of which the weighting system was updated every five years to ensure that up-to-date expenditure patterns of CSSA households were accurately reflected in the compilation of SSAIP.</p>	
055020 - 055237	有種精英叫廢青	Presentation of views	
055238 - 055446	人手比例不符最低工資關注組	Presentation of views	
055447 - 055923	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che	<p>Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che concluded that the Administration and CoP should: -</p> <p>(a) examine whether a mandatory employment quota system was applicable to Hong Kong;</p> <p>(b) consider whether rent control should be imposed to help relieve the financial burden of grass-root families which were residing in private housing units;</p> <p>(c) consider 土地正義聯盟's views on</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>policies regarding poverty alleviation, urban renewal and land use;</p> <p>(d) review the relevant legislation on co-operative societies;</p> <p>(e) review the items of goods and services included in SSAIP in order to enhance the CSSA adjustment mechanism;</p> <p>(f) consider providing a subsidy on essential items for rehabilitation under CCF;</p> <p>(g) consider providing a living allowance for carers of persons with severe disabilities under CCF regardless of the evaluation result of the pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of the elderly persons from low income families;</p> <p>(h) take concrete measures to develop a diversified economy and address the low-wage problem of the labour market;</p> <p>(i) follow up the case mentioned by the Silence in which some training centres were complained of contravening the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487); and</p> <p>(j) consider views and concerns expressed by members and deputations/individuals at the meeting, and collate more views from young people in future.</p>	