

# **立法會**

## ***Legislative Council***

LC Paper No. CB(2)936/16-17

(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/SE

### **Panel on Security**

**Minutes of policy briefing cum meeting  
held on Tuesday, 7 February 2017, at 2:30 pm  
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon James TO Kun-sun (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP  
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP  
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS  
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP  
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP  
Hon Kenneth LEUNG  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP  
Hon KWOK Wai-keung  
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang  
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH  
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan  
Hon Alvin YEUNG

Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP  
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon LAM Cheuk-ting  
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding  
Hon SHIU Ka-chun  
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH  
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan  
Hon CHAN Chun-ying  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP  
Hon HUI Chi-fung  
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

**Members attending** : Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP

**Members absent** : Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick  
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH  
Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung

**Public Officers attending** : Item IV

The Administration

Mr T K LAI, GBS, IDSM, JP  
Secretary for Security

Mr Joshua LAW, JP  
Permanent Secretary for Security

Mr John LEE, PDSM, PMSM, JP  
Under Secretary for Security

Ms Mimi LEE, JP  
Deputy Secretary for Security 1

Mr Vic YAU  
Deputy Secretary for Security 2

Ms Maggie WONG, JP  
Deputy Secretary for Security 3

Ms Manda CHAN  
Commissioner for Narcotics

Ms Wendy LEUNG  
Administrative Assistant to Secretary for Security

Item V

Independent Commission Against Corruption

Mr Simon PEH Yun-lu, SBS, IDSM  
Commissioner

Mr Ricky YAU Shu-chun  
Head of Operations

Mr Raymond NG Kwok-ming  
Director of Community Relations

Ms Rita LIAW Lily  
Director of Corruption Prevention

**Clerk in attendance** : Miss Betty MA  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 1

**Staff in attendance** : Mr Timothy TSO  
Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Mr Raymond LAM  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 7

Ms Kiwi NG  
Legislative Assistant (2) 1

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**I. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**  
(LC Paper No. CB(2)602/16-17)

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2016 were confirmed.

**II. Information papers issued since the last meeting**  
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)565/16-17(01), CB(2)568/16-17(01),  
CB(2)589/16-17(01), CB(2)733/16-17(01) and  
CB(2)741/16-17(01))

2. Members noted that the following papers had been issued since the last meeting:

- (a) letter dated 9 January 2017 from Dr KWOK Ka-ki;
- (b) letter dated 5 January 2017 from Mr Kenneth LEUNG;
- (c) joint letter dated 10 January 2017 from 16 Members;
- (d) Administration's response to issues raised in the letter dated 5 January 2017 from Mr Kenneth LEUNG; and
- (e) Administration's response to issues raised in the joint letter dated 10 January 2017 from 16 Members.

**III. Date of next meeting and items for discussion**  
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)653/16-17(01) and (02))

3. Members agreed that the following items would be discussed at the next regular meeting on 7 March 2017 at 2:30 pm:

- (a) Replacement of the Mobilising and Communications System of the Fire Services Department;
- (b) Implementation of Marine Situational Awareness System; and
- (c) Amendments to the First Schedule to the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Cap. 134).

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*(Post-meeting note: On the advice of the Chairman, the meeting was subsequently rescheduled to 14 March 2017 at 10:45 am.)*

**IV. Briefing by the Secretary for Security on the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address**

(LC Paper No. CB(2)653/16-17(03), The 2017 Policy Address booklet and The 2017 Policy Agenda booklet)

4. Secretary for Security ("S for S") briefed Members on the initiatives of the Security Bureau in 2017, as set out in the Administration's paper.

*(Post-meeting note: The speaking note of S for S was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)771/16-17(01) on 8 February 2017.)*

Strengthening anti-terrorism legislation and establishment of a reporting system on the physical cross-boundary transportation of large quantities of currency and bearer negotiable instruments

5. Ms Claudia MO expressed concern about whether the proposed amendments to the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance (Cap. 575) ("UNATMO") might be abused for prohibiting some persons from leaving Hong Kong by specifying them as terrorists. S for S responded that the legislative amendments to be introduced would only be confined to those necessary for the implementation of the relevant resolution of the United Nations Security Council ("UNSC"). He stressed that the legislative proposal did not involve any amendment to the existing definition and specification under UNATMO.

