## 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. FC311/15-16 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref : FC/1/1(30)

## **Finance Committee of the Legislative Council**

## Minutes of the 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held at Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Friday, 27 May 2016, at 5:25 pm

#### **Members present:**

Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

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

Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

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 CHEUNG Kwok-che

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS

Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP

Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Hon WONG Yuk-man

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP

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

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

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

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, 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 Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Hon Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu

#### **Members absent:**

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Dr Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau
Hon Claudia MO

Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP

Hon WU Chi-wai, MH

Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP

Hon Kenneth LEUNG

Hon Dennis KWOK

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP

Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan

#### **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 Thomas CHAN Chung-ching, JP Deputy Secretary for Development

(Planning and Lands) 1

Mr Daniel CHUNG Kum-wah, JP Director of Civil Engineering and

Development

Mr LAM Sai-hung, JP Project Manager (Hong Kong Island

and Islands), Civil Engineering and

**Development Department** 

Mr David LO Kwok-chung Chief Engineer (Islands), Civil

Engineering and Development

Department

Ms Donna TAM Yin-ping District Planning Officer (Sai Kung and

Islands), Planning Department

Ms CHANG King-yiu, JP Permanent Secretary for Constitutional

and Mainland Affairs

Mr Daniel CHENG Chung-wai, JP Deputy Secretary for Constitutional

and Mainland Affairs (3)

Ms Noel TSANG Fung-yi Principal Assistant Secretary for

Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (8)

#### Clerk in attendance:

Ms Anita SIT Assistant Secretary General 1

#### **Staff in attendance:**

Mr Derek LO Chief Council Secretary (1)5

Mr Keith WONG Council Secretary (1)5

Mr Frankie WOO Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3

Miss Yannes HO Legislative Assistant (1)6

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#### **Action**

Item No. 2 - FCR(2016-17)25 RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 29 FEBRUARY 2016

PWSC(2015-16)55
HEAD 707 - NEW TOWNS AND URBAN AREA DEVELOPMENT
Civil Engineering - Land development
786CL - Tung Chung New Town Extension

Adjourning the discussion on FCR(2016-17)25

The Committee continued the discussion on the motion moved by Dr KWOK Ka-ki at the last meeting that discussion on FCR(2016-17)25 be now adjourned.

- 2. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Ms Emily LAU and Mr Alvin YEUNG spoke in support of Dr KWOK Ka-ki's motion. These members criticized the Administration for rushing to obtain approval of the item before responding to the members' and public requests for facilities (including government markets and social welfare facilities) to be included in the Tung Chung New Town Extension ("TCNTE") area, ignoring the people's opinions. In addition, the impact of noise caused by aircraft take off and landing at the Chek Lap Kok Airport on Tung Chung residents had not been thoroughly taken into account in the development of TCNTE. They were of the view that the Committee should not approve the item before the Administration could provide concrete responses to the views of members and the public.
- 3. <u>Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr IP Kwok-him, Mr KWOK Wai-keung</u> and <u>Mr WONG Ting-kwong</u> spoke against Dr KWOK Ka-ki's motion. These members said that, as regards the development of TCNTE, the Administration had conducted a number of consultation exercises since 2012 and accepted a wide range of opinions put forward by the people. Given that detailed planning had not yet commenced, it was understandable that

the Administration was unable to make any commitment to the details of the TCNTE sites at this stage. However, members of the pan-democratic camp hindered the approval of the TCNTE project by using the tactics of "filibustering" for the purpose of exerting pressure on the Administration, which not only would impede the overall development in Tung Chung district, but also could not help to alleviate the problem of the shortage of supply of commercial and residential buildings in Hong Kong.

- 4. <u>Mrs Regina IP</u> queried that, even if the Committee approved the motion to adjourn the discussion on the item, it would not lead to the immediate implementation of those requests made by members of the pan-democratic camp.
- 5. At the request of the Chairman, Deputy Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands) 1 ("DS(PL)1") spoke in response to the motion. He advised that the Administration attached great importance to the views of members and also wanted to fully utilize the land to increase provisions of various public facilities. Specific details of the planning for the land lot concerned could be adjusted having regard to the views received, while the Development Bureau ("DEVB") would ensure that there would be sufficient land to support various social facilities and would also proactively discuss with other relevant policy bureaux and departments on the implementation of the arrangements. However, detailed design and site investigation work procedures should commence immediately with a view to carrying out the TCNTE works as soon as possible.
- 6. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> spoke on his motion. <u>The Chairman</u> thereupon put the motion to vote. As requested by members, <u>the Chairman</u> ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. 18 members voted in favour of, and 28 members voted against the motion. The detailed voting results were as follows –

