

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

Ref : CB2/HS/2/16

LC Paper No. CB(2)212/16-17  
(These minutes have been cleared  
with the Chairman)

**Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities**

**Minutes of the meeting**  
**held on Wednesday, 2 November 2016, at 10:30 am**  
**in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP (Chairman)  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-ken, BBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP  
Hon KWOK Wai-keung  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Hon IP Kin-yuen  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH  
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP  
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick  
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP  
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding  
Hon SHIU Ka-fai  
Hon CHAN Chun-ying
- Members absent** : Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
- Clerk in attendance** : Ms Joanne MAK  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 3
- Staff in attendance** : Miss Cindy HO  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 3

Miss Karen LAI  
Council Secretary (2) 3

Mrs Fanny TSANG  
Legislative Assistant (2) 3

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Action

**I. Election of Chairman (and Deputy Chairman)**

Election of Chairman

Mr Abraham SHEK, the member who had the highest precedence among members of the Subcommittee present, called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Subcommittee. Mr Paul TSE was nominated by Mr Jimmy NG and the nomination was seconded by Mr CHAN Chun-ying. Mr Paul TSE accepted the nomination.

2. Mr Abraham SHEK invited other nominations for the chairmanship. Ms Claudia MO was nominated by Dr Fernando CHEUNG and the nomination was seconded by Mr Abraham SHEK. Ms Claudia MO accepted the nomination.

3. Mr Abraham SHEK announced a vote by secret ballot. The result of the vote was that 10 members voted for Mr Paul TSE and five members voted for Ms Claudia MO. Mr SHEK declared Mr Paul TSE elected as the Chairman of the Subcommittee. Mr TSE then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

4. Members agreed that a deputy chairman was required. The Chairman then called for nominations. Ms Alice MAK was nominated by Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and the nomination was seconded by Mr LEUNG Che-cheung. Ms Alice MAK accepted the nomination.

5. The Chairman called for other nominations. Ms Claudia MO was nominated by Dr Fernando CHEUNG and the nomination was seconded by Mr Andrew WAN. Ms Claudia MO accepted the nomination. No further nominations were made.

6. The Chairman announced a vote by secret ballot. The result of the vote was that 10 members voted for Ms Alice MAK and five members voted for Ms Claudia MO. The Chairman declared Ms Alice MAK elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Subcommittee.

## II. Schedule of meetings and items for discussion

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

8. Members suggested the following items for discussion by the Subcommittee:

- (a) poverty situation of ethnic minorities ("EM") and problems encountered by EM in their application for the Low-income Working Family Allowance ("LIFA") (e.g., it was difficult for EM who were employed as casual workers to provide documentary proofs of employment when applying for LIFA);
- (b) employment difficulties facing EM and measures to enhance their employment opportunities;
- (c) disparity between the remuneration rates applicable to EM and other local people employed by the Government as interpreters;
- (d) availability of places for EM for conduct of religious and cultural activities;
- (e) placement of EM students (including kindergarten, primary and secondary students) and the support measures to these students and to schools admitting them to ensure equal opportunities for EM students in education; and
- (f) measures to facilitate EM to obtain public information (e.g., measures to address the language barrier).

Clerk 9. The Chairman directed that various issues raised by members would be incorporated in the work plan of the Subcommittee as appropriate.

*(Post-meeting note: With the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman, the discussion items proposed by Dr Helena WONG in her letter dated 2 November 2016 [LC Paper No. 116/16-17(01)] were also incorporated in the work plan.)*

10. Members agreed to the proposed meeting schedule of the Subcommittee. Members agreed that the next meeting should be held on Wednesday, 23 November 2016, at 8:30 am. At the suggestion of Ms Claudia MO, members agreed that issues relating to education for EM children should be discussed at the next meeting.

**III. Any other business**

11. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:52 am.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
17 November 2016

**Proceedings of the meeting of the  
Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities  
on Wednesday, 2 November 2016, at 10:30 am  
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

<b>Time Marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action required</b>
000034 - 000644	Mr Abraham SHEK Mr Jimmy NG Mr Paul TSE Dr Fernando CHEUNG Ms Claudia MO	Election of Chairman	
000645 - 001149	Chairman Dr CHIANG Lai-wan Ms Alice MAK Dr Fernando CHEUNG Ms Claudia MO	Election of Deputy Chairman	
001150 - 001353	Chairman Dr Fernando CHEUNG	Referring to the statistics used by the Commission on Poverty, Dr Fernando CHEUNG pointed out that the poverty situation of Pakistanis (with a poverty rate of over 50%) was the most severe among the ethnic minorities ("EM"), while the poverty rate of Nepalese was over 20%. He suggested that the Subcommittee should review the application of the Low-income Working Family Allowance ("LIFA") Scheme to EM and explore measures to enhance the employment opportunities of EM.	
001354 - 001439	Chairman Ms Alice MAK	Ms Alice MAK suggested that the Subcommittee should review the disparity between the remuneration rates applicable to EM and other local people employed by the Government as interpreters.	
001440 - 001544	Chairman Ms Claudia MO	Ms Claudia MO said that many EM people worked as casual labour in construction sites who generally received lower wages than their local counterparts and/or did not have a written employment contract. Hence, it was difficult for these workers to provide documentary proofs of employment when applying for LIFA.	

001545 - 001647	Chairman Mr LEUNG Che-cheung	Mr LEUNG Che-cheung expressed concern about the availability of places for EM (such as Pakistanis) for conduct of religious and cultural activities.	
001648 - 001731	Chairman Mr Holden CHOW	Mr Holden CHOW expressed concern about the assessment/accreditation of the Chinese language curriculum tailored for EM students and its impact on their employment opportunities. The Chairman considered that relevant issues would be discussed under item (a) of the Subcommittee's work plan.	
001732 - 001834	Chairman Mr IP Kin-yuen	Mr IP Kin-yuen considered that the Subcommittee should be provided with information on the placement of EM students.	
001835 - 001951	Chairman Mr Abraham SHEK	Mr Abraham SHEK considered it necessary to ensure equal opportunities for EM students in education so as to help improve their social mobility and problem of intergenerational poverty in the long run.	
001952 - 002039	Chairman Mr Andrew WAN	Mr Andrew WAN considered it necessary for bureaux/departments to take measures to facilitate EM to obtain public information (e.g., measures to address the language barrier).  The Chairman directed that the various issues raised by members would be incorporated in the work plan of the Subcommittee as appropriate.	<b>Clerk</b> (paragraph 9 of minutes)
002040 - 002143	Chairman Ms Claudia MO	Schedule of meetings  Ms Claudia MO proposed that issues relating to education for EM children should be discussed at the next meeting. Members agreed.	