6. Referring to paragraph 7 of the Administration's paper, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung asked how law enforcement agencies would determine whether a person was a terrorist. Under Secretary for Security ("US for S") responded that under UNATMO, terrorists would only be specified in accordance with designations by the United Nations committees on the relevant resolutions of UNSC or by the court on application by the Administration with the submission of evidence gathered in investigation.

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7. Referring to paragraph 16 of the Administration's paper, Mr Kenneth LEUNG asked whether the establishment of a reporting system on the physical cross-boundary transportation of large quantities of currency and bearer negotiable instruments ("the R32 System") would involve amendments to existing legislation or enactment of new legislation. S for S responded that the establishment of the R32 System would involve enactment of new legislation.

Fire safety

8. Dr CHENG Chung-tai expressed concern about whether sufficient financial resources would be provided to the Fire Services Department ("FSD") in 2017 for updating and replacing fire services equipment and apparatus. S for S responded that the Administration attached great importance to the provision of sufficient resources to FSD for updating and replacing fire services equipment and apparatus. Sufficient resources had also been provided to FSD for the updating and replacement of emergency ambulances.

9. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen sought information on the number of mini-storage facilities identified to have fire safety problems. He expressed concern about the actions to be taken against owners of mini-storage facilities who failed to comply with fire safety requirements specified in a Fire Hazard Abatement Notice ("FHAN").

10. S for S responded that there were about 885 mini-storage facilities in Hong Kong. As at 15 January 2017, FSD had conducted inspections of 756 mini-storage facilities and issued 1 472 FHANs on 286 mini-storage facilities. The Buildings Department had conducted inspections of 755 mini-storage facilities and issued 631 orders on 288 mini-storage facilities, including 315 removal orders, 315 repair orders and one discontinuance order. Follow-up actions including prosecution might be taken on parties which failed to comply with the orders. He added that FSD had provided the mini-storage industry with information on relevant requirements under the law. The prime objective of the Administration was the protection of lives and property.

11. Mr POON Siu-ping asked whether FSD had addressed the concerns of ambulancemen unions regarding the meal break arrangements. S for S responded that FSD management and ambulancemen unions had continued dialogue on that issue and the current meal break arrangements were adopted after a series of discussions.

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Issues relating to non-refoulement claims

12. Dr Elizabeth QUAT expressed concern that since the beginning of 2017, there were three rape cases and two indecent assault cases reportedly committed by non-refoulement claimants. Many female residents in Yuen Long and Sham Shui Po were worried about their personal safety. She asked when the Administration would impose a shorter time limit on the lodging of a non-refoulement claim, revoke the non-refoulement claims of persons convicted of crime in Hong Kong and introduce the closed detention of non-refoulement claims, which had been adopted in some European countries. S for S responded that the Administration was studying the issues concerned, which involved legal and complicated issues. He said that different countries had adopted different measures in relation to the handling of non-refoulement claimants.

13. Mr Wilson OR said that members of the public had expressed concern that many non-refoulement claimants released on recognizance were involved in drug offences. He asked how the Administration would combat the problem. S for S responded that non-refoulement claimants were released on recognizance because of the court ruling that an illegal immigrant should not be detained for an indefinite period of time. He said that strict enforcement actions were taken against persons in breach of drug offences regardless of the identity of the offender. The court was empowered under existing laws to impose a heavier sentence on persons convicted of drug offences. He pointed out that the Administration had introduced a series of measures to tackle problems related to non-refoulement claims, including the introduction of a risk-based online pre-arrival registration system for visitors from India and the launching of operations to combat illegal immigration, which had resulted in a 40% decrease in the number of illegal immigrants intercepted in Hong Kong over the previous year.

