

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. ESC88/15-16
(These minutes have been
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/F/3/2

Establishment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee

**Minutes of the 11th meeting
held in Conference Room 1 of Legislative Council Complex
on Thursday, 31 March 2016, at 2:30 pm**

Members present:

Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Hon Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu

Members absent:

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Public Officers attending:

Ms Esther LEUNG, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)1
Mr Eddie MAK Tak-wai, JP	Deputy Secretary for the Civil Service (1)
Mrs Betty FUNG, JP	Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs
Ms Linda LAW	Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Recreation and Sport)2
Mrs Alice YU	Project Director 3, Architectural Services Department
Mr Raymond LAU	Senior Project Manager 332, Architectural Services Department
Prof Sophia CHAN, JP	Under Secretary for Food and Health

Mr Chris SUN, JP	Head, Healthcare Planning and Development Office, Food and Health Bureau
Dr Constance CHAN, JP	Director of Health
Dr Amy CHIU, JP	Assistant Director of Health (Service Quality)
Miss Joey LAM, JP	Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 5
Ms Maisie CHENG, JP	Director of Marine
Mr Freely CHENG	Deputy Director of Marine (Special Duties)
Mr Gilbert MO	Deputy Law Draftsman (Bilingual Drafting and Administration), Department of Justice

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Connie SZETO	Chief Council Secretary (1)4
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Staff in attendance:

Miss Sharon LO	Senior Council Secretary (1)9
Ms Alice CHEUNG	Senior Legislative Assistant (1)1
Ms Haley CHEUNG	Legislative Assistant (1)9
Miss Yannes HO	Legislative Assistant (1)6

Action

The Chairman said that there were six items on the agenda of the meeting. She drew members' attention to the information paper ECI(2015-16)19 which set out the latest changes in the directorate establishment approved since 2002 and the changes to the directorate establishment in relation to the six items on the agenda. She then reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP"), they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interest relating to the funding proposals under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the items. She also drew members' attention to RoP 84 on voting in case of direct pecuniary interest.

EC(2015-16)17 Proposed retention of one supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (D2) for a period of about 19 months, from 6 June 2016 to 31 December 2017; and creation of one supernumerary post of Government Architect (D2) for a period of 44 months, from 1 January 2018 to 31 August 2021 in the Recreation and Sport Branch of Home Affairs Bureau to provide dedicated support at the directorate level to take charge of the detailed planning and implementation of the Multi-purpose Sports Complex project in Kai Tak

2. The Chairman remarked that the proposal was to retain one supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade C ("AOSGC") (designated as Principal Assistant Secretary (Recreation and Sport)2 ("PAS(RS)2")) for a period of about 19 months, from 6 June 2016 to 31 December 2017; and to create one supernumerary post of Government Architect ("GA") (designated as Project Director (MPSC) ("PD(MPSC)")) for a period of 44 months, from 1 January 2018 to 31 August 2021 in the Recreation and Sport Branch of the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") to provide dedicated support at the directorate level to take charge of the detailed planning and implementation of the Multi-purpose Sports Complex ("MPSC") project in Kai Tak. Members noted that the duties of PAS(RS)2 also included completing the review of the policy on Private Recreational Leases ("PRL") and supporting the review on the provision of sports facilities in Hong Kong.

3. The Chairman said that the Panel on Home Affairs ("HA Panel") was consulted on the proposal on 22 December 2015. Panel members enquired about the reasons to fill the supernumerary post by an AOSGC officer from 6 June 2016 to 31 December 2017 to be followed by a GA from 1 January 2018 onwards. The Administration explained that the expertise of AOSGC was in policy formulation and management, which would be required to steer the work of the consultants, coordinate inputs from bureaux and departments and liaise with all stakeholders concerned during the pre-construction stage. The proposed GA would take over the work of the AOSGC officer from the implementation stage to oversee the MPSC project. The Administration pointed out that if approval of the Finance Committee ("FC") for extending the supernumerary post could not be obtained by early June 2016, the planning and preparatory work of the MPSC project would be adversely affected, thus delaying the delivery of the project. Panel members requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the observations of the operations consultant regarding stakeholders' views on the MPSC project. The relevant information was incorporated in the paper submitted to the Establishment Subcommittee ("ESC"). Panel members did

not object to the Administration submitting the proposal to ESC for consideration.

Duties, staffing arrangement and job requirements of the proposed post

4. Mr WONG Kwok-hing expressed support for the proposal. He enquired about the professional and expertise requirements of PAS(RS)2 and PD(MPSC) in overseeing the design, planning and management of the various facilities in the MPSC project. In view of recent concerns raised on the safety standards of some public facilities, he asked whether the above two officers would need to have expertise in tackling safety issues of large scale sports facilities.

5. Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs ("PSHA") responded that PAS(RS)2 was an AOSGC post and would continue to be filled by the incumbent officer. As for the post of PD(MPSC), the Architectural Services Department would deploy an architect with rich professional knowledge and ample experience in managing and monitoring large-scale construction projects to fill the post from 1 January 2018. A team comprising 16 non-directorate staff members (including professionals such as architect, engineer, surveyor, leisure services manager, etc.) would assist the above two officers in planning and implementing the MPSC project. Project Director 3, Architectural Services Department supplemented that holder of the PD(MPSC) post should have over 20 years of professional experience including managing and monitoring large-scale construction projects. PD(MPSC) would need to ensure that the development of MPSC would comply with the relevant statutory and safety requirements, and in line with the relevant international standards.

6. Given that PD(MPSC) would succeed PAS(RS)2 from 1 January 2018, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan asked why the Administration sought approval for the supernumerary GA post at such an early stage. PSHA advised that the pre-construction works of the MPSC project was expected to complete in early 2017, and the detailed construction plan and estimated project cost would be submitted to FC for funding approval before end of 2017. In anticipation that the MPSC project would move to the implementation stage in early 2018, to ensure smooth interface, the two directorate officers needed to be in close succession to provide continued steer for the project.

