

**立法會**  
***Legislative Council***

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**Finance Committee of the Legislative Council**

**Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting**  
**held at Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**  
**on Friday, 11 December 2015, at 5:13 pm**

**Members present:**

Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan  
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan  
Hon James TO Kun-sun  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP  
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP  
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH  
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN  
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP  
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP  
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP  
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP  
Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP  
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS  
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP  
Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP  
Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP  
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS  
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP  
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS  
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP  
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP  
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok  
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP  
Hon Kenneth LEUNG  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP  
Hon KWOK Wai-keung  
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP  
Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon IP Kin-yuen  
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, 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 Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

**Members absent:**

Dr Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP  
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP  
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP  
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP  
Hon WONG Yuk-man  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Hon Dennis KWOK

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP  
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan  
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

**Public officers attending:**

Ms Elizabeth TSE Man-yee, JP	Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)
Ms Esther LEUNG, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)1
Mr Alfred ZHI Jian-hong	Principal Executive Officer (General), Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (The Treasury Branch)
Mr Nicholas YANG, JP	Secretary for Innovation and Technology
Ms Annie CHOI, JP	Commissioner for Innovation and Technology
Mr Johann WONG, JP	Deputy Commissioner for Innovation and Technology
Mr Rayson CHAN	Senior Manager (Innovation and Technology Fund), Innovation and Technology Commission
Ms Yan CHAN	Director, Business Development, The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel
Mr Simon WONG	Chief Executive Officer, The Research and Development Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies
Dr Lawrence CHEUNG	General Manager, The Automotive Parts and Accessory Systems Research and Development Centre
Mr Daniel YU	Chief Executive Officer, The Nano and Advanced Materials Institute
Mr John LEE Ka-chiu, PDSM, PMSM, JP	Under Secretary for Security
Ms Mimi LEE Mei-mei, JP	Deputy Secretary for Security
Mr Andrew TSANG Yue-tung	Principal Assistant Secretary for Security (E)
Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE	Assistant Commissioner of Police (Information Systems Wing)

Mr Donnie CHOY Yuk-kwong	Chief Superintendent (Crime Support) (Crime Wing), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms Irene HO Yuen-ha	Chief Superintendent (Crime Headquarters) (Crime Wing), Hong Kong Police Force

**Clerk in attendance:**

Ms Anita SIT	Assistant Secretary General 1
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**Staff in attendance:**

Mr Derek LO	Chief Council Secretary (1)5
Mr Ken WOO	Senior Council Secretary (1)5
Mr Raymond SZETO	Senior Council Secretary (1)7
Mr Jason KONG	Council Secretary (1)4
Mr Frankie WOO	Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3
Ms Michelle NIEN	Legislative Assistant (1)5

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Action

**Item No. 1 – FCR(2015-16)33**

**INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FUND**

**HEAD 111 – INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Subhead 104 – The Nano and Advanced Materials Institute**

**Subhead 105 – The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel**

**Subhead 106 – The Automotive Parts and Accessory Systems Research and Development Centre**

**Subhead 107 – The Research and Development Centre for Logistics and Supply Chain Management Enabling Technologies**

Motion to adjourn further proceedings

The Committee continued to deal with the motion to adjourn further proceedings of the Committee moved by Mr Albert CHAN pursuant to paragraph 39 of the Finance Committee Procedure ("FC Procedure").

2. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed support for the motion to adjourn further proceedings. Mr CHAN pointed out that in the light of the Administration's failure to fully respond to various queries raised by members in relation to the work of the Research and Development ("R&D") centres, the Committee should not continue with the deliberation on the item.

3. In response to the motion proposed by Mr Albert CHAN, Commissioner for Innovation and Technology ("CIT") said that the data provided in the meeting paper was certainly correct. The data published in the website probably had not included on-going projects and collaborative projects with industry partners, and was therefore different from the figure shown in the meeting paper.

