

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CRM 986/15-16

Ref : AM 12/01/19 (12-16)

**Subcommittee on Members' Remuneration and
Operating Expenses Reimbursement**

**Minutes of meeting held on 31 May 2016 at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members present : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP (Chairman)
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Yuk-man
Hon Claudia MO

Members absent : Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP

Clerk in attendance: Ms Amy YU
Principal Council Secretary 1

Staff in attendance : Mr Kenneth CHEN, SBS
Secretary General ("SG")

Miss Odelia LEUNG
Deputy Secretary General

Miss Roxanna LO
Accountant

Mrs Goppi CHENG
Senior Deputy Accountant

Mr Simon CHEUNG
Deputy Accountant 4

I. Outcome of consultation with Members on proposed amendments to "A Guide for Reimbursement of Operating Expenses for Members of the Legislative Council"
(LC Paper No. CRM 741/15-16)

The Chairman said that at its meeting on 25 April 2016, the Subcommittee agreed that all Members should be consulted on the proposed amendments to "A Guide for Reimbursement of Operating Expenses for Members of the Legislative Council" ("Reimbursement Guide"). Subsequently, a questionnaire had been issued to all Members for this purpose.

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Clerk briefed members on the outcome of the consultation with Members, details of which were set out in the paper prepared by the Secretariat (LC Paper No. CRM 741/15-16). In gist, a total of 68 Members had responded to the questionnaire and the majority of all Members of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") agreed to all the proposed amendments.

3. Regarding expenses on election-related activities, the Clerk said that pursuant to the advice of the Subcommittee, the Secretariat had written to the Administration to seek confirmation on whether the proposed amendment on publicity items relating to voter registration was consistent with the position of the Independent Commission on Remuneration for Members of the Executive Council and the Legislature, and Officials under the Political appointment System of the HKSAR ("Independent Commission") on "election-related expenses". Upon receiving the Administration's reply, the Secretariat would report to the Subcommittee. In response to the Chairman's enquiry, the Clerk said that the current practice of not reimbursing expenses incurred in promoting voter registration would remain in force until the Independent Commission had clarified its position.

4. Noting the use of "毀消" as the Chinese rendition of "perishable" in the proposed amended paragraph 88(f) of the Reimbursement Guide, Ms Claudia MO wondered whether the more common term of "銷毀" should be used instead of "毀消". At the invitation of the Chairman, the Clerk explained that "毀消" was used after making reference to the Chinese rendition of "perishable" used in

local legislation.

5. Mr WONG Yuk-man opined that the more common term of "銷毀" should be used. Mr WONG Ting-kwong said that he had no strong view but preferred the use of "銷毀". Members agreed that "銷毀" be used as the Chinese rendition of "perishable" in the proposed amended paragraph 88(f) of the Reimbursement Guide.

6. The Subcommittee approved the proposed amendments set out in paragraph 3(a), (b), (c) and (g) of the paper. The Subcommittee also approved raising the threshold for capitalizing items to \$3,000 and adopting the Secretariat's proposed predetermined depreciation methods for determining the value of capital items returned by Members.

(Post-meeting notes: (a) A circular informing Members of the amendments to the Reimbursement Guide was issued vide LC Paper No. CRM 776/15-16 on 8 June 2016; and (b) the Administration's reply dated 14 July 2016 on the proposed amendment regarding publicity items relating to voter registration was issued to Members vide LC Paper No. CRM 954/15-16 on 15 July 2016.)

II. Any other business

7. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 11:02 am.