For:

Mr LEE Cheuk-yan
Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung
Mr Frederick FUNG Kin-kee
Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che
Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung
Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Dr Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Mr IP Kin-yuen
(18 members)

Mr James TO Kun-sun
Ms Emily LAU Wai-hing
Ms Cyd HO Sau-lan
Mr Alan LEONG Kah-kit
Mr WONG Yuk-man
Mr Charles Peter MOK
Dr KWOK Ka-ki
Dr Helena WONG Pik-wan
Mr Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu

Against:

Mr CHAN Kam-lam

Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan Mr Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen

Dr LAM Tai-fai

Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun

Mr IP Kwok-him

Mr Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Mr Steven HO Chun-yin

Mr YIU Si-wing

Mr LEUNG Che-cheung

Mr KWOK Wai-keung

Mr Martin LIAO Cheung-kong

Dr CHIANG Lai-wan

Mr Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun

(28 members)

Mr TAM Yiu-chung

Mr Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung

Mr WONG Ting-kwong

Mr CHAN Hak-kan

Mr WONG Kwok-kin

Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee

Mr NG Leung-sing

Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming

Mr MA Fung-kwok

Miss Alice MAK Mei-kuen

Dr Elizabeth QUAT Mr POON Siu-ping

Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok

Mr Tony TSE Wai-chuen

7. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that Dr KWOK Ka-ki's motion was negatived by the Committee.

## Land planning for public markets and social welfare facilities

- 8. The Committee continued the discussion on FCR(2016-17)25. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung said that although the Administration had reserved Government, Institution and Community ("GIC") sites for developing public markets, the Administration might cite the lack of support from relevant bureaux as a reason for not developing public markets in the future.
- 9. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> and <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> strongly criticized the acute shortage of social welfare facilities in the district, such as places in Residential Care Homes for the Elderly ("RCHE"). They requested the Administration to provide more social welfare facilities with a view to alleviating such shortage problem in the district.
- 10. <u>Ms Emily LAU</u> requested that Administration to explain how the Administration would coordinate internally to develop markets and social welfare facilities.

- 11. <u>DS(PL)1</u> advised that the Administration had been proactively examining the possibility of developing public markets and social welfare facilities, and sufficient land provision had been planned. DEVB would follow up with relevant bureaux and departments and report the progress to relevant panels before applying for funding for the main works. <u>Director of Civil Engineering and Development</u> ("DCED") supplemented that the Administration could direct the project consultant at the stage of detailed design to reserve sufficient land for development of public markets.
- 12. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> enquired about the land area reserved by the Administration in the TCNTE area for developing social welfare facilities. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung raised a similar question.
- 13. <u>DS(PL)1</u> advised that the Administration had reserved land for the purpose of building government, institution and community facilities and the land concerned might be used for developing multi-purpose facilities. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on floor area reserved for developing social welfare facilities.

[*Post-meeting note*: Supplementary information provided by the Administration was issued vide LC Paper No. FC240/15-16(01) on 15 June 2016.]

- 14. <u>Mr TANG Ka-piu</u> enquired whether public markets had been planned by the Administration for use by residents in Tung Chung West. <u>DS(PL)1</u> replied that sufficient land had been reserved for building public markets in the course of planning.
- 15. At the further request of Ms Emily LAU, <u>DS(PL)1</u> undertook to provide a paper to report the progress to the Finance Committee ("FC") after following up with relevant bureaux in respect of the work on developing public markets and social welfare facilities.

[*Post-meeting note*: Supplementary information provided by the Administration was issued vide LC Paper No. FC240/15-16(01) on 15 June 2016.]