7. Mr MA Fung-kwok expressed support for the proposal. He enquired whether the Administration would retain the supernumerary post of PAS(RS)2/PD(MPSC) for operating MPSC. He also sought details on the engagement work of the operations consultant in gauging stakeholders' views on the MPSC project, including how he could provide views to the consultant on the future operation of MPSC.

8. PSHA responded that in addition to PAS(RS)2, the Commissioner for Sports ("C for S") was currently underpinned by one permanent AOSGC officer who was responsible for formulating policies and initiatives pertaining to sports development. If it was considered necessary to strengthen directorate support (be it on time-limited or permanent basis) for C for S, the Government would submit relevant staffing proposal to the Legislative Council ("LegCo") following established procedures. As regards stakeholders' engagement, PSHA advised that the operations consultant had consulted the Hong Kong Performing Industry Association comprising representatives of local entertainment and performance industries for views on the MPSC project, and could contact Mr MA for views on the project as well. Extensive engagement exercises for collecting views from various sectors of the community would also continue this year.

9. Mr WU Chi-wai requested the Administration to provide a report on the work progress of the major duties undertaken by PAS(RS)2, including assessment on the completion of the various tasks.

[Post-meeting note: The supplementary information submitted by the Administration was circulated to members on 28 April 2016, vide LC Paper No. ESC82/15-16.]

10. PSHA said that over the past two years, PAS(RS)2 was mainly involved in the planning and preparation of pre-construction works of the MPSC project. In respect of other duties of PAS(RS)2, the review of the policy on PRL was expected to complete within 2016, and the Government would report the recommendations to HA Panel. The review of the provision of sports facilities in Hong Kong had commenced in the third quarter of 2015 and a number of stakeholders' meetings had been held so far.

11. Mr IP Kin-yuen enquired about the work of PAS(RS)2 in promoting sports in the community, particularly to schools, with the development of MPSC. He urged the Administration to address the issue of inadequate supply of sports facilities for organizing joint schools sports events.

12. PSHA said that promoting sports in schools and enhancing the provision of facilities for schools sports events were among the major responsibilities of the newly appointed C for S. In this regard, C for S maintained close liaison with the Education Bureau, school community and relevant stakeholders to identify and meet the needs of the school sector. As advised by the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation ("HKSSF"), the public sports ground in MPSC would become a major venue for hosting joint schools sports events in the future. The Government would engage HKSSF on the design of the public sports ground to ensure the facility would meet the needs

of the school sector.

13. Mr Albert CHAN expressed concern whether the incumbent Chief Executive or his supporters had influenced the deployment of civil servants in filling directorate posts. Deputy Secretary for the Civil Service (1) responded that deployment of officers for filling civil service posts was subject to established civil service procedures and performed by the relevant heads of departments/grades. Departmental/Grade management would follow established mechanism and guidelines in performing the task.

The need for the Multi-purpose Sports Complex and proposed facilities

14. Mr Albert CHAN said that he objected to the MPSC project all along as he considered that it was a planning blunder to develop a mega sports venue in Kai Tak.

15. In response to Dr CHIANG Lai-wan's enquiry about the positioning and functions of MPSC, PSHA said that MPSC would provide a wide array of high-quality sports venues, including a 50 000-seat main stadium, an indoor multi-purpose sports centre with a main arena for at least 4 000 spectators and a public sports ground for at least 5 000 spectators. The main stadium could be used for hosting large-scale international sports events and competitions; the indoor sports centre could be used by the public and for a wide range of indoor sports events and competitions; and the public sports ground would be used by schools for organizing various sports-related activities and inter-school events and would also be available for use by the community. The MPSC project would contribute to the attainment of the Government's sports development policy which was to promote sports in the community, support the development of elite sports, and establish Hong Kong as a sports events capital in Asia.

16. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung cast doubt on the need to provide the 50 000-seat main stadium and the 4 000-spectator indoor multi-purpose sports centre in MPSC. He was of the view that the 40 000-seat Hong Kong Stadium ("HKS") could be adequate for hosting major sports events in Hong Kong as such events seldom attracted over 20 000 audiences; and due to the limited seating capacity of the proposed indoor multi-purpose sports centre, the centre could not be used for holding large-scale international indoor sports events. He questioned if the proposed main stadium was only to cater for entertainment events like pop concerts. As with a retractable roof, the proposed main stadium could address public concern about the noise nuisance caused by entertainment events. He enquired if the Administration had studied the feasibility of constructing a retractable roof in HKS to address the noise problem in lieu of building the proposed main stadium in MPSC. Mr LEUNG further requested the Administration to provide a list of sports

events held in HKS and other venues in recent years which were capable of attracting over 20 000 audiences.

[Post-meeting note: The supplementary information submitted by the Administration was circulated to members on 28 April 2016, vide LC Paper No. ESC82/15-16.]

17. Mr WU Chi-wai asked whether non-sports events (e.g. exhibitions) had been held in HKS in recent years. He also enquired if the Administration would study the future use of HKS when planning the MPSC project.

18. PSHA responded that it would not be feasible to construct a retractable roof in HKS as the stadium was located in a well-developed area and surrounded by natural terrain. If a retractable roof was to be built, the seating capacity of HKS would need to be reduced to 20 000. Without a retractable roof, the utilization of HKS would continue to be constrained by the noise limit and adverse weather conditions. Moreover, there were constraints in using HKS for hosting large-scale events, such as inadequate supporting facilities (e.g. changing rooms, media facilities), closure for regular maintenance of turf to ensure a good playing surface for football and rugby matches, and concern about sufficient transport facilities in the vicinity for meeting the needs of crowds of spectators when large-scale events were held. There had been no application for holding exhibitions in HKS in the past. PSHA stressed that the Government would pay special attention to the design of the main stadium in MPSC to ensure the provision of a sustainable playing surface which would enhance the utilization of the venue for different events and the availability of the venue for use at all times. PSHA emphasized that the main stadium was a multi-purpose mega venue and its design should allow flexibility for different usage in addition to sports events. As regards the future use of HKS, PSHA said that the future use of HKS would also be looked at at the stage of pre-construction works. The role and positioning of HKS might need to be adjusted with the development of MPSC as it was anticipated that many sports events currently held at HKS would in future take place at the main stadium in MPSC.

