

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

Ref : CB2/SS/1/15

LC Paper No. CB(2)555/15-16  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

**Subcommittee on Declaration of Geographical Constituencies  
(Legislative Council) Order 2015**

**Minutes of the first meeting  
held on Tuesday, 3 November 2015, at 4:30 pm  
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP  
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP  
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP  
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP  
Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP  
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
- Member absent** : Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
- Public Officers attending** : Mr Ronald CHAN Ngok-pang, JP  
Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
- Mr Gordon LEUNG Chung-tai, JP  
Deputy Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
- Miss Helen CHUNG Chi-ching  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and  
Mainland Affairs

Miss Jennie CHAN Cheuk-yin  
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer  
Registration and Electoral Office

Ms Mandy NG Wing-man  
Senior Government Counsel  
Department of Justice

**Clerk in attendance** : Ms Joanne MAK  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 3

**Staff in attendance** : Ms Wendy KAN  
Assistant Legal Adviser 6

Miss Cindy HO  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 3

Miss Connie AU  
Council Secretary (2) 3

Mrs Fanny TSANG  
Legislative Assistant (2) 3

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Action

**I. Election of Chairman**

Hon TAM Yiu-chung was elected Chairman of the Subcommittee. Members agreed that election of a deputy chairman was not necessary.

**II. Meeting with the Administration**

[CMAB C1/30/8 and LC Paper Nos. LS3/15-16 and CB(2)175/15-16(01)]

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

3. The Subcommittee completed examination of the Declaration of Geographical Constituencies (Legislative Council) Order 2015 ("the Order").

4. The Administration noted members' concerns about the number of geographical constituencies ("GCs") and the upper/lower limits of number of seats for each GC. Some members considered that the public consultation on the allocation of seats among GCs and related issues should be advanced in future exercises in order to allow sufficient time to work out feasible options which would achieve a more even distribution of population among GCs. The Administration was also requested to consider conducting a study after each Legislative Council general election to compare the population forecasts as at 30 June with the actual population on that day so as to examine the accuracy of the population forecasts.

Admin

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5. Members noted that the scrutiny period of the Order would expire at the Council meeting of 25 November 2015 and the deadline for giving notice to move amendments, if any, was 18 November 2015. The Subcommittee would report its deliberations to the House Committee on 13 November 2015.

### **III. Any other business**

6. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:38 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
31 December 2015

**Proceedings of the first meeting of the  
Subcommittee on Declaration of Geographical Constituencies  
(Legislative Council) Order 2015  
on Tuesday, 3 November 2015, at 4:30 pm  
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
000157 - 000416	Mr TAM Yiu-chung Mr YIU Si-wing Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mr Frederick FUNG	Election of Chairman	
000417 - 000720	Chairman Administration	Opening remarks  Briefing by the Administration on the Declaration of Geographical Constituencies (Legislative Council) Order 2015 ("the Order").	
000721 - 001240	Chairman Mr SIN Chung-kai Administration	<p>Mr SIN Chung-kai proposed that, assuming the number of Members to be returned for all geographical constituencies ("GCs") was to remain at 35 in future, consideration could be given to increasing the number of GCs to six, and re-delineating the New Territories ("NT") GCs into three GCs in such a way that the 18 seats (i.e. the total number of Members to be returned for NT East ("NTE") and NT West ("NTW")) would be evenly distributed among the three NT GCs, with each getting six seats.</p> <p>The Administration advised that the existing number of GCs and their boundaries had been in use since the First Legislative Council ("LegCo") general election in 1998. Members of the public were generally well accustomed to them in elections, and prospective candidates/political parties had been conducting their district work based on the existing delineation of GCs. Introducing any changes would require detailed discussion by the public. The Administration explained that the number of GCs was among the issues covered in the Consultation Document on the Methods for Selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for Forming LegCo in 2016. However, the Administration did not receive many views from the public on the issue, and</p>	