#### Noise caused by aircrafts

- 16. Mr Albert CHAN recalled that the Government had decided to slow down the pace of TCNTE in 1998 due to the noise problem caused by aircraft movements at the Airport. With the development of the Airport, the number of aircraft movements increased steadily, and the noise problem had become increasingly serious. Night-time flights in particular had affected the daily lives of residents. However, the Administration proceeded with the planning for the TCNTE area again before resolving this problem. He requested the Administration to provide specific data to explain the impact of noise problem caused by aircraft movements at the Airport on Tung Chung residents.
- 17. <u>Mr IP Kwok-him</u> said that he hoped the Administration could explain in detail the impact of noise problem on Tung Chung residents.
- 18. <u>DCED</u> advised that, in accordance with the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines, the development of the Airport was based on a noise assessment criterion of Noise Exposure Forecast ("NEF") 25 contour and it was used for planning of noise sensitive land uses. This criterion was similar to the standards adopted by many developed countries. <u>DS(PL)1</u> supplemented that the item had passed the environmental impact assessment process and was in compliance with the requirements set out in relevant legislation.
- 19. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> criticized that the criterion of NEF 25 contour was calculated on an average level, while the noise level of individual aircraft movement had not been regulated. He remarked that other developed regions had specific regulatory requirements for the noise caused by night-time aircraft movements.
- 20. <u>DCED</u> advised that the Administration understood that night-time flights would cause greater impact on the residents, and in drawing up the criterion of NEF 25 contour, the actual impact of noise caused by night-time flights had already been taken into consideration.
- 21. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> enquired how the Administration proceeded with its calculation of data in arriving at the conclusion that the noise assessment in the TCNTE area did not exceed the criterion of NEF 25 contour.
- 22. <u>DCED</u> advised that the computation and contents of the NEF 25 contour were fairly complicated and the relevant data was provided by the Airport Authority Hong Kong.

## <u>Timetable of population intake in the TCNTE area</u>

- 23. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> requested the Administration to provide a timetable of population intake in the TCNTE area.
- 24. <u>DCED</u> advised that the housing taking up the first batch of residents in 2023 in the area would be subsidized housing. The Administration would submit funding applications to the Legislative Council ("LegCo") for the reclamation projects in due course.

## **Traffic in Tung Chung District**

- 25. Mr TANG Ka-piu was concerned about the traffic problem faced by residents in Tung Chung West. He requested the Administration to fulfill its commitments to extend the railway line to Tung Chung West and increase the frequency of trains service of the MTR Tung Chung Line.
- 26. <u>DS(PL)1</u> advised that according to Railway Development Strategy 2014, the time for implementing the MTR Tung Chung West Extension would be in 2020 to 2024. The Administration would strive to ensure that the construction of the aforesaid railway could tie in with the timetable of the completion of the TCNTE area and population intake.

#### Planning standards

- 27. Considering that the planning requirements for social welfare facilities set out in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines had become outdated, <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> requested the Administration to conduct a review.
- 28. <u>DS(PL)1</u> said that the Administration took note of Dr CHEUNG's view and that his view would be relayed to the bureau concerned for consideration. <u>The Chairman</u> advised that the request made by Dr Fernando CHEUNG was a wider policy issue and should not be raised at FC.

# Motion proposed by member pursuant to paragraph 37A of the Finance Committee Procedure

29. <u>The Chairman</u> advised that Mr Albert CHAN submitted a proposed motion on the item under paragraph 37A of the Finance Committee Procedure. He ruled that the motion was directly related to the item and would put the motion to the Committee to decide whether it should be proceeded.

- 30. <u>The Chairman</u> thereupon proposed the question that Mr Albert CHAN's motion (numbered <u>0001</u>) be proceeded forthwith. As requested by members, <u>the Chairman</u> ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> read out his motion.
- 31. <u>The Chairman</u> announced that the Committee had decided not to proceed with Mr Albert CHAN's motion.
- 32. As members raised no further question, <u>the Chairman</u> put FCR(2016-17)25 to vote. As requested by members, <u>the Chairman</u> ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. 22 members voted in favour of, and 9 members voted against the item. The detailed voting results were as follows –

#### For:

Mr CHAN Kam-lam Ms Emily LAU Wai-hing Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan Mr TAM Yiu-chung Mr Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen Mr WONG Ting-kwong Ms Starry LEE Wai-king Mr CHAN Hak-kan Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun Mr IP Kwok-him Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming Mr Steven HO Chun-vin Mr YIU Si-wing Mr MA Fung-kwok Miss Alice MAK Mei-kuen Dr Elizabeth QUAT Mr POON Siu-ping Mr TANG Ka-piu Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok Dr CHIANG Lai-wan Mr Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun Mr Tony TSE Wai-chuen (22 members)

#### Against:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung
Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che
Mr Alan LEONG Kah-kit
Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung
Mr Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Dr Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Mr Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu
(9 members)

33. The Chairman declared that the Committee approved the item.

Item No. 3 - FCR(2016-17)27 RECOMMENDATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 27 APRIL 2016