19. Mr WU Chi-wai remarked that there were public controversies over the main stadium in MPSC. He asked if the Administration would consider proceeding with the construction of the public sports ground and the indoor multi-purpose sports centre first to avoid possible delay in delivering the facilities.

20. PSHA explained that given that MPSC was a large project including a variety of sports facilities which were intertwined, it was desirable to design and implement the project as a single project and in one-go. As for the indoor multi-purpose sports centre, she said that the Government was aware

that stakeholders had high expectation on aspects such as the seating capacity and facilities to be provided. It would take time for the Government to further engage the relevant stakeholders before finalizing the design. It was the Government's plan to submit the detailed development plan for the entire MPSC project by 2017.

21. Dr Helena WONG questioned the need to construct a 50 000-seat main stadium in MPSC as she noted that the facilities in the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") had already included a mega performance venue.

22. PSHA advised that the proposed mega performance venue in WKCD would be a multi-purpose indoor venue with about 12 000 seating capacity, and would mainly be used for cultural and arts performances, as well as exhibitions and conventions. She added that the development of the mega performance venue in WKCD would require funding and involvement from the private sector and had not been included in the Batches 1 and 2 arts and cultural facilities of WKCD.

23. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Dr Helena WONG relayed the request of the local community of Kai Tak and vicinity areas for an all-weather swimming pool in Kai Tak, and asked whether the facility would be incorporated in the MPSC project.

24. PSHA responded that the Government would consider providing an indoor heated swimming pool in the proposed indoor sports centre located about 450 metres from the future Kai Tak MTR station of the Shatin-Central Link. At the request of members, she agreed to provide supplementary information on the details and timetable for developing the swimming pool in the proposed indoor sports centre in Kai Tak.

[Post-meeting note: The supplementary information submitted by the Administration was circulated to members on 28 April 2016, vide LC Paper No. ESC82/15-16.]

25. PSHA added that although MPSC would not provide any swimming facilities, according to the Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association ("HKASA"), temporary swimming pools of international standard could be provided for hosting international swimming events if necessary. She remarked that international swimming events such as the 2015 FINA World Swimming Championships and 1999 FINA World Swimming Championships (25 metres) were held in temporary swimming facilities in Russia and Hong Kong (in the Hong Kong Coliseum ("HKC")) respectively.

26. Dr Helena WONG expressed concern about the cost-effectiveness of providing temporary swimming facilities in MPSC for hosting international

swimming events. She requested the Administration to provide the estimated cost for providing a temporary swimming pool in MPSC for use by international swimming events, and sought information on existing facilities for hosting international swimming events in Hong Kong. The Chairman enquired about the party to be responsible for the cost for providing the temporary swimming facilities.

[Post-meeting note: The supplementary information submitted by the Administration was circulated to members on 28 April 2016, vide LC Paper No. ESC82/15-16.]

27. PSHA believed that the cost for providing temporary swimming facilities in MPSC would be reasonable and the Government would contact HKASA to provide the requested information for members' reference. The relevant cost would not be met by public funds though the Government would usually provide sponsorship to the event organizers where necessary. As regards existing swimming facilities in Hong Kong, PSHA said that the Victoria Park Swimming Pool, Kowloon Park Swimming Pool and Shing Mun Valley Swimming Pool were facilities meeting international standards for organizing international swimming competitions and events.

28. Dr Helena WONG noted that in addition to the landscaped park in MPSC, the Avenue Park would be provided in Kai Tak. She said that the Kowloon City District Council had been consulted on the proposed Avenue Park and expressed support for the project. She enquired about the timetable for developing the Avenue Park. PSHA replied that the planning and design work of the Avenue Park had been completed. She took note of Dr WONG's views and said that the Government would endeavour to seek resources and expedite the necessary processes for developing the Avenue Park.

29. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung referred to the Chief Executive's suggestion of building a public bathing pavilion at the Central waterfront and asked whether the Administration had any plan to pursue the suggestion. He also enquired whether the Administration would explore the feasibility of building a public bathing pavilion at the harbour area near Kai Tak.

30. PSHA advised that the Government's policy was to promote a water-friendly culture in Hong Kong. The Government would study viable means to promote the use of waterfront areas for recreational and leisure purposes having regard to such considerations as suitable water quality at the areas concerned and safety of maritime navigation.

31. In respect of promoting sports in the community and establishing Hong Kong as a sports events capital in Asia, Mr WU Chi-wai sought details on the Administration's efforts in attracting international sports events to Hong

Action

Kong; and enhancing the utilization of existing sports facilities like HKS and HKC and the new Hong Kong Velodrome ("HKV") at Tseung Kwan O, as well as the Administration's initiatives in further promoting cycling activities in Hong Kong.

32. PSHA said that since the establishment of the "M" Mark System 10 years before, there had been an increasing number of major sports events hosted in Hong Kong and the latest examples were the Hong Kong Cyclothon and the UCI Track Cycling World Cup. As regards the usage of HKS and HKC, no new sports events were hosted in HKS in 2015 due to the closure of the venue for re-turfing works, and the major international sports events held in HKC included badminton and volleyball matches. PSHA emphasized that the Government's policy was to accord priority to sports events for using HKS and HKC. Where appropriate, the Government would provide funding and venue support in attracting international sports events to Hong Kong. On HKV, PSHA said that the venue aimed to nurture elite athletes in cycling through the provision of a quality training base for the Hong Kong Cycling Team. Priority would be given to the Hong Kong Cycling Team for using the cycling track in HKV, and facilities in HKV were also open for public use. The Cycling Association of Hong Kong, China would host the UCI World Championship at HKV in April 2017 for the first time, and had been arranging training courses in HKV with a view to promoting cycling in the community. C for S would collaborate with relevant bureaux/departments in hosting road races in Hong Kong.

