

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)2100/14-15  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PS/5/12

**Panel on Welfare Services**

**Subcommittee on Strategy and Measures to  
Tackle Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence**

**Minutes of meeting  
held on Monday, 20 July 2015, at 10:00 am  
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)  
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP

**Member attending** : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

**Member absent** : Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

**Public Officers attending** : Item I  
Mr Stephen SUI Wai-keung, JP  
Under Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Mr FUNG Man-chung  
Assistant Director (Family & Child Welfare)  
Social Welfare Department

Ms Jackie LAU Siu-hing  
Chief Social Work Officer (Domestic Violence) (Acting)  
Social Welfare Department

Mr LAW Chun-nam  
Assistant Director (Visa and Policies)  
Immigration Department

Mr Donnie CHOY Yuk-kwong  
Chief Superintendent (Crime Support) (Crime Wing)  
Hong Kong Police Force

Ms Frances LEE King-hei  
Superintendent (Crime Support) (Crime Wing) (Acting)  
Hong Kong Police Force

**Attendance  
by invitation**

: Item I

Helpers for Domestic Helpers

Ms Holly Carlos Allan

Daly & Associates

Miss Karen McClellan  
Associate

Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women

Ms Linda WONG  
Executive Director

The Association for the Advancement of Feminism

Miss MAK Ka-lui  
Organizer

International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF)

Ms IP Pui-yu  
Regional Coordinator (Asia)

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship (Hong Kong)

Pastor Danilo A. Borlado

Rainlily

Miss Janice CHAN  
Project Officer

The Democratic Party

Miss Joanne LEUNG  
Representative

The Bethune House Migrant Women's Refuge Limited

Ms Edwina A. Santoyo  
Executive Director

Individual

Ms LAI Yuen-ki

Mission For Migrant Workers

Ms Cynthia CA Tellez  
General Manager

Diocesan Pastoral Centre for Filipinos

Sr Felicitas Nisperos, RGS  
Directress

Task Force on Foreign Helper's Problems of Liberal Party

Mr Michael LEE  
Convener

Equal Opportunities Commission

Mr Ferrick CHU Chung-man  
Head (Policy, Research and Training)

Progressive Labor Union of Domestic Workers

Ms Shiella Estrada Aquino  
Chairperson

Hong Kong Federation of Asian Domestic Workers Unions

Mr TANG Kin-wa  
Organizer

Thai Migrant Workers Union

Ms Parichat Jaroennon  
Executive Council Member

Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor

Mr LAW Yuk-kai  
Director

PathFinders

Ms CHOW Chui-shan  
Senior Case Manager

Asian Migrants Coordinating Body (AMCB)

Ms Eni Lestari Andayani  
Spokesperson

United Filipinos in Hong Kong

Ms Dolores Balladares  
Chairperson

Indonesian Migrant Workers Union (IMWU)

Ms Sringatin  
Chairperson

Amnesty International Hong Kong

Miss Doriane LAU Wen-wei  
Education Officer

**Clerk in attendance** : Miss Betty MA  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 1

**Staff in attendance** : Ms Mina CHAN  
Council Secretary (2) 1

Ms Kiwi NG  
Legislative Assistant (2) 1

Miss Lulu YEUNG  
Clerical Assistant (2) 1

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**I. Support services for foreign domestic helpers who are victims of violence (including sexual violence) in domestic setting**

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

2. The Subcommittee received views from 23 deputations/individual attending the meeting. The major views and concerns expressed by deputations attending the meeting are summarised as follows -

- (a) a referral mechanism should be established among the Immigration Department ("ImmD"), the Police and the Labour Department ("LD") for dealing with cases of violence (including sexual violence) in domestic setting involving foreign domestic helpers ("FDHs"), so as to provide the latter with timely and appropriate assistance. The Administration should set up hotlines with well-trained interpreters to encourage FDHs to come forward and file reports if they were abused or exploited;
- (b) it was pointed out that FDHs' complaints of being abused by their employers were usually treated by the Police as labour disputes. To ensure proper handling of violence cases