EC(2015-16)19

HEAD 144 - GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: CONSTITUTIONAL AND MAINLAND AFFAIRS BUREAU Subhead 000 - Operational expenses

- The Chairman advised that this item sought approval from the Committee of the recommendation of the Establishment Subcommittee made at its meeting held on 27 April 2016, i.e. the recommendation in EC(2015-16)19, to convert one supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade C in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau ("CMAB") into a permanent post, so as to continue to enhance the functions and improve the network of Mainland Offices, as well as to promote regional cooperation between Hong Kong and relevant provinces/municipalities in the Mainland. Some members requested separate voting for the recommendation at a FC meeting.
- 35. The Establishment Subcommittee discussed the recommendation at its meeting held on 27 April 2016 (deliberated for about an hour). The Administration had also provided a supplementary information paper (LC Paper No. ESC92/15-16).

Work arrangements of the proposed post and redeployment of posts

- 36. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> enquired about the justification for the Administration to convert the post into a permanent post and the actual achievements of the post in the past.
- 37. Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs ("PSCMA") advised that the unit led by the proposed post had to be responsible for enhancing the functions and improving the networks of Mainland Offices, promoting regional cooperation with well as relevant as provinces/municipalities in the Mainland in various areas (such as culture), therefore it was necessary to convert the post into a permanent post. from the proposed post, the deputy secretary and assistant secretaries working in the unit had all been converted into permanent posts.

- 38. <u>DSCMA(3)</u> supplemented that, in the past three years, the post had assisted in organizing high-level forums and meetings between the two places, and facilitating the enhancement of the functions of Mainland Offices, including the deployment of dedicated personnel in the offices in the Mainland, to contact with and provide assistance to Hong Kong businessmen and people of Hong Kong in the Mainland, as well as stepping up the promotion of Hong Kong image in the Mainland. The post had also handled the work of establishing an Economic and Trade Office ("ETO") in Wuhan.
- 39. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> was of the view that CMAB currently did not undertake any policy formulation work on constitutional reform. He enquired whether the Administration would deploy the team responsible for handling the aforesaid work in order to step up the work on Mainland affairs.
- 40. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that the aforesaid team was currently dealing with the work relating to the LegCo Election in 2016 and the Chief Executive Election in 2017. The Administration had no plan to make the aforesaid redeployment.

## Personal safety of Hong Kong residents in the Mainland

- 41. Mr Albert CHAN and Ms Emily LAU criticized the Mainland Offices of the Administration for failing to safeguard the personal safety of Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. They queried that the Administration had not made enquiry to and followed up with relevant Mainland counterparts in respect of cases of request for assistance by Hong Kong residents who were arrested in the Mainland.
- 42. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that Immigration Divisions under the Mainland Offices were responsible for providing practical assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland while the Guangdong ETO also provided Hong Kong residents in the Mainland with free-of-charge legal advisory services. According to the established mechanism, notification would be made between the Administration and various Mainland counterparts in respect of cases involving unnatural deaths and imposition of criminal compulsory measures on Hong Kong residents in the Mainland as practicable. It was learnt that relevant government departments would examine whether the notification mechanism could be improved.

- 43. Regarding cases of request for assistance made by Hong Kong people to Mainland Offices in the Mainland, <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> enquired whether the Administration had compiled statistics on the breakdown by reasons of request for assistance.
- 44. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that cases of request for assistance received by Mainland Offices could be divided into two types. The first type of cases mainly involved Hong Kong residents who encountered personal safety problem in the Mainland and such cases would be followed up by the Immigration Divisions. The second type of cases mainly involved complaints or grievance against Mainland government departments, such cases would be referred to relevant Mainland departments by Mainland Offices for follow-up. Among an average of 500-odd cases of request for assistance received each year, about 350 to 400 cases belonged to the first type.
- 45. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> asked if Mainland Offices could make enquiries to the Mainland authorities for individual Hong Kong residents as to whether he/she could enter the Mainland with Home Visit Permits.
- 46. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that, under the principle of "one country, two systems", Hong Kong and the Mainland had the sole responsibility of their respective immigration affairs in the two places respectively. The Administration could not request the Mainland authorities to conduct pre-arrival clearance checks to see if individual Hong Kong residents could enter the Mainland.