14. Mr Kenneth LEUNG sought information on the progress of implementation of the risk-based online pre-arrival registration requirement for visitors from India. S for S responded that since the implementation of the requirement on 23 January 2017, about 15 000 online applications had been received and about 90% had been approved. The Immigration Department ("ImmD") would develop relevant mobile applications to facilitate the work of airlines.

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Relaxing the visa requirements for nationals of the Belt and Road countries

15. Noting that the Administration would consider relaxing the visa requirements for employment, study and visit visa for nationals of the Belt and Road countries, Mr CHAN Chun-ying expressed concern about whether the Administration would consider relaxing the visa requirements for nationals of the Belt and Road countries in mid-western Asia, Central Europe and Eastern Europe. S for S responded that among about 60 Belt and Road countries, visa-free access had been granted to nationals of about 40 countries.

16. Noting that the Administration would relax the visa requirements for nationals of Cambodia, Mr POON Siu-ping asked whether the Administration had estimated the number of Cambodian passport holders who would come to Hong Kong for work. S for S responded that the Administration envisaged that there would not be a marked increase in such a number. He said that the Administration would closely monitor the situation.

Admission Scheme for the Second Generation of Chinese Hong Kong Permanent Residents

17. Referring to paragraph 11 of the Administration's paper, Mr Kenneth LEUNG enquired about the percentage of rejected applications under the Admission Scheme for the Second Generation of Chinese Hong Kong Permanent Residents ("the Scheme") and the reasons for rejection. He also asked whether there were plans to extend the Scheme to the third generation of Chinese Hong Kong permanent residents. S for S responded that among 415 applications received under the Scheme by the end of 2016, 235 had been approved. Among the remaining applications, some had been rejected owing to failure to meet the required academic qualifications while some were pending the submission of further documents required by ImmD. Some applicants had withdrawn their applications because they were eligible for verification of permanent resident status. He said that it was too early to consider extension of the Scheme to the third generation of Chinese Hong Kong permanent residents.

18. Mr POON Siu-ping requested the Administration to provide a breakdown by industry and salary level of the 235 applications approved under the Scheme. S for S responded that such information was not



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available, as the applicants were not required to secure a job in Hong Kong before submitting an application under the Scheme. He said that although applicants under the Scheme were required to possess a university degree or above, some of the applicants possessed postgraduate degrees.

Attracting talents and professionals from other places to work in Hong Kong

19. Mr CHAN Chun-ying asked whether the Administration had any further plans to attract talents and professionals from other places to work in Hong Kong. S for S responded that under the General Employment Policy ("GEP") and the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals ("ASMTP"), employers could apply for employment of professionals from other places who possessed skills and knowledge not readily available or in shortage in Hong Kong, subject to the requirement that the remuneration package was broadly commensurate with the prevailing market level for professionals in Hong Kong.

20. Dr CHENG Chung-tai sought information on the number of entrants under GEP and ASMTP who had acquired permanent resident status in Hong Kong. S for S responded that the Administration did not have such information on hand. He said that a person's eligibility for permanent resident status was set out in the Basic Law.

Anti-drug efforts

21. Referring to paragraph 15 of the speaking note of S for S on the initiatives of the Security Bureau in 2017, Mr SHIU Ka-chun asked whether drug abuse among young persons or young adults had increased. Commissioner for Narcotics ("C for N") responded that while the number of reported young drug abusers aged below 21 had decreased, the proportion of newly reported drug abusers who were young adults aged 21 to 35 had increased.

22. Mr SHIU Ka-chun asked whether harm reduction approach would be adopted by the Administration in combating drug abuse. C for N responded that the Department of Health's methadone treatment programme had been operated in a harm reduction approach. Various support services were also provided to psychotropic substance drug abusers through 38 drug treatment and rehabilitation centres and 11 counselling centres for psychotropic substance abusers.