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involving FDHs by the Police, adequate training should be provided for front-line police officers to enhance their professional skills and sensitivity in dealing with such cases at the scene, which were mostly the employers' residence. Besides, professional interpretation services should be provided for FDHs who were victims of violence during the statement-taking process to ensure that accurate information could be obtained by the Police;

- (c) given that FDHs would encounter relatively more difficulties in seeking assistance due to language barriers, cultural differences and lack of family support, those who had made reports of being physically or sexually abused should be provided with adequate support services, such as free food, medical care, transport subsidy, counselling service, temporary accommodation and legal assistance, etc. while awaiting their cases to be resolved. It was suggested that the Administration should provide more funding support for non-governmental organisations ("NGOs"), which only had limited resources, to strengthen their services for needy FDHs. Specifically, there should be shelter service dedicated to FDHs who were victims of violence (including sexual violence) to cater for their special needs and circumstances;
- (d) to facilitate those FDHs who were subjected to violence or abuse to pursue legal remedies, the Administration should exempt them from the "two-week rule", which required FDHs to leave Hong Kong within two weeks upon termination or completion of their employment contracts, and waive the visa fee for extension of stay. ImmD should explain clearly its policy and consideration factors in exercising discretion to approve the application involving FDHs being subjected to violence by their employers for the extension of stay as well as change of employer without requiring the FDH concerned to return to his/her place of domicile first;
- (e) while the current policy requiring FDHs to live with their employers rendered them particularly vulnerable to abuse in domestic setting, the Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance (Cap. 189), which

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provided civil remedies to victims of domestic violence, was not applicable to FDHs. There was a call for the review of the existing policy on employment of FDHs and the current legislation relating to domestic violence to provide more protection for FDHs, for example, allowing FDHs who were victims of violence to apply for an injunction against further molestation. To enhance the protection of FDHs and the deterrent effect on abusive employers, it was suggested that employers who had adverse records in respect of employment of FDHs, including abuse or exploitation of FDHs, should be prohibited from future employment of FDHs;

- (f) the Administration should step up inspection of and enforcement action against local employment agencies ("EAs") placing FDHs, particularly the unlicensed ones, which failed to provide necessary support and information for FDHs. There was a strong call for the early introduction of the Code of Practice regulating the operation of EAs, in which, according to the Administration, acts that were permissible and those that should be avoided by EAs, for example, EAs should not be involved in the financial or loans affairs of FDHs, would be spelt out. Consultation with the relevant stakeholders on the draft Code of Practice should be conducted;
- (g) it was pointed out that there were a number of FDHs, prior to their arrival in Hong Kong, had incurred huge debts resulted from the high level of agency fees charged by EAs or recruiters in their home countries. The debt-bondage rendered these FDHs reluctant to report the abuse cases for fear of losing their jobs. The Administration should enhance liaison with FDH-sending countries, particularly Indonesia, where domestic helpers were required to pay high level of fees to the intermediaries in their home countries prior to taking up employment in Hong Kong, on such problems and other related matters;
- (h) the Administration should step up publicity and promotional efforts through various channels easily accessible to FDHs with a view to enhancing their awareness of the employment rights and benefits of FDHs in Hong Kong. It was suggested

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that publicity activities on FDHs' rights and obligations should also be conducted in their mother languages in the FDH-sending countries so that prospective domestic helpers could have a basic knowledge about their labour rights before coming to work in Hong Kong. The Administration should also organise welcome programmes or briefings for newly-arrived FDHs to provide them with information on matters requiring attention while working in Hong Kong, including information on how to protect their personal safety, and avenues available for them to seek assistance and redress. It was also equally essential to enhance local employers' cultural awareness of FDHs so as to foster their mutual respect and understanding; and

- (i) the Administration should attach equal importance to protecting the interests of FDHs' employers while enhancing measures to improve and safeguard the labour rights of FDHs. More publicity and promotional efforts should also be made to raise employers' awareness of the avenue for redress when encountering problem of FDHs abusing family members, particularly children and elderly people. In this regard, a tripartite platform should be established among FDHs, employers and the Administration to discuss matters relating to the employment of FDHs.

