

# 立法會 *Legislative Council*

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## **Panel on Home Affairs**

### **Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 12 May 2014**

#### **Expansion and Renovation of the Hong Kong Museum of Art**

The Hong Kong Museum of Art ("HKMA") is one of 14 public museums<sup>1</sup> currently managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD"). According to HKMA's website, it is the mission of HKMA to preserve the cultural heritage of China and promote art with a local focus. Its collections exceed 16,000 art objects, including Chinese paintings and calligraphy works, antique Chinese treasures, paintings of historical significance as well as creations by local artists. The highlights of the collections are on display in the exhibition galleries.

2. When the Panel on Home Affairs ("the Panel") discussed measures to enhance museum services at the meeting on 22 March 2013, the Administration advised members that, since 2010, LCSD had set new directions for museum development with the aim of delivering museum services with greater transparency, accountability, efficiency and creativity so as to meet the changing aspirations of the community. The programming strategy of HKMA as stated by the Administration is in the **Appendix**.

3. Subsequently, the Administration consulted with the Panel on 28 May 2013 regarding a proposal of providing \$50 million to LCSD for acquiring and commissioning artworks by local artists, and the funding proposal was approved by the Finance Committee on 21 June 2013 (Paper No. FCR(2013-14)23). As stated in the funding proposal, part of the \$50 million would be provided for

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<sup>1</sup> The other 13 museums are Hong Kong Museum of History, Hong Kong Heritage Museum, Hong Kong Science Museum, Hong Kong Space Museum, Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware, Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery, Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum, Law Uk Folk Museum, Sam Tung Uk Museum, Hong Kong Railway Museum and Sheung Yiu Folk Museum.

HKMA and the Hong Kong Heritage Museum to acquire artworks of local artists so as to strengthen these museums' roles in collecting, exhibiting and promoting Hong Kong art and Hong Kong artists.

4. At the policy briefing given by the Secretary for Home Affairs on 24 January 2014, members were advised that the Administration was planning to undertake major renovation of HKMA including the building of a new gallery for displaying the works of local artists. According to the Administration, after renovation, HKMA would also display more artworks from its collections, curate major international art exhibitions, nurture donation culture, and foster art education.

5. The Administration will brief the Panel on 12 May 2014 on its proposal to expand and renovate the facilities of HKMA.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
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## Appendix

### Programming Strategy of the Hong Kong Museum of Art

HKMA positions itself firmly on the local artistic origin, against a strong traditional foundation, with a regional and international perspective. On one hand, HKMA gives the limelight to local art and establish itself as a Centre which collects, exhibits and researches on Hong Kong art systematically. On the other hand, with its strong collections on Chinese antiquities and Chinese paintings, HKMA dedicates itself to new interpretations of the Chinese / regional cultural traditions, in particular, the Greater Pearl River Delta artistic heritage with its Fine Arts (mainly Guangdong paintings), and Historical Pictures. By means of novel curatorial approach and presentations as well as its professional reputation built up over the years, it establishes itself as the Ideal Home for Local Collectors. Building on HKMA's long-term relationship with overseas museums, HKMA will continue to serve as a "Glocal" (global and local) window with a balanced mix of blockbuster exhibitions, including exhibitions on Western and Chinese artistic legacy like selected collection of the British Museum on fantastic creatures, Chinese imperial treasures and classical paintings and calligraphies of Song, Yuan, Ming Dynasties, etc.; as well as on Western and Chinese masters like Andy Warhol, Feng Zikai and Wu Guanzhong, etc., to ensure exposure of Hong Kong audience to international artistic trends and traditions. In addition, HKMA will continue to promote Hong Kong art to an international audience and to contribute to global artistic dialogues by showcasing Hong Kong art abroad and by participating in overseas exhibitions like the Liverpool Biennial, etc.

*Source: Annex to the Administration's information paper provided for the Panel on Home Affairs in March 2013 ([LC Paper No. CB\(2\)802/12-13\(05\)](#)).*