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23. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan said that to her knowledge, the Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre was catered for persons sentenced to drug treatment period of two to 12 months. She asked whether such drug treatment period could be extended to increase the deterrent effect on drug addiction. C for N responded that the period of drug treatment was determined by the court having regard to the seriousness of the offence involved and the situation of drug addiction in each case. Persons discharged from Drug Addiction Treatment Centres were subject to post-release statutory supervision for 12 months.

24. Mr SHIU Ka-chun asked whether the proposal to introduce the RESCUE Drug Testing ("RDT") Scheme had been shelved. C for N responded that the Action Committee Against Narcotics had submitted in July 2014 its report and recommendations, which had been accepted by the Administration, on the proposed RDT Scheme. The Administration did not have any timetable at present for the second stage consultation on the proposed RDT Scheme.

25. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan expressed concern about increased drug abuse among young adults and the problem of hidden drug abuse. She asked whether the Healthy School Programme with a Drug Testing Component ("HSP(DT)") could be extended to primary schools to foster a drug-free culture among students at an earlier stage. C for N responded that HSP(DT), which was participated by over 120 schools, mainly catered for secondary schools. Anti-drug education for primary school students was provided under various means through collaboration with non-governmental organizations. She said that the Administration would also address the problem of hidden drug abuse and drug abuse among young adults through strengthening publicity and education, including publicity through popular social media platforms and other online forums.

Other issues

26. Dr Elizabeth QUAT expressed support for the Administration's initiative to expedite departmental quarters construction projects for six disciplined forces. She said that more car parking spaces should be constructed under the projects to meet the needs of occupants of the quarters. S for S said that the Administration would consider the suggestion. He said that the primary aim was to construct more departmental quarter units to meet the needs of disciplined services.

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27. Dr Elizabeth QUAT said that consideration should be given to incorporating e-identity function in the next generation of smart identity cards to be issued under the upcoming identity card replacement exercise. S for S advised that the Administration would consider the suggestion.

28. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting said that although the Commissioner of Police had said at the special meeting of the Panel on 24 January 2017 that 21 police officers had been arrested for crime in 2016, a local media had found that 43 police officers had actually been arrested for crime in 2016. He expressed grave concern that the Police had not provided full information regarding the number of police officers arrested for crime. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung echoed the views of Mr LAM.

29. S for S disagreed with the view that the Police had not provided full information regarding the number of police officers arrested for crime. He said that the difference mainly arose from the method of statistical classification of cases. US for S added that the crime statistics were mainly maintained by the Police to reflect the overall crime trend and the offences handled by crime investigation teams.

**V. Briefing by the Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption on the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address**

(LC Paper No. CB(2)653/16-17(04), The 2017 Policy Address booklet and The 2017 Policy Agenda booklet)

30. Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption ("C/ICAC") briefed Members on the paper provided by the Independent Commission Against Corruption ("ICAC") regarding its initiatives in the year ahead.

*(Post-meeting note: The speaking note of C/ICAC was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)771/16-17(02) on 8 February 2017.)*

Public satisfaction and corruption perception

31. Ms Claudia MO asked how ICAC would restore its creditability and public confidence in its investigation work. Head of Operations, ICAC ("H/Ops") stressed that all staff of the Operations Department of

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ICAC had always carried out investigations impartially, and he would defer to the public to judge from their investigations and the outcomes to decide whether ICAC had been conducting itself impartially.

32. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen said that according to a survey report published by the Public Opinion Programme of the University of Hong Kong ("POP") in November 2016, ICAC was ranked the lowest in public satisfaction among nine disciplined services.

33. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting said that according to the survey conducted by POP, the corruption perception index in Hong Kong was the lowest in the past 10 years.

34. Referring to paragraph 11 of ICAC's paper, Dr Junius HO pointed out that according to an international survey, Hong Kong was ranked fourth among 199 countries and territories with the least corruption risk. He expressed concern about the difference in findings between the survey and that conducted by POP.