## Safety of food and water quality

- 47. <u>Ms Emily LAU</u> queried that the Mainland Offices had not proactively arranged the Hong Kong side to conduct site visits to sources of food supply and water sources in the Mainland, so as to ensure that the quality of Mainland food and water imported to Hong Kong could meet Hong Kong's safety standards.
- 48. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that CMAB would dovetail with the relevant policy bureaux in following up member's concerns.

#### Environmental protection

- 49. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> was concerned about the role to be played by Mainland Offices in environmental protection, such as issues relating to combating cross-boundary smuggling activities of endangered Aquilaria sinensis and safeguarding the nuclear safety in Hong Kong.
- 50. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that, under the Hong Kong and Guangdong Province Cooperation Framework, environment protection was a major initiative. Mainland Offices would endeavor to dovetail with the relevant policy bureaux and departments to discuss the related issues with relevant Mainland departments. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> criticized the Administration's reply as not containing any specific elaboration on the related work.

#### Exchange between Hong Kong and the Mainland

- 51. Mr Alan LEONG enquired how the Administration would safeguard Hong Kong's interests and autonomy while promoting exchange and cooperation with the Mainland, so as to prevent the occurrence of "being planned".
- 52. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that the Administration had all along implemented the "one country, two systems" principle and at the same time proactively tied in with the important development strategies proposed by the country, such as the "13<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan", so as to elevate Hong Kong's status in respect of the economic development and opening up of the country. Rather than "being planned", the Administration had made its best endeavor to complement the development of the country with a view to achieving economic results,.

## Cultural exchange

- 53. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen noted that the Administration intended to deploy dedicated cultural staff to the Beijing Office ("BJO") with the function of enhancing the cultural exchange between Hong Kong and the Mainland. He enquired about details of the work and whether Hong Kong culture would be promoted in the Mainland.
- 54. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that some people put forward the view that the Administration should provide assistance to Hong Kong's art groups in enhancing exchange with the Mainland and facilitating art groups in the two places to give performances to one another. Therefore, the Administration would deploy dedicated cultural staff to BJO and professional staff deployed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department would take up the post to

organize leisure, sports and cultural exchange activities. <u>DSCMA(3)</u> supplemented that the post would facilitate Hong Kong's art groups to give performances in Beijing and the vicinity. A concrete work plan would be formulated upon establishment of the post.

- 55. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen worried that China-Hong Kong conflicts had been intensifying and some Mainlanders held negative views about Hong Kong. He urged the Administration to put in place measures to mitigate the conflicts and mistrust between Hong Kong and the Mainland.
- 56. <u>PSCMA</u> advised that all Mainland Offices had all along made every effort to promote Hong Kong through different channels, such as producing television announcements in the public interest and radio programmes, with a view to enhancing Mainlanders' understanding of Hong Kong.
- 57. Regarding the work on cultural exchange and promotion of Hong Kong's soft power, <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> enquired whether the Administration would promote Hong Kong's award-winning films in the Mainland, such as *Ten Years*.
- 58. <u>PSCMA</u> said that various Mainland Offices would organize Hong Kong Film Festival or other cultural activities having regard to their respective work schedules. While assisting in promoting Hong Kong films in the Mainland, Hong Kong's directors and actors would also be invited to go to the Mainland for exchange. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> queried that the Administration had not provided concrete responses to his question.

#### Other comments

- Ms Emily LAU criticized that it was disrespectful to LegCo that Members of LegCo were not invited to join the exchange tour led by the Chief Secretary for Administration this month to visit the reconstruction in the Sichuan Wenchuan earthquake stricken areas in the Mainland. <a href="PSCMA">PSCMA</a> took note of Ms LAU's comment and advised that mainly those volunteer teams that had participated in the reconstruction work in Sichuan were invited to such a visit to inspect the outcome of the reconstruction work.
- 60. Referring to a media report about an "exchange tour to Belt and Road countries" visited places of entertainment in the Mainland, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung criticized the Administration for its failure to provide guidelines to the exchange tour to tie in with the development of the "Belt and Road" initiative. Mr IP Kwok-him raised a point of order and said that Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung was speaking on a subject unrelated to the agenda item.

#### <u>Action</u>

<u>The Chairman</u> ruled that Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung had been speaking on subjects not directly related to the agenda item.

- As no member raised any more question, <u>the Chairman</u> put the item to vote. <u>The Chairman</u> was of the view that a majority of members voted for the item and announced that the Committee approved the item.
- 62. At 7:40 pm, the Chairman declared that the meeting be adjourned.
- 63. The meeting ended at 7:40 pm.

<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 15 September 2016