Pre-construction works for and management of the Multi-purpose Sports Complex

33. Mr MA Fung-kwok and Dr Helena WONG sought details on possible approaches for operating MPSC. Dr WONG was concerned that under the Design-Build-Operate ("DBO") model for developing MPSC, the future operator might place emphasis on making profits and charge the public high fees for using the facilities.

34. PSHA advised that the Government had engaged an operations consultant to review and identify the procurement approach for the development and operation of MPSC. She added that according to a previous consultancy study, the DBO approach was identified as the preferred option in ensuring effective delivery of the project from the planning, design and construction stages through to the long-term operation of MPSC. Given the reservation and concern expressed by some LegCo Members on the DBO approach, the Government would further examine the merits and demerits of different procurement approaches, including their financial viability, before making the final decision. It was unlikely that MPSC would be put under the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD").

MPSC could be managed by a private operator under a self-financing mode. Appropriate terms and conditions would be included in the management contract to be entered into between the Government and the future operator, setting out details, including the charging mechanism for the facilities, the usage of MPSC for hosting sports/community related events, the revenue-sharing arrangements, etc. It was anticipated that the fees for using the indoor sports centre and the public sports ground would be similar to those facilities managed by LCSD. Details on the management approach to be adopted would be included in the submission to FC when the Government sought funding approval from LegCo for the MPSC project.

35. Mr IP Kwok-him requested the Administration to provide details on the various approaches adopted by the governments/authorities of other jurisdictions for developing and operating multi-purpose sports centre of a scale similar to that of MPSC.

[Post-meeting note: The supplementary information submitted by the Administration was circulated to members on 28 April 2016, vide LC Paper No. ESC82/15-16.]

36. Mr WU Chi-wai enquired about the timetable for completing the pre-construction works of the MPSC project, including application to the Town Planning Board ("TPB") for increasing the height limit of the main stadium and seeking funding approval from FC. He also asked if the post of PAS(RS)2 would be further extended if there was delay in the pre-construction works.

37. PSHA said that the pre-construction works of the MPSC project was anticipated to complete in early 2017, and the Government planned to seek funding approval from FC in late 2017 or early 2018. The Government would review the manpower requirement for the project from time to time having regard to the work progress. On the height limit for the MPSC site, PSHA said that it was currently 55 metres above the Hong Kong Principal Datum, and the planning consultant of the project had recommended applying to TPB for relaxing the height limit to 75 metres for constructing the main stadium so as to allow for greater flexibility in design, particularly to cater for the building of a retractable roof. HAB would conduct a public consultation in May/June 2016 to seek views on the proposal and planned to submit the application to TPB by the third quarter of 2016. HAB would also consult and report the work progress to the relevant District Councils. She added that the appointment period of PAS(RS)2 and PD(MPSC) would not overlap according to the current staffing proposal but arrangement would be made to allow sufficient time for handover of work between the two officers.

Review of Policy on Private Recreational Leases

38. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the progress of the review of PRL policy, and the Administration's plan and manpower for implementing the recommendations of the review.

39. PSHA advised that an inter-departmental working group had been set up to take forward the review of PRL policy. HAB aimed to complete the review and report the recommendations to HA Panel within 2016, and conduct the public/stakeholder consultations in 2017. Subject to the outcome of the consultations, HAB would refine the recommendations and prepare for their implementation. She added that the review covered different aspects of the PRL policy.

40. Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether the Administration had duly informed the PRL lessees, including the operator of the Fanling Golf Course, about the policy review, in particular that the Government might consider resuming the land concerned after the review taking into account the wider public interest. He requested the Administration to provide a list of private sports clubs and other organizations operating facilities on land granted under PRL of which the Administration had notified about the PRL policy review.

[Post-meeting note: The supplementary information submitted by the Administration was circulated to members on 28 April 2016, vide LC Paper No. ESC82/15-16.]

41. PSHA said that when renewing the leases with most PRL holders in 2011 and 2012 for another 15 years, the Government had already advised the PRL lessees concerned that a comprehensive review of the PRL policy would be conducted and that lessees should not assume that their PRLs would be further renewed or be renewed under the same terms and conditions upon expiry of the leases concerned. She added that the lease of the Fanling Golf Course would expire in 2020 and the Government would take into account the outcome of the PRL policy review and further liaise with the lessee concerned on the way forward.

Review of the provision of sports facilities in Hong Kong

42. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr WU Chi-wai sought details regarding the review of the provision of sports facilities in Hong Kong. Mr WU enquired whether the review would also examine the policy on the use of sports facilities and venues as well as the utilization of existing facilities and venues.

43. PSHA said that the review would look into the level of demand for various types of sports facilities, taking into account people's changing habits in sports and international experience in promoting sports in the community and the need to support the development of elite sports. Issues to be examined included whether and how the current Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines should be revised to better meet the demand, in particular whether changes should be introduced on the current policy of providing facilities based on population size; and the utilization and booking policy of sports facilities and venues. It was expected that the review would complete by end of 2017 and public/stakeholder consultations would be conducted thereafter.

44. Dr Fernando CHEUNG called on the Administration to speed up the review and take prompt action to improve the provision of sports and recreational facilities to people with disabilities ("PWDs"), which would be in line with the Government's policy of promoting sports for all. He further noted that the consultancy study commissioned by HAB and conducted by the Hong Kong Baptist University ("HKBU") on the provision of sports facilities in Hong Kong was near completion, and the relevant recommendations would be submitted to HA Panel in the 2015-2016 legislative session. He asked why it was necessary to conduct the review in question, and expressed concern that the review might delay the implementation of the recommendations in the HKBU's consultancy.

45. PSHA stressed that the Government attached importance to promoting sports to PWDs. She clarified that the purposes of the HKBU's consultancy was to gain a better understanding of PWDs' participation in sports with a view to further promoting sports to PWDs and supporting athletes with disabilities ("AWDs") and elite AWDs, which were different from the review of the provision of sports facilities in Hong Kong as mentioned in the discussion paper. On the former, HKBU was expected to complete a preliminary report of the study within this year. The Government would formulate measures to address the concerns of PWDs and AWDs. Measures which would not involve provision of additional sports facilities or venues, such as improvement to the booking arrangements for facilities to facilitate the use by PWDs, would be implemented first.