4. Mr Albert CHAN gave concluding remarks. The Chairman then put Mr CHAN's motion to vote. As members claimed a division, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. The Chairman announced that 6 members voted in favour of the motion and 37 members voted against the motion. The votes of individual members were as follows –

*For:*

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Mr Albert CHAN Wai-yip  
Mr CHAN Chi-chuen  
(6 members)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai  
Dr Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

*Against:*

Mr CHAN Kam-lam  
Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan  
Mr WONG Kwok-hing  
Mr Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen  
Ms Starry LEE Wai-king  
Mr CHAN Hak-kan  
Mr WONG Kwok-kin  
Mr Paul TSE Wai-chun  
Mr NG Leung-sing  
Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming  
Mr YIU Si-wing  
Mr Charles Peter MOK  
Miss CHAN Yuen-han  
Mr Kenneth LEUNG  
Mr KWOK Wai-keung  
Mr SIN Chung-kai  
Dr Elizabeth QUAT  
Dr CHIANG Lai-wan  
Mr Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun  
(37 members)

Mr TAM Yiu Chung  
Mr Frederick FUNG Kin-kee  
Prof Joseph LEE Kok-long  
Mr WONG Ting-kwong  
Dr LAM Tai-fai  
Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun  
Mr IP Kwok-him  
Mr James TIEN Pei-chun  
Mr Steven HO Chun-yin  
Mr WU Chi-wai  
Mr MA Fung-kwok  
Mr CHAN Han-pan  
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung  
Miss Alice MAK Mei-kuen  
Mr Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung  
Dr Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Mr POON Siu-ping  
Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok

5. The Chairman declared that the motion was negatived.
6. The Committee resumed deliberation on the item FCR(2015-16)33.

The development direction of the R&D centres

7. Mr WU Chi-wai noted that there was a trend in recent years for the textiles and apparel industry to relocate to South East Asia instead of establishing a presence in Hong Kong. He asked whether it was the goal of the Administration to promote Hong Kong as the R&D centre for the textiles and apparel industry and what its relevant strategy was.
8. CIT replied that the relevant plan of the Government was to attract the development of smart production of high value-added industries in Hong Kong, with a view to achieving the goal of re-industrialization. It was also the wish of the Government to attract the relevant R&D talents to come to Hong Kong and develop their career in the territory.

Biodiesel

9. Dr LAM Tai-fai and Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung enquired about the details of the development of biodiesel in Hong Kong, including the progress of negotiation with the trade. Chief Executive Officer, The Nano and Advanced Materials Institute ("NAMI") replied that the R&D Centre had already signed a contract with a company located in the EcoPark to commercialize the relevant technology locally. Besides, the R&D Centre had also been communicating with the trade on a regular basis.
10. Mr WU Chi-wai requested the Administration to cite electric vehicles ("EVs") as an example and describe in details how the Administration maneuvered its policy to promote the industrialization of R&D results of local innovative technologies.
11. Secretary for Innovation and Technology ("SIT") responded that the Government had been committed to promoting the technology of EVs in Hong Kong. Its objective was to strengthen charging facilities in housing estates so that the use of EVs would become more popular. Combined with Internet of Things technologies, the technology of EVs would also initiate a new development direction for innovative technologies. General Manager, The Automotive Parts and Accessory Systems ("APAS") R&D Centre added that the development direction of the R&D Centre was to provide the trade with technology support for quick chargers and medium speed charging technology.

Innovative technologies related to social welfare

12. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung expressed his dissatisfaction that the Administration was using market-driven as an excuse for not promoting strongly the development of innovative technologies related to social welfare and neglecting the needs of the underprivileged (such as persons with disabilities).

13. SIT remarked that while the Government was ready to play a leading role, it still needed the cooperation of the industry to develop appropriate technologies in the light of market demands and to facilitate commercialization. He pointed out that the ageing population would bring about more opportunities. For instance, a research project had been conducted by the Polytechnic University on a muscle activated robotic hand named "Hand of Hope", which was used as a kind of physiotherapy equipment. It was expected that there would be more room for its development in the future. CIT added that the Government proactively encouraged social welfare organizations to conduct trials on suitable local R&D results, such as guide tiles, to cater for the needs of persons with disabilities. At present, the Government had not required that the resources invested by R&D centres in projects related to social welfare must account for a certain proportion of its total amount of R&D investments.

Policy on innovation and technology

14. Mr WU Chi-wai asked whether the innovation and technology development in Hong Kong had been hampered by the failure of the Administration to offer policy facilitation such as concessions in terms of land grant and taxation.

15. SIT replied that while Hong Kong was well-positioned to develop innovative technologies, the role of the Government was to provide assistance to facilitate these developments, such as sharing the risks of R&D.

