

**Establishment Sub-committee of the Finance Committee -  
Follow-up Action of the Meeting Held on 25 April 2017**

EC(2016-17)27

- (a) **Question:** To compare the expenditure on Protocol Division (“PD”)’s arrangements for the Hong Kong visit by ZHANG Dejiang, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (“NPCSC”) with that for the former President HU Jintao’s visit, including the total amount of expenditure and its breakdown.

Answer: A comparison of the PD’s expenditure for the NPCSC Chairman ZHANG Dejiang’s visit in 2016 and the former President HU Jintao’s visit in 2012 is set out below:

Dates of Visit to Hong Kong	National Leader visiting Hong Kong	Breakdown of expenditure by item (\$'000)			Total expenditure (\$'000)
		Hotel accommodation and food and beverages	Transportation	Programme cost	
17 – 19 May 2016	NPCSC Chairman ZHANG Dejiang	5,121	258	401	5,780
29 June – 1 July 2012	Former President HU Jintao	11,116	313	302	11,731

As the delegation size of the 2012 visit was larger than that of the 2016 visit, the expenditure on hotel accommodation, food and beverages and transportation was correspondingly higher. On the other hand, the programme cost for the 2016 visit was slightly higher than that for the 2012 visit, which was mainly due to the rental for the venues.

- (b) **Question: To provide the number of Hong Kong visits over the past 19 years by national leaders (including those from overseas places, such as the former United States President Bill CLINTON and the former British Prime Minister Tony BLAIR, as well as those from China) where PD was responsible for planning and coordination, the expenditure involved in each visit and details of reception.**

Answer: In the past 19 years (up to 25 April 2017), PD was responsible for planning and coordinating 27 visits by National Leaders<sup>Note 1</sup> and 104 official visits by international dignitaries<sup>Note 2</sup>. As the visit programmes, delegation size, duration of stay in Hong Kong, transportation and security arrangements for each visit were different, the expenditure incurred also varied.

#### Reception arrangements

PD arranges immigration facilitation and official greeting and seeing-off ceremonies for National Leaders and international dignitaries and, where appropriate, hotel accommodation, food and beverages and transportation, etc. for these guests and their delegations.

#### Visits by National Leaders

A distribution of PD's expenditure on the above-mentioned 27 visits by National Leaders is shown below:

<b>Expenditure (\$'000)</b>	<b>Number of Visits</b>
Less than 100	6
100 – less than 500	6
500 – less than 5,000	11
5,000 – less than 10,000	3
10,000 or above	1

National Leaders who had visited Hong Kong included: Presidents JIANG Zemin and HU Jintao, Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Chairman JIA Qinglin, NPCSC Chairmen WU Bangguo and ZHANG Dejiang, Vice Presidents ZHENG

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<sup>Note 1</sup> including Mainland officials at Vice Premier of the State Council/ State Councillors or above

<sup>Note 2</sup> including Head of State, Head of Government, Deputy Head of State, Deputy Head of Government, members of royal families and Foreign Ministers or senior officials

Qinghong and XI Jinping, Premiers ZHU Rongji and WEN Jiabao, Vice Premiers WU Yi and LI Keqiang, State Councillor LIU Yandong, etc.

### Official Visits by International Dignitaries

There were 104 official visits by international dignitaries in the past 19 years. In view of the large number, we have selected 29 official visits which were of a larger scale for the Sub-committee's reference. A distribution of the expenditure of these visits is set out below:

<b>Expenditure (\$'000)</b>	<b>Number of Visits</b>
Less than 200	17
200 – less than 300	10
300 – less than 500	1
500 or above	1

The international dignitaries who visited Hong Kong in the above 29 official visits included the United States President Bill CLINTON, British Prime Minister Tony BLAIR, Korean President KIM Dae-jung, French President Jacques CHIRAC, Russian President Dmitry MEDVEDEV, Canadian Prime Ministers Stephen HARPER and Justin TRUDEAU, Vietnamese Prime Ministers NGUYEN Tan Dung and NGUYEN Xuan Phuc, Indonesian Presidents Susilo Bambang YUDHOYONO and Joko WIDODO, etc.

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