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>views received were diverse. Against this background, the Administration considered it appropriate to maintain the existing number of GCs for the 2016 LegCo general election. Moreover, there would not be enough time at the present stage to introduce changes by amending the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542) ("LCO"). Nevertheless, the Administration advised that it was open to any suggestion of adjustments to be made in the long run and would be pleased to explore any suggestion put forward by LegCo and the public.</p>	
001241 - 001836	<p>Chairman Mr YIU Si-wing Administration</p>	<p>Mr YIU Si-wing expressed concern about the range of deviation from the resulting number of Kowloon West (-9.63%) and that of NTW (+10.82%) under the current recommendations. In response to Mr YIU's enquiry about the timeframe for the delineation work, the Administration advised that the Electoral Affairs Commission ("EAC") was required under the Electoral Affairs Commission Ordinance (Cap. 541) ("EACO") to submit a report to CE on its recommendations for the delineation and names of GCs for LegCo elections not more than 36 months from the preceding LegCo general election. Before finalizing its recommendations, EAC had taken into account the views received during the public consultation period from 21 May to 19 June 2015. EAC had considered all the representations having regard to the relevant statutory criteria and the established working principles.</p> <p>Mr YIU suggested that in future, the public consultation on the allocation of seats among GCs and related issues should be advanced in order to allow sufficient time to work out feasible options which would achieve a more even distribution of population among GCs and improve the deviation range.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b> (para. 4 of minutes)</p>
001837 - 002427	<p>Chairman Dr CHIANG Lai-wan Assistant Legal Adviser ("ALA")</p>	<p>In response to Dr CHIANG Lai-wan's enquiry, ALA explained what could not be amended under the Order. Dr CHIANG considered that for a large GC allocated with nine seats, there were usually many candidate lists competing for the seats and based on past experience, problems would arise in the electoral arrangements.</p>	

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002428 - 003801	Chairman Ms Cyd HO Administration	<p>In response to Ms Cyd HO's enquiry, the Administration advised that the limits on the number of Members to be returned for each GC were last amended under the Legislative Council (Amendment) Bill 2010 when the number of Members to be returned through GC elections was increased from 30 to 35.</p> <p>Ms HO suggested that consideration should be given to amending LCO to adjust the maximum number of Members to be returned for each GC so that more seats could be allocated to NTW. She stressed that failure to conduct a review of LCO in time would pre-empt EAC from coming up with timely proposals to address concerns such as the increasing population of NTW and possible resultant deviation exceeding the statutory limit in future.</p>	
003802 - 005022	Chairman Mr Alan LEONG Administration	Mr Alan LEONG suggested that the Administration might consider conducting a study after each LegCo general election to compare the population forecasts as at 30 June with the actual population on that day so as to examine the accuracy of the population forecasts.	<b>Admin</b> (para. 4 of minutes)
005023 - 005529	Chairman Mr IP Kwok-him Administration	Mr IP Kwok-him expressed concern that the number of valid votes that would need to be obtained by a candidate in order to win a seat in a GC allocated with nine seats was much smaller than that in a GC with five seats. He also expressed concern that given the extremely large area of NTW, Members returned by that GC faced immense difficulties in servicing their constituents. The Administration advised that it would continue to listen to Members' views and suggestions regarding the number of GCs in mapping out the way forward.	
005530 - 05854	Chairman Ms Cyd HO Administration	Ms Cyd HO expressed concern that the deviation from the resulting number of NTW was already close to the statutory limit. The Administration advised that if the population size of NTW continued to grow and to such an extent that the deviation from the resulting number of NTW exceeded the statutory limit, depending on the then circumstances, consideration might be given by EAC to re-delineating the GC boundaries by following the established process of delineation	

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		and in accordance with the statutory requirements. The Administration further advised that, if there was wide consensus in the society, consideration might also be given to changing the number of GCs and the Administration would be pleased to explore the option.	<b>Admin</b> (para. 4 of minutes)
005855 - 010509	Chairman Administration Mr SIN Chung-kai ALA	<u>Examination of the provisions of the Order</u>  Mr SIN Chung-kai's enquiry concerning the plan number of the map for Kowloon West and Kowloon East as referred to in column 3 of the Schedule to the Order.	
010510 - 010830	Chairman Clerk ALA Mr SIN Chung-kai	Legislative timetable  Closing remarks	

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
 31 December 2015