Other comments

16. The Chairman and Mr Albert CHAN requested the Administration to provide a reply in writing to explain the reason for the significant difference between the latest data published in the website and the data provided in the meeting paper. Mr CHAN clarified that he had no intention of accusing the Administration of deliberately exaggerating the figure. CIT undertook to deal with the relevant issue and give a reply as soon as possible.

17. Ms Claudia MO queried that the Chinese term of "Parts and Accessory Systems" in the name of The APAS R&D Centre was a term used on the Mainland. She asked the Administration to consider changing the name. SIT replied that since the name of the R&D Centre had been used for a long time and never become a hindrance in communication, the Administration would not consider making any changes. Mr WONG Ting-kwong commented that the term "Parts and Accessory Systems" had also been adopted in the names of some related organizations in Hong Kong.

18. While Mr WONG Ting- kwong was speaking, Ms Claudia MO spoke in response to his comment without the Chairman's permission. The Chairman urged members not to have dialogues with other members when expressing their views.

19. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung criticized that the Government had lowered the target level of industry sponsorship many times in order to cover up the fact that the R&D centres had failed to meet the requirements. In doing so, the Government was suspected of "moving the goalposts" or engaging in glossing over mistakes. Such an act was undesirable.

20. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung criticized the Government's lack of vigorous efforts in promoting the development of "big data" and "Smart City".

Motions proposed by members pursuant to paragraph 37A of the FC Procedure

21. There being no further question from members, the Chairman declared that the Committee would proceed to deal with motions proposed by members pursuant to paragraph 37A of the FC Procedure.

*Motion proposed by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen*

22. The Chairman put to vote the question that the motion proposed by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen numbered 0001 be proceeded forthwith. As requested by members, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. With the agreement of the Chairman, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen read out his proposed motion during the ringing of the division bell. The question was negatived.

*Motion moved by Mr IP Kwok-him pursuant to paragraph 47 of the FC Procedure*

23. Mr IP Kwok-him moved without notice a motion under paragraph 47 of the FC Procedure that in the event of further divisions being claimed in



respect of any motions or questions under the same agenda item, the Committee should proceed to each of such divisions immediately after the division bell had been rung for one minute. The Chairman proposed the question on Mr IP Kwok-him's motion.

24. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr Albert CHAN spoke against Mr IP Kwok-him's motion. These members argued that if the division bell was shortened to one minute, some members might not be able to return to the Conference Room in time to cast their votes. Besides, members should be allowed sufficient time to consider the relevant motion, and one minute was not adequate.

25. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan indicated her support for Mr IP Kwok-him's motion.

26. In response to Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's enquiry, the Chairman advised that members were not allowed to amend the arrangement under paragraph 47 of the FC Procedure that the Committee had to proceed to each of such divisions immediately after the division bell had been rung for one minute, including the duration of the division bell.

27. There being no further comments from members, the Chairman put the question to vote. As requested by members, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. The Chairman announced that 24 members voted in favour of and 8 members voted against the question. The voting results of individual members were as follows –

*For:*

Mr TAM Yiu-chung  
Mr Vincent FANG Kang  
Mr WONG Ting-kwong  
Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun  
Mr IP Kwok-him  
Mr NG Leung-sing  
Mr YIU Si-wing  
Mr Charles Peter MOK  
Miss Alice MAK Mei-kuen  
Dr Elizabeth QUAT  
Mr TANG Ka-piu  
Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok  
(24 members)

Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan  
Mr WONG Kwok-hing  
Ms Starry LEE Wai-king  
Mr WONG Kwok-kin  
Mr James TIEN Pei-chun  
Mr Steven HO Chun-yin  
Mr MA Fung-kwok  
Miss CHAN Yuen-han  
Mr Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung  
Mr POON Siu-ping  
Dr CHIANG Lai-wan  
Mr Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun

*Against:*

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Mr Alan LEONG Kah-kit  
Mr Albert CHAN Wai-yip  
Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai  
(8 members)

Ms Cyd HO Sau-lan  
Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Ms Claudia MO  
Mr CHAN Chi-chuen

28. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

*Motions proposed by Mr Albert CHAN*

29. The Chairman put to vote, one by one, the questions that the motions proposed by Mr Albert CHAN numbered 0002 to 0004 be proceeded forthwith. As requested by members, the Chairman ordered a division for each of the proposed motions, and the division bell was rung for one minute for each division. With the agreement of the Chairman, Mr Albert CHAN read out each of his proposed motions during the ringing of the division bell. All the questions were negatived.