3. Members shared the concerns raised by the deputations attending the meeting, and called on the Administration to conduct tripartite discussion with FDH groups (including NGOs serving FDHs) and employers' associations in respect of the drafting of the Code of Practice regulating the operation of EAs. Members also expressed dissatisfaction at the lack of representative(s) from LD, which was responsible for the labour and employment matters relating to FDHs, to attend the meeting.

4. In response to the views and concerns raised by members and deputations at the meeting, the Administration made the following points -

- (a) applications for change of employer within an FDH's two-year contract would not normally be approved. However, the existing immigration policy allowed sufficient flexibility to cater for exceptional circumstances. If there was evidence that the FDH concerned had been abused or exploited, ImmD might exercise discretion to approve



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his/her application for change of employer in Hong Kong without requiring him/her to return to the place of origin first. If the FDH concerned had been confirmed by the Police as a victim of crime and needed to remain in Hong Kong as witness to assist in investigation or undergo legal proceedings, ImmD would allow him/her to remain in Hong Kong as a visitor and waive the fee for extension of stay. If the FDH concerned wished to return to his/her home country in the course of investigation which might take time to complete, the Government could arrange and meet the cost for return flight and accommodation for him/her to travel to Hong Kong to testify at hearings;

- (b) it had been the Government's established policy that priority in employment should be given to the local workforce, and importation of workers should only be allowed where there was proven manpower shortage in a particular trade that could not be filled by the local workers. FDHs had been imported since the early 1970s to meet the acute shortfall of local live-in domestic workers. The live-in requirement formed and remained the foundation of the policy of importing FDHs. Apart from the above cardinal policy considerations, the employers' affordability in providing separate accommodation to their FDHs, the additional medical costs, insurance and other risks by allowing FDHs to live out as well as issues such as the additional pressure on private housing and public transportation, etc. should also be fully taken into account in considering the proposal of abolition of the live-in requirement;
- (c) while there was no specific training for front-line police officers on the handling of violence cases involving FDHs, professional training was provided at various stages of their careers on various domestic conflict related issues, such as handling of incidents of domestic violence and sexual violence, victim's psychology and conflict management, with a view to enhancing police officers' sensitivity and skills in dealing with such cases. The Police had since 2012 invited the Equal Opportunities Commission to share its experience in handling cases of domestic violence and sexual violence with the front-line police officers during the latter's training programmes;

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- (d) interpretation services would be arranged by the Police for cases involving ethnic minorities (including FDHs). The Police would seek assistance from part-time foreign language interpreters registered with the Court Language Section of the Judiciary Administration. When police officers on duty needed interpretation service in dealing with cases involving ethnic minorities, the respective Regional Command and Control Centre would immediately contact the part-time interpreters to arrange for attendance at the scene as soon as possible to provide interpretation service;
- (e) there was close collaboration among relevant government departments in handling violence cases involving FDHs. Notably, ImmD would render assistance as appropriate to FDHs who had been abused or exploited and would, where necessary, refer such cases to relevant government departments for follow-up. In the event that the FDH concerned wished to continue to work in Hong Kong or remain in Hong Kong as witness after reporting the abuse case to the Police, ImmD would process the FDH's application for change of employer and extension of stay in accordance with the prevailing policy and procedures without the need to ask the applicant to repeat the details of his/her case;
- (f) for FDHs facing violence in domestic setting or sexual violence while working in Hong Kong, refuge centres for women and the CEASE Crisis Centre might provide them with short-term accommodation. Emergency financial assistance or in-kind relief, for example, supermarket coupons for the purchase of food and supplies, might also be provided; and
- (g) to raise FDHs' awareness of their rights and obligations, and the channels for seeking assistance and redress, LD had all along been organising a host of promotional activities, including producing publicity materials on the employment rights and benefits of FDHs in their mother languages, distributing information packs to newly-arrived FDHs through an NGO at the Airport, staging information kiosks at FDHs' popular gathering places on rest days, holding jointly with consulates of the FDH-sending countries seminars and

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exhibitions on subject matters relating to the employment of FDHs and placing advertisements in local newspapers read by FDHs on what channels they could approach if and when being abused or exploited. LD would continue with its efforts to increase FDHs' awareness of protecting themselves.