Voting on the item

46. The Chairman put the item EC(2015-16)17 to vote. At the request of Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell rang for five minutes. Seventeen members voted for the item and eight voted against the item. The Chairman declared that the Subcommittee agreed to recommend the item to FC for approval. The votes of individual members were as follows –

For

Mr CHAN Kam-lam
Mr WONG Ting-kwong
Mr CHAN Hak-kan
Mr Alan LEONG
Mr YIU Si-wing
Dr Kenneth CHAN
Miss Alice MAK
Mr IP Kin-yuen
Mr POON Siu-ping
(17 members)

Mr WONG Kwok-hing
Ms Starry LEE
Mr IP Kwok-him
Mr Steven HO
Mr MA Fung-kwok
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung
Mr KWOK Wai-keung
Mr Martin LIAO

Against

Ms Emily LAU
Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung
Mr WU Chi-wai
Mr SIN Chung-kai
(8 members)

Prof Joseph LEE
Mr Albert CHAN
Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Dr Helena WONG

Mr Albert CHAN requested that the item be voted on separately at the relevant FC meeting.

(At 4:38 pm, the Chairman ordered a five-minute break for the meeting. The meeting resumed at 4:43 pm.)

EC(2015-16)16 Proposed creation of two supernumerary posts of one Consultant (D4/D3/D2) and one Principal Medical and Health Officer (D1) in the Department of Health for three years with immediate effect upon approval of the Finance Committee to head the new Office for Regulation of Private Healthcare Facilities (ORPHF) and Planning and Development Section under ORPHF respectively

47. The Chairman remarked that the proposal was to create two supernumerary posts of one Consultant and one Principal Medical and Health Officer ("PMO") in the Department of Health ("DH") with immediate effect upon approval of FC, for a period of three years to head the new Office for Regulation of Private Healthcare Facilities ("ORPHF") and the Planning and Development Section ("PDS") under ORPHF respectively. She said that the Panel on Health Services ("HS Panel") was consulted on the proposal on 21 December 2015.

48. Prof Joseph LEE, Chairman of HS Panel, reported that Panel members in general supported the Administration submitting the proposal for consideration by ESC, and one member objected to the proposal. Panel members expressed concern about filling the two proposed posts by medical professionals and the arrangement for the non-directorate civil service posts created in ORPHF after the three-year period. Panel members urged the Administration to ensure that the relevant bill for regulating the private healthcare facilities ("PHFs") would be introduced into the Legislative Council ("LegCo") in the 2016-2017 legislative session. The Administration advised that in order to discharge the duties effectively as head of ORPHF, the post holder of the proposed Consultant post had to possess profound knowledge, skills and experience in PHFs framework and service delivery as well as healthcare research, in addition to those in public health administration and statutory functions. Pitching the post of Head, ORPHF at the Consultant grade was consistent with the existing organization structure of DH. On the other hand, the holder of the PMO post responsible for overseeing PDS had to provide professional and research inputs to the legislative review exercise for regulating PHFs and liaise with the relevant stakeholders. The Administration would review the workload of ORPHF in 2018-2019 and consider the future manpower needs in accordance with the established procedures.

Roles and responsibilities and filling of the proposed posts

49. Noting that the legislative review of the regulatory regime for PHFs was among the main duties of the two proposed posts and the plan was to introduce the relevant bill into LegCo during the 2016-2017 legislative session, Mr IP Kin-yuen enquired the need to create the two posts at the present stage. He enquired about the work of the two posts before introducing the bill into LegCo and sought information on the existing protection for patients taking high-risk medical procedures.

50. Under Secretary for Food and Health ("USFH") said that the Administration had conducted a public consultation on the proposed regulatory regime for three types of PHFs, namely hospitals, ambulatory facilities providing high-risk medical procedures (day procedure centres) and medical facilities operated by incorporated bodies, and received solid support for revamping the regulatory control for different types of PHFs in Hong Kong. In addition to providing professional and research inputs to the law drafting and legislative review exercise, holders of the two posts would be responsible for developing the facility standards and regulatory measures under the proposed regulatory regime and assist PHFs service providers previously not under regulation to comply with the new regulatory requirements.

51. Director of Health ("DoH") supplemented that preparatory work for the relevant bill involved a number of complex tasks, in particular those relating to the review of the scope of high-risk procedures in ambulatory setting and development of regulatory standards for PHFs. A Project Steering Committee on Standards for Ambulatory Facilities had been established with seven Task Forces for formulating the scope of high-risk medical procedures/practices conducted in ambulatory setting to be subject to the proposed regulatory regime and the relevant regulatory measures having regard to the present situations of ambulatory facilities in Hong Kong, views from professional bodies and overseas practices. As for the protection for patients taking high-risk medical procedures, DoH said that private hospitals and non-profit-sharing medical clinics were regulated by DH under the Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes Registration Ordinance (Cap. 165) and the Medical Clinics Ordinance (Cap. 343) respectively. Medical practitioners were also required to comply with the relevant codes of ethics/practices promulgated by professional bodies when providing services involving high-risk medical procedures.

52. Dr Helena WONG was not convinced that the proposed two posts had to be filled by medical professionals. In her views, non-medical personnel with ample administrative or healthcare services management experience, such as Administrative Officers, could take up the positions. Indeed, non-medical personnel were more experienced in handling duties like conducting legislative review exercise, undertaking research in preparing for the relevant bill, and liaising with counterparts both local and overseas.

53. In view of the high and specialized professional and qualification requirements for the post holder of the Head of ORPHF, Mr Martin LIAO was concerned how the Administration could identify a suitable candidate to fill the post. As the work of revamping the regulatory control for different types of PHFs in Hong Kong involved very complicated tasks, he was concerned that the Administration might have underestimated the difficulties of the legislative exercise by creating the two posts on a time-limited basis for only three years.