Voting on FCR(2015-16)33

30. The Chairman put the item to vote. As requested by members, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for one minute. The Chairman announced that 28 members voted for and 4 members voted against the item. One member abstained from voting. The voting results of individual members were as follows –

*For:*

Mr TAM Yiu-chung  
Mr Vincent FANG Kang  
Mr WONG Ting-kwong  
Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun  
Mr IP Kwok-him  
Ms Claudia MO  
Mr James TIEN Pei-chun  
Mr Steven HO Chun-yin  
Mr YIU Si-wing  
Mr Charles Peter MOK  
Miss Alice MAK Mei-kuen  
Dr Elizabeth QUAT  
Mr TANG Ka-piu  
Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok  
(28 members)

Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan  
Mr WONG Kwok-hing  
Ms Cyd HO Sau-lan  
Mr WONG Kwok-kin  
Mr Alan LEONG Kah-kit  
Mr Michael TIEN Puk-sun  
Mr NG Leung-sing  
Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming  
Mr MA Fung-kwok  
Miss CHAN Yuen-han  
Mr Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung  
Mr POON Siu-ping  
Dr CHIANG Lai-wan  
Mr Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun

*Against:*

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai  
(4 members)

Mr Albert CHAN Wai-yip  
Mr CHAN Chi-chuen

*Abstained:*

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung  
(1 member)

31. The Chairman declared that the item was approved.

**Item No. 2 – FCR(2015-16)34**

**CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE**

**HEAD 710 – COMPUTERISATION**

**Hong Kong Police Force**

**Replacement of the Infrastructure Platform for the Police Operational Nominal Index Computer System and the Criminal Intelligence Computer System**

32. The Chairman advised that this item invited members to approve a new commitment of \$81,672,000 for the replacement of an obsolete infrastructure platform that supported Hong Kong Police's computer systems.

33. Mr IP Kwok-him, Chairman of the Panel on Security, reported that the Panel on Security had discussed the proposal for replacement of the infrastructure platform for the Police Operational Nominal Index Computer System ("PONICS") and the Criminal Intelligence Computer System ("CICS") at its meeting held on 10 April 2015. Some members expressed concern about whether the Administration would consider adding new functions to PONICS and CICS as well as the maintenance support of the infrastructure platform for the two systems. The Administration remarked that while the proposed replacement of the infrastructure platform would not involve new functions, the processing speed would be increased. As regards the maintenance of the existing systems, the Administration would ask the maintenance contractor to extend their maintenance service until the new infrastructure platform came into service. Moreover, some members also expressed concern about the volume of personal information stored inside PONICS and requested the Administration to provide such information in its paper for the Finance Committee ("FC"). Members had no objection in principle to the Administration's submission of its proposal to FC.

Updating the infrastructure system

34. In response to the concern expressed by Mr Charles Peter MOK about the updating of the software and hardware of the infrastructure systems, Under Secretary for Security ("US for S") remarked that as the supply of major hardware components (e.g. hard disks, storage area network switches) had already discontinued and the software was outdated, support from the manufacturers after May 2017 would be minimal. Currently the platform had shown signs of ageing. There was a high risk of system failure which could not be recovered easily, and this might lead to security loopholes.

35. Mr Charles Peter MOK asked whether the updated infrastructure system would have linkages with other non-local systems on the front of counter-terrorism intelligence.

36. US for S replied that while the updated infrastructure system would be used in handling counter-terrorism intelligence, the system would not have linkages with other non-local systems.

37. Ms Cyd HO enquired whether the infrastructure system of the Police and the automated passenger clearance system of the Immigration Department would have shared access to data. US for S advised in reply that the two systems did not have linkages with each other.

38. Mr SIN Chung-kai asked why new functions were not added in the updating of the infrastructure platform this time around.

39. US for S remarked that since the existing functions were adequate to meet the needs, new functions were not added to the system. However, with the enhancement of processing speed and the improvement in efficiency in system analysis of data, the updated system would be safer and more reliable.