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5. The Administration was requested to provide information, if available, on the following -

- (a) the total number of applications for change of employer or extension of stay received by ImmD in the past years involving FDHs who had been abused or exploited, together with the respective numbers of approved and rejected applications; among these cases, the respective numbers of FDHs who were allowed to extend their stay in Hong Kong and required to return to their domicile;
- (b) the total number of substantiated cases involving FDHs being subjected to violence by their employers in the past years; among these cases, the number of applications from the FDHs concerned for change of employer or extension of stay and the number of successful applications; and
- (c) the number of EAs placing FDHs that were successfully prosecuted for malpractices and the level of penalties imposed on the convicted persons.

**II. Any other business**

6. The Chairman suggested and members agreed that the Subcommittee should discuss and receive views from deputations on the handling of and support services for ethnic minorities facing domestic violence and sexual violence at the next meeting scheduled for October 2015.

7. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:21 pm.

**Proceedings of meeting of the Subcommittee on Strategy and Measures to  
Tackle Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence  
held on Monday, 20 July 2015, at 10:00 am  
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<i>Agenda item I - Support services for foreign domestic helpers who are victims of violence (including sexual violence) in domestic setting</i>			
000000 - 001046	Chairman	Opening remarks	
001047 - 001403	Chairman Ms Holly Carlos Allan, Helpers for Domestic Helpers	Presentation of views	
001404 - 001714	Chairman Miss Karen McClellan, Daly & Associates	Presentation of views	
001715 - 002133	Chairman Ms Linda WONG, Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1925/14-15(02)]	
002134 - 002500	Chairman Miss MAK Ka-lui, The Association for the Advancement of Feminism	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1973/14-15(01)]	
002501 - 002800	Chairman Ms IP Pui-yu, International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF)	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1948/14-15(01)]	
002801 - 003151	Chairman Pastor Danilo A. Borlado, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship (Hong Kong)	Presentation of views	
003152 - 003529	Chairman Miss Janice CHAN, Rainlily	Presentation of views	
003530 - 003825	Chairman Miss Joanne LEUNG, The Democratic Party	Presentation of views	

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
003826 - 004145	Chairman Ms Edwina A. Santoyo, The Bethune House Migrant Women's Refuge Limited	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1948/14-15(02)]	
004146 - 004444	Chairman Ms LAI Yuen-ki	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1948/14-15(03)]	
004445 - 004713	Chairman Ms Cynthia CA Tellez, Mission For Migrant Workers Sr Felicitas Nisperos, RGS, Diocesan Pastoral Centre for Filipinos	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1925/14-15(03)]	
004714 - 005030	Chairman Mr Michael LEE, Task Force on Foreign Helper's Problems of Liberal Party	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1935/14-15(01)]	
005031 - 005329	Chairman Mr Ferrick CHU, Equal Opportunities Commission Ms Emily LAU	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1925/14-15(04)]	
005330 - 005658	Chairman Ms Shiella Estrada Aquino, Progressive Labor Union of Domestic Workers	Presentation of views	
005659 - 010024	Chairman Mr TANG Kin-wa, Hong Kong Federation of Asian Domestic Workers Unions	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1948/14-15(04)]	
010025 - 010330	Chairman Ms Parichat Jaroennon, Thai Migrant Workers Union	Presentation of views	
010331 - 010646	Chairman Mr LAW Yuk-kai, Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor	Presentation of views	
010647 - 010940	Chairman Ms CHOW Chui-shan, PathFinders	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1948/14-15(05)]	