54. DoH advised that the two post holders should have professional medical knowledge and ample public health administrative experience. A medical specialist in public health was needed to head the new ORPHF. She advised that doctors of DH, in particular those at directorate ranks, possessed the relevant qualifications and public health administrative experience required for the two proposed posts. The Administration would review the workload and manpower requirement for implementing the proposed regulatory regime, including law enforcement, after enactment of the relevant bill, and would seek to strengthen the manpower support of ORPHF where necessary.

Action

The proposed regulatory regime for private healthcare facilities

55. Mr YIU Si-wing enquired whether DH had explored the possibility of setting up an independent body to regulate PHFs instead of entrusting ORPHF with the function. He considered that an independent body would better ensure credibility of the proposed regulatory regime as he was concerned that ORPHF might put emphasis on medical procedures and overlook the needs of the general public given that its staff at the senior and middle level would belong to the medical and healthcare grades. He asked whether DH would engage professionals from other disciplines with a view to striking a balance between enhancing regulation and standards of PHFs and protecting patients' right and meeting public demand for service quality.

56. USFH advised that at present, the licensing, regulation and monitoring of private hospitals and nursing homes were under the purview of the Office for Registration of Healthcare Institutions of DH. DoH re-iterated that the two post holders needed in-depth knowledge and expertise on the subject as they had to work with professional bodies including the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, medical faculties of local universities and professional associations in reviewing the scope of high-risk medical procedures and developing enhanced regulatory standards. She added that besides medical professionals, ORPHF would have professionals from other disciplines like scientific officer, pharmacist, dentist and engineer, who would provide necessary professional and administrative support for ORPHF. Moreover, ORPHF would have 10 general grades staff providing executive and administrative support to its work.

57. Dr Helena WONG expressed support for the legislative review exercise in enhancing the regulation of PHFs. She asked whether all medical clinics and healthcare institutions, except those under the management of the Hospital Authority, would be covered by the proposed regulatory regime; and whether tattooing and eyebrow tattooing would be classified as medical procedures under the regime. Given that some services provided by beauty centres involved high or medium-risk medical procedures, she enquired whether the proposed regulatory regime would include the licensing of beauty centres.

58. USFH and DoH responded that all private hospitals, day procedure centres providing high-risk medical procedures and medical clinics operated by incorporated bodies would be regulated under the proposed regulatory regime. Medical practitioners in solo practice, who were required to comply with the Code of Professional Conduct issued by the Medical Council of Hong Kong, would not be covered under the regime if they did not provide high-risk medical procedures. With regard to procedures operated in beauty centres,

DoH explained that all intrusive procedures including injection, even only for beauty purposes, must be performed by registered medical practitioners. Tattooing and eyebrow tattooing, on the other hand, were not regarded as medical procedures. DH had issued a "Recommended Guidelines on Infection Control for Skin Penetration Practice" for reference by the beauty trade and operators. In response to Dr WONG's further enquiry regarding the regulation on dental clinics, USFH said that it was estimated that about 5 500 premises with private medical and/or dental practices would be covered by the proposed regulatory regime. PDS would conduct a territory-wide survey to assess the types of ambulatory facilities and their scope of services that might fall under the proposed regulatory regime.

59. At 5:16 pm, noting that the Subcommittee did not have a quorum at the material time, the Chairman instructed the Clerk to ring the quorum bell to summon members to the meeting. A quorum was present at 5:19 pm and the meeting resumed.

60. The Chairman put the item to vote. Members agreed that the Subcommittee should recommend the item to FC for approval. In reply to the Chairman's enquiry, no members requested for separate voting on the item at the relevant FC meeting.

EC(2015-16)18 Proposed retention of four supernumerary posts of one Administrative Officer Staff Grade B (D3), one Senior Principal Executive Officer (D2) and one Assistant Director of Marine (D2) in the Marine Department (MD) and one Deputy Principal Government Counsel (DL2) in the Law Drafting Division of the Department of Justice for a period of three years with effect from 1 June 2016 or with immediate effect upon approval of the Finance Committee, whichever is later, up to 31 May 2019 to continue to provide steer and leadership for the systemic reform in MD, and take forward the outstanding marine-related legislative exercises

61. The Chairman said that the proposal was to retain four supernumerary posts of one Administrative Officer Staff Grade B ("AOSGB"), one Senior Principal Executive Officer and one Assistant Director of Marine ("AD of M") in the Marine Department ("MD") and one Deputy Principal Government Counsel ("DPGC") in the Law Drafting Division ("LDD") of the Department of Justice ("DoJ") for a period of three years with effect from 1 June 2016 or with immediate effect upon approval of FC, whichever was later, up to 31 May 2019, to continue providing steer and leadership for the

systemic reform in MD and take forward the outstanding marine-related legislative exercises.

62. The Chairman said that the Panel on Economic Development was consulted on the proposal on 26 January 2016. Panel members in general supported the Administration submitting the proposal for consideration of ESC. Some Panel members expressed concern about retaining the four supernumerary posts for three years. The Administration explained that the proposed extension was necessary to continue the work of the Task Force on Reform to complete the outstanding issues relating to internal governance, regulatory regimes and practices, manpower and training, etc. of MD. The Administration considered it infeasible to absorb the work of the Task Force through internal deployment within MD as the incumbents of deputy director and six assistant directors were fully engaged with their own duties in supervising the day-to-day operations of MD as well as implementing the new measures adopted since the vessel collision incident at Lamma Island ("Lamma Incident") for enhancing marine safety of local passenger carrying vessels. As for the DPGC post in LDD of DoJ, due to the technical nature and complexity of the marine-related international conventions, the time required for the legislative exercises had taken longer than expected.

Justifications for retaining the four supernumerary posts and the proposed extension period

63. Dr Helena WONG enquired about the work progress of the systemic review in MD undertaking by the Task Force, in particular whether concrete reform measures had been formulated and whether consideration would be given to implementing an organizational reform in MD. As tasks relating to enhancing marine safety, addressing manpower shortage in MD and the marine industry, and updating marine-related legislation were on-going work of MD, she queried why MD only initiated the review after the Lamma Incident. Mr Kenneth CHAN expressed similar concerns and enquired about the expected deliverables of the Task Force in the coming three years.

64. Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 5 ("DSTH(T)5") responded that the Task Force had already worked out a package of proposed measures to enhance the business processes and operational procedures of MD. That said, the Task Force had to tackle a number of fundamental issues such as the internal governance of MD and manpower and training of the two professional grades in MD (i.e. Marine Officer ("MO") and Surveyor of Ships ("SoS")). Such tasks would require more thorough studies and more extensive trade and staff consultations before implementation arrangements could be finalized. As for the Legal Team set up in DoJ for updating the marine-related legislation, due to the technical nature and complexity of the marine-related international conventions, the

time required for the legislative exercises had taken longer than originally conceived. Moreover, further legislative amendments had been identified to keep the local legislation in line with new requirements in various international conventions. It was anticipated that the outstanding legislative exercises could be completed in the coming three years.

65. Director of Marine ("D of M") added that the Steering Committee on the Systemic Reform of MD established in 2013 to follow up the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry to look into the Lamma Incident had drawn up a full range of improvement proposals. However some issues such as the manpower shortage problems of the MO and SoS grades would need more time to examine and resolve. Moreover, tasks such as setting up a new Enterprise Information Management System in MD were not envisaged when the proposal to create the supernumerary posts was worked out in 2013. MD estimated that the new System would be implemented in the coming four years.

66. As regards the manpower shortage problem, D of M said that MD had engaged an overseas consultant to advise on the reform of MD with reference to the experience and practices of some port authorities in overseas jurisdictions. A package of proposed measures to address the manpower shortage problems had been formulated. Given the implications of the proposed measures on the existing processes and practices in MD, more time was required to deliberate and assess the impact and sustainability of various options, and conduct staff consultations to work out the implementation details. DSTH(T)5 and D of M supplemented that while the Government reviewed the individual work process and grade structure in MD from time to time, the review undertaken by the Task Force was the first ever large-scale and comprehensive organizational review of MD. In the coming three years, the Task Force would continue to devise measures to address the manpower shortage problems and take forward the improvement measures which required legislative amendments, such as introducing legislation against drink and drug boating. It would take time to change the existing practices and culture in MD.

67. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok expressed support for the proposal. He asked if MD had reviewed its staffing situation at both directorate and non-directorate levels to ensure sufficient manpower in supporting the implementation of the improvement measures.

68. DSTH(T)5 said that the Task Force would continue to review the business processes, operational procedures and governance structure of MD with a view to devising comprehensive manpower and training strategies and measures to ensure sufficient supply of manpower with relevant expertise in MD for carrying out the improvement measures.

69. In response to Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's enquiry about the difficulties encountered in updating marine-related legislation, Deputy Law Draftsman (Bilingual Drafting and Administration) advised that in incorporating the provisions in international conventions into local legislation, the Legal Team had to examine the conventions and local laws carefully to forestall duplications, omissions and legal loopholes. Moreover, considerable time and efforts were required to ensure the compatibility of the proposed amendments with existing legislation and the amendments were enforceable, as well as to work on the Chinese version of the proposed amendments as most international conventions were available in English only.

Measures to ensure marine safety

70. Mr YIU Si-wing enquired if the Task Force had met with the marine industry on regular basis to seek views on measures for enhancing marine safety and address concerns raised by the stakeholders, in particular to ensure that the proposed measures were operationally viable. He further asked about the arrangement for the supernumerary posts if the outstanding tasks were completed before expiry of the three-year period.

71. Ms Starry LEE said that some local vessel operators had relayed to her about difficulties in complying with the enhanced passenger and marine safety measures. She enquired about MD's consultation with industry stakeholders in formulating the improvement measures. She requested the Administration to provide details on MD's consultation for seeking views of industry stakeholders on issues related to the review of legislative and administrative measures on passenger and marine safety matters, including the consultative framework, the scope of the consultation, means of communication, issues discussed and measures taken to address the concerns raised during the consultation. Mr Steven HO expressed similar concerns and suggested that MD should arrange visits and organize regional meetings for exchanging views with vessel operators in addition to seeking views from the consultative committees established by MD.

[Post-meeting note: The supplementary information submitted by the Administration was circulated to members on 25 April 2016, vide LC Paper No. ESC81/15-16(01).]

72. DSTH(T)5 said that to enhance marine safety, the Transport and Housing Bureau and the Task Force had taken forward legislative exercises to bring marine-related local legislation in line with the latest requirements under various international conventions. Such legislative exercises, mainly concerned with ocean going vessels, did not require consultation with the local

marine industry. On the other hand, MD had been liaising closely with the local marine industry and stakeholders on the implementation of enhanced safety measures for local passenger vessels, which included the provision of lifejackets on board, safety measures for major events at sea, etc. To address the concern of the local marine industry about the increase in operating cost arising from the implementation of the enhanced safety measures, the Government had provided financial assistance to the trade, such as subsidies for the installation of radar and automatic identification system on relevant local vessels. MD had reviewed the work progress of the Task Force and considered it necessary to retain the Task Force for three more years to continue with the work in enhancing marine safety and clear the backlog of necessary legislative amendments. MD would keep in view the work progress of the Task Force and review manpower support as necessary.

73. Deputy Director of Marine (Special Duties) ("DD of M(SD)") added that since the Lamma Incident, MD had been maintaining close communication with the vessel operators on safety-related issues. The Local Vessels Advisory Committee ("LVAC") had also set up a number of sub-committees to consult relevant industry stakeholders on specific matters such as safety-related matters for different classes of local vessels. To relieve the financial burden on the trade, the Government had provided subsidies to relevant vessel operators for the installation of radar and automatic identification system on local passenger vessels. Furthermore, upon the request of the trade, MD was now exploring the feasibility of developing a new lifejacket that was suitable for use by both adult and child in assisting the trade to comply with the enhanced requirement on the provision of life-saving apparatus for child on board. In response to Mr Steven HO, D of M advised that MD had conducted regular meetings with vessel operators, mainly to discuss and exchange views on marine safety issues. MD could arrange other meetings with vessel operators for discussion of other matters like licensing.