40. In response to Mr WU Chi-wai's enquiry on the updating of the infrastructure platform, Assistant Commissioner of Police (Information Systems Wing) said that upon the securing of funding, officers from the Hong Kong Police Force would work with officers from the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer to manage the various stages of the project, including tendering, evaluation and award of contract, design of the infrastructure platform, delivery and installation of hardware and software, testing of the infrastructure platform, and commissioning of the infrastructure platform for system migration. The Administration would also recruit information

technology personnel outside the Government to take up the dedicated task of programme design and development.

Mechanism to safeguard against abuse of personal information stored in the system

41. In the light of past cases, Mr Albert CHAN expressed his concern about possible abuse of personal information stored in the system by police officers. He questioned whether the Administration had put in place any mechanism to safeguard against abuse.

42. US for S replied that the Administration attached a lot of importance to mechanisms that safeguarded against abuse. First of all, only authorized personnel of the Police were allowed to operate the system. The function of audit trail was also installed in the system to allow the management to monitor the record of access to the system. Review of the audit trail would be conducted by the person-in-charge on a regular basis, the process of which included selecting certain access characteristics for review purposes, with a view to ensuring that the personal information stored in the system would not be abused.

Fingerprint and Palmprint Livescan System

43. Mr Charles Peter MOK, Ms Cyd HO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Ms Claudia MO noted that the Fingerprint and Palmprint Livescan System was not be used by front-line police stations to process the information of arrested persons during large-scale arrests. Instead, manual fingerprint data input of arrested persons was adopted. They expressed concern about the frequency of system failure and the reliability of the system. These members also expressed their worry that if front-line police officers were inadequate trained, that might result in the electronic system not being fully utilized.

44. US for S explained that 103 workstations of the Fingerprint and Palmprint Livescan System had been installed to replace the process of fingerprints taking by ink. The overall performance of the workstations was satisfactory. However, occasional system failure could not be ruled out. Eight incidents of system failure of the workstations had been recorded since they commenced operation in 2014. The Police had in place contingency measures to cater for system failure of the workstations. The Administration would also conduct a study into the need for updating the system in due course. As for the infrastructure platform involved in the application, 23 incidents of system failure were recorded over the past 12 months.

45. On the training of front-line police officers, US for S advised that front-line police officers would receive appropriate system operation training. Chief Superintendent (Crime Support) (Crime Wing) ("CS(CS)) added that the relevant system came into service in 2014, and police officers responsible for operating the system had all received relevant training prior to using the system.

46. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Ms Claudia MO enquired about the proportion of using the Fingerprint and Palmprint Livescan System in the course of processing information of arrested persons and the time needed for the procedure. CS(CS) advised that the Fingerprint and Palmprint Livescan System was used in taking fingerprints in about 75% of arrest cases. The entire procedure of collecting personal information of an arrested person took about 30 minutes.

#### Application for criminal conviction records

47. Mr WU Chi-wai pointed out that whenever a member of the public applied for a Certificate of No Criminal Conviction or other criminal conviction records, the Police required the person to verify his identity by taking his fingerprints, which caused inconvenience to residents who needed to repeatedly apply for the relevant information. He enquired whether the Administration would consider using other identity documents (such as identity card) for identity verification.

48. US for S and CS(CS) stressed that as the Certificate of No Criminal Conviction was an important document, it was necessary for the Administration to handle the verification process carefully. Relying solely on verification by identity card might lead to certain loopholes. It was only through taking fingerprints could a risk-free process be ensured. Moreover, the Police would exercise more flexibility in handling procedures in relation to some criminal conviction records (such as sexual offender records). Applicants were required to have their fingerprints taken once only at the time of initial application.

#### Other issues

49. Mr SIN Chung-kai said that at a meeting of the Bills Committee on Interception of Communications and Surveillance (Amendment) Bill 2015, members of the Bills Committee asked the Administration to provide the number of applications made by the Police to the court for search warrants, but the Administration responded by saying that it did not maintain the relevant

statistics. Mr SIN queried whether the Administration had refused to disclose the relevant information due to political reasons.

50. US for S responded that the information pertaining to the Police's applications for search warrants would not be kept in the infrastructure platform under this item, and therefore was unrelated to this item under discussion. The Administration had already confirmed at the meeting of the Panel on Security that new functions would not be added to the updated system.

51. At 7:10 pm, the Chairman announced that the meeting be adjourned.

52. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Legislative Council Secretariat

29 April 2016