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
010941 - 011302	Chairman Ms Eni Lestari Andayani, Asian Migrants Coordinating Body (AMCB)	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1948/14-15(06)]	
011303 - 011557	Chairman Ms Dolores Balladares, United Filipinos in Hong Kong	Presentation of views	
011558 - 011837	Chairman Ms Sringatin, Indonesian Migrant Workers Union (IMWU)	Presentation of views	
011838 - 012201	Chairman Miss Doriane LAU, Amnesty International Hong Kong	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1935/14-15(02)]	
012202 - 013935	Chairman Admin	The Administration's response to the views and concerns expressed by deputations/individual at the meeting.	
013936 - 014507	Chairman Ms Emily LAU Admin	<p>Ms Emily LAU expressed strong dissatisfaction over the absence of representatives from the Labour Department ("LD"), which played an essential role in the monitoring of policies relating to foreign domestic helpers ("FDHs") and regulation of employment agencies ("EAs"), in attending this meeting.</p> <p>Ms LAU suggested that the Administration should raise FDHs' awareness of the avenues of redress available for victims of violence. There should be a mechanism to ensure that complaints relating to abuse from both FDHs and employers could be handled in a fair manner.</p> <p>The Administration responded that issues relating to the employment of FDHs, particularly in respect of the regulation of EAs, were discussed thoroughly at the meeting of the Panel on Manpower in June 2015. The matter could be further discussed at the Panel meeting if considered necessary. To strengthen the regulation of</p>	

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		<p>EAs (including those placing FDHs), the Administration was preparing a Code of Practice for the purpose. The draft was expected to be available in the second half of 2015 for consultation with the relevant stakeholders. To enhance the monitoring of the operation of EAs, LD had since 2014-2015 conducted more frequent inspections to EAs by increasing the target inspections of EAs per year by 38% from 1 300 to 1 800. LD had also stepped up enforcement action against illegal acts of EAs, particularly overcharging of FDHs. LD would continue with its efforts in regulating the operation of EAs.</p> <p>To increase FDHs' awareness of the redress channels available for them, LD had further strengthened its publicity and educational efforts in this regard, for example, promoting FDHs' employment rights and benefits through the Government's television Announcements in the Public Interest and collaboration with the relevant Consulate-Generals in Hong Kong.</p>	
014508 - 015109	Chairman Deputy Chairman Admin	<p>The Deputy Chairman was strongly of the view that LD, which was responsible for overseeing the operation of EAs, should send a representative to this meeting.</p> <p>Sharing the views of Hong Kong Federation of Asian Domestic Workers Unions, the Deputy Chairman considered that the Administration should establish a platform to gauge views from FDH labour unions and relevant non-governmental organisations ("NGOs") on the drafting of the Code of Practice. She also expressed grave concern about EAs' failure to provide FDHs with sufficient information on the channels for seeking assistance when necessary.</p> <p>The Administration advised that it had all along maintained close contact and communication with NGOs concerned for exchange of views on matters relating to FDHs. The publicity and promotional</p>	

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		<p>efforts would be further strengthened to increase FDHs' awareness of safeguarding themselves, in addition to LD's ongoing efforts which focused on employees' rights and benefits. Consultation would be conducted on the draft Code of Practice on regulation of EAs as soon as it was ready.</p> <p>The Deputy Chairman maintained the view that platform for communication among FDH groups, employers' associations and the Administration should be established in order to better address the concerns raised by both FDHs and employers.</p>	
015110 - 015617	Chairman Mr CHAN Chi-chuen Admin	<p>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen's concern as to whether interpretation service would be arranged at the scene to assist front-line police officers in dealing with violence cases involving FDHs.</p> <p>Mr CHAN enquired about the processing time of applications for change of employer from FDHs who had been abused or exploited and the number of successful applications in the past years, as well as the visa arrangement for the FDHs concerned while pending the processing of their applications.</p> <p>The Administration responded that it did not maintain separate statistics on applications for change of employer from FDHs who had been abused or exploited. If there was evidence that the applicant had been abused or exploited, the Immigration Department ("ImmD") might exercise discretion to approve the application for change of employer in Hong Kong without requiring the FDH to return to his/her place of domicile first. If the FDH concerned had been confirmed by the Police as a victim of crime and needed to remain in Hong Kong to act as a witness in investigation or legal proceedings, ImmD would allow him/her to remain in Hong Kong as a visitor and waive the fee for extension of stay.</p>	



Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		<p>The Chairman and Mr CHAN requested the Administration to provide the statistics on the number of applications for change of employer from FDHs who had been abused or exploited, together with the respective numbers of approved and rejected applications as well as the respective numbers of such applicants who were allowed to remain in Hong Kong and required to return to their domicile.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b></p>
<p>015618 - 015653</p>	<p>Chairman</p>	<p>Extension of meeting by 15 minutes.</p>	
<p>015654 - 020256</p>	<p>Chairman Mr Albert HO Admin</p>	<p>In response to Mr Albert HO's enquiry about whether there were specific guidelines for handling reports of violence involving FDHs, the Administration advised that while the Police had not developed procedural guidelines specifically for such purpose, there had been internal guidelines in place to assist police officers in dealing with cases of domestic violence and sexual violence, including those involving ethnic minorities.</p> <p>Mr HO's concern about whether there were internal guidelines on factors to be considered by ImmD in exercising discretion to approve the FDH applications for change of employer and extension of stay in Hong Kong.</p> <p>Mr HO requested the Administration to provide statistics, if available, in the past years on -</p> <p>(a) the number of substantiated cases of FDHs being abused or exploited, and of these cases, the number of applications from these FDHs concerned for change of employer and extension of their stay in Hong Kong and the number of successful cases; and</p> <p>(b) the number of EAs placing FDHs that were successfully prosecuted for malpractice and the level of penalties imposed on the convicted persons.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b></p>

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
020257 - 020816	Chairman Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Admin	<p>Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che's expression of regret that there was no representative of LD attending the meeting.</p> <p>Mr CHEUNG's enquiry and the Administration's response regarding the publicity activities and briefings for newly-arrived FDHs to enhance awareness of their rights and channels for seeking assistance.</p> <p>Mr CHEUNG considered that to facilitate the preparation of the Code of Practice, the Administration should conduct tripartite discussion with FDH labour unions and employers' associations in the course of preparation of the draft.</p> <p>The Administration responded that members' views and concerns regarding the regulatory measures for EAs and the consultation on the draft Code of Practice would be conveyed to LD for consideration.</p>	<b>Admin</b>
020817 - 021306	Chairman Mr TANG Ka-piu Admin	<p>Mr TANG Ka-piu pointed out that both employers and FDHs were of the view that there was a pressing need to introduce a licensing scheme with demerit points system for regulating the operation of EAs. However, he queried why the Administration did not take forward the proposal to better safeguard the interests of both employers and FDHs.</p> <p>The Administration stressed that it was not a requirement by the Administration for FDHs to be recruited through EAs. That said, LD had stepped up its enforcement actions against malpractices of EAs, for example, overcharging of commission fees.</p> <p>Mr TANG was gravely concerned that the "two-week rule" under which FDHs were required to leave Hong Kong within two weeks upon termination or completion of contracts did not allow sufficient time for those FDHs who were involved in labour or monetary disputes with their employers to pursue their cases.</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action Required
		Mr TANG's concern about some FDHs, who would, after the termination or expiry of their contracts, make non-refoulement claims in order to extend their stay in Hong Kong.	
021307 - 021428	Chairman Ms Emily LAU	Ms Emily LAU called on the Administration to increase the manpower for handling complaints from FDHs and employers in order to enhance their confidence in the redress mechanism. She also urged the Administration to take a proactive approach in drawing the attention of FDH-sending countries to the malpractices of EAs or recruiters in their countries.	
021429 - 021759	Chairman Ms Linda WONG, Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women Ms Cynthia CA Tellez, Mission For Migrant Workers	<p>At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms Linda WONG of the Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women expressed support for the suggestion of setting up a tripartite platform for communication among FDHs, employers and the Administration on policies relating to FDHs. She also called on the Administration to provide more funding support for NGOs serving FDHs to strengthen their services.</p> <p>Ms Cynthia CA Tellez of Mission For Migrant Workers expressed grave concern about the provision of assistance and support services for FDHs who were victims of violence within two weeks after which the latter would have to leave Hong Kong upon the termination or expiry of their contracts as well as during the permitted extended stay in Hong Kong as a visitor. She also called for a review of the "live-in requirement" which rendered FDHs more vulnerable to abuse, and the deterrent effect of the existing penalties imposed on defiant EAs.</p>	
021800 - 022308	Chairman Admin	Item for discussion at the next meeting and closing remarks	