74. Mr Kenneth CHAN queried why it had taken MD over four years after the Lamma Incident in developing a lifejacket for both adult and child on board. He was dissatisfied with the low efficiency of MD in taking forward the task and enquired about the obstacles encountered. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung stressed the need to strike a proper balance between the operational need of the local marine industry and ensuring passenger and marine safety. He also shared the concern about the slow progress in implementing the enhanced safety measures.

75. DSTH(T)5 advised that MD had discussed with industry stakeholders regarding the provision of child lifejackets on board. The industry expressed concern about the required number of child lifejackets on board as the number of child passengers on board might vary significantly at different time. To address concern of the industry, the Government had

commissioned the Polytechnic University of Hong Kong ("PolyU") to develop a lifejacket that was suitable for use by both adult and child. D of M added that PolyU had produced a prototype of the lifejacket for use on local vessels and putting it on test to ensure compliance with the relevant international safety standards. The testing was still in progress as it involved complex technical issues. The Government was monitoring the development closely and would announce the testing result when it was available.

76. Mr Steven HO remarked that in developing the lifejacket that was suitable for use by both adult and child on board, the Administration had communicated closely with the local marine industry to address its needs and concerns. It was expected that the new lifejacket could further enhance the operational efficiency of the local marine industry.

77. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung expressed concern about how MD would ensure effective implementation of the enhanced safety measures and the recommendations to prevent recurrence of problems revealed in the Lamma Incident. He also asked whether MD would consider formulating a code of practice to require vessel operators to provide a video showing the various safety facilities on board to facilitate MD in conducting audit inspections and examinations for vessels to ensure operators' compliance with the safety requirements.

78. DSTH(T)5 said that the Task Force had made considerable progress in the implementation of marine safety measures. Most of the measures could be taken forward through administrative arrangements like amending the relevant codes of practice and examination rules. The Task Force would continue to formulate various improvement measures relating to MD's internal governance and to take forward measures which required legislative amendments, such as provision of child and infant lifejackets on board and safety measures for major events at sea. MD would formulate suitable surveys and inspection mechanisms to ensure compliance with relevant legislative requirements.

79. D of M supplemented that organizational review on the business processes and operational procedures of MD had been conducted and improvement measures such as automating the workflows of plan approval and survey of local vessels had been implemented. Moreover, detailed guidelines and a checklist had been provided to facilitate SoSs in conducting inspections and taking enforcement actions. The guidelines and checklist would be reviewed from time to time taken into account feedback from frontline officers. In response to the Chairman's enquiry, DSTH(T)5 advised that major events at sea included fireworks displays in the Harbour and the Government planned to introduce legislative amendments to mandate safety measures to be undertaken at local vessels at such events in the coming

legislative session.

80. The Chairman noted that the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea ("SOLAS") would require mandatory verification of the gross mass of containers with effect from 1 July 2016. She enquired about MD's actions in implementing the new requirements in this respect.

81. DSTH(T)5 advised that MD had been working closely with the industry, including consulting the Ports Operations Committee on the proper procedures and workflows to implement the latest SOLAS requirement on containers. MD would further explain the detailed workflow to industry practitioners in April 2016 and arrange a trial run in May 2016. LegCo would be consulted on the relevant legislative amendments in April 2016. In reply to the Chairman's further enquiry, DSTH(T)5 said that the Task Force would still need to follow up on several legislative amendment exercises which focused on training for seafarers, navigation safety and seamen's benefits.

Assistance to the local marine industry

82. With a view to facilitating elderly fishermen in renewing their certificates of competency ("CoC"), Ms Starry LEE and Mr Steven HO asked whether MD would consider simplifying the relevant procedures and exploring the feasibility to allow CoC extension to be processed in the District Marine Offices. Mr HO pointed out that CoC holders aged 65 to 70 applying for renewal of COC were required to take an eyesight test every three years and they were required to submit the relevant test results in person at the Examination Section of MD located in the Central, and those aged 71 or above were required to take the test every year. He urged MD to consider streamlining the existing arrangements to assist the CoC holders in renewing their CoC at the District Marine Offices. To address the acute manpower shortage in the marine and fishing industries, Mr HO further called on the Administration to relax the requirements for CoC holders for operating local vessels. He also remarked that there was room for improvement in the work attitude of authorized surveyors engaged by MD.

83. D of M said that MD would review the procedures for extension of CoC and identify room for streamlining. She added that the Task Force was reviewing MD's business processes and would formulate long-term strategies, such as reviewing the certification requirements and studying measures to enhance the passing rate of relevant CoC examinations, in order to tackle the manpower shortage problems in the marine industry and the MO and SoS grades. DSTH(T)5 added that she would follow up the COC renewal case mentioned by Ms Starry LEE separately.

84. Mr Steven HO also suggested that MD should review the existing mechanism for authorized surveyors to conduct vessel surveys and inspections. He said that there was only a small number of authorized surveyors in the market and they were charging high fees for their services.

85. DD of M(SD) said that under the existing regulatory regimes for local vessels, authorized surveyors could undertake surveys or inspections of certain low risk vessels whereas that of high risk vessels was conducted by MD. MD was reviewing the vessel survey regime, including the qualification requirements of authorized surveyors, and would develop proposals to improve the regime for consultation with industry stakeholders.

86. In response to Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's enquiry, D of M advised that the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund was set up in 2014 to promote local manpower development for the marine and aviation industries. The Fund aimed to support young people or in-service practitioners to undertake relevant skills training and pursue professional studies with a view to attracting new blood to and maintaining a stable workforce for the local marine industry.

87. At 6:25 pm, the Chairman ordered that the meeting be extended for 15 minutes. No members raised objection.

88. At 6:38 pm, noting that the Subcommittee did not have a quorum at the material time, the Chairman instructed the Clerk to ring the quorum bell to summon members to the meeting. A quorum was present at 6:40 pm and the meeting resumed.

89. The Chairman put the item to vote. Members agreed that the Subcommittee should recommend the item to FC for approval. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung requested that the item be voted on separately at the relevant FC meeting.

90. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 6:41 pm.