35. C/ICAC said that different methodology and sampling methods might yield different survey results. According to the ICAC Annual Survey conducted by an independent research agency, 96.2% of the respondents expressed support for the work of ICAC in 2016. The ICAC Annual Survey, which was designed by specialists in public opinion surveys and monitored by the ICAC Community Research Subcommittee which comprised academics and other members with expertise in research and public opinion studies, was statistically valid. He pointed out that according to the Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index, Hong Kong moved up three places from 18 in 2015 to 15 in 2016. The ranking in the past 10 years had been steady ranging between 10 and 20. Separately, the 2016 TRACE Matrix, which was jointly released in December 2016 by renowned international anti-corruption consultancy TRACE International and research institute RAND Corporation, Hong Kong was ranked fourth among 199 countries and territories with the least corruption risk.

36. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting expressed concern that since 2010, interviews conducted under the ICAC Annual Survey had been changed from telephone interviews to face-to-face interviews. This had created pressure on respondents, resulting in a decrease in the percentage of respondents who replied that they had come across corruption in the past 12 months to less than 2% from a previous level of 3% to 5%. Director

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of Community Relations, ICAC ("DCR/ICAC") responded that the change in method of interview in 2010, which was intended for obtaining a direct response through a face-to-face interview, had sought the expert advice of the Community Research Subcommittee which monitored the design and implementation of the ICAC Annual Survey.

Chief Executive Election in March 2017

37. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen sought information on how ICAC would promote a clean election in the forthcoming Chief Executive ("CE") Election in March 2017. DCR/ICAC responded that as was the practice with all public elections, ICAC would launch a multi-faceted publicity and education campaign to promote a clean election in the forthcoming CE Election. This included publishing a Clean Elections Information Booklet, organizing briefings for candidates and electors, producing a "Reminder to Electors/Candidates' Supporters" leaflet, publishing clean election articles through various media to promote a corruption-free election, establishing a webpage on clean elections on ICAC's website and establishing a hotline to answer corruption-related questions on election.

38. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen said that some social media pages recently set up on the Internet had published messages in support of individuals who had declared intention to stand in the CE Election. He asked whether such an act was in violation of section 23(1) of the Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance (Cap. 554).

39. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung declared that he was considering whether to run for the forthcoming CE Election. He asked whether ICAC would follow up cases in which a candidate for the CE Election stated, within or outside the territory of Hong Kong, that the Central People's Government would not appoint other candidates as CE, even if they were elected.

40. H/Ops responded that as there was a possibility that such issues might become the subject of future investigation, it was not appropriate for him to comment. Generally speaking, if the dissemination of a message was regarded as election advertisement and expenses had been incurred, prior consent should be obtained from the candidate concerned. It was unlawful to disseminate false statement, within or outside the territory of Hong Kong, for the purpose of influencing an election.

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Tender-rigging activities in building renovation works

41. Mr Wilson OR sought information on ICAC's work in preventing and combating corruption-facilitated tender-rigging activities in building renovation works.

42. Referring to paragraph 7 of ICAC's paper, Mr Alvin YEUNG sought information on the details of the timely enforcement actions taken by ICAC to combat tendering-rigging activities in building renovation works.

43. H/Ops said that in addition to the contingent of staff dealing with building management complaints, the Operations Department had formed a special team for handling corruption complaints relating to suspected tender-rigging activities in building renovation works. As such activities were particularly insidious and the gathering of evidence was difficult, ICAC had, apart from employing the traditional approach of focusing its work on gathering evidence for prosecution, adopted the approach of taking timely enforcement actions in appropriate cases, such as undertaking search of premises and interviewing witnesses at an earlier stage, so that the risks involved in the works contracts concerned would come to the attention of the owners concerned. Such timely enforcement actions had resulted in a change of contractors, consultants or even owners' corporations ("OCs") for some buildings.

44. Regarding corruption prevention work in relation to tender-rigging activities in building renovation, DCR/ICAC said that ICAC attached great importance to promoting integrity in building management and maintenance to owners, OCs and relevant parties. Besides the establishment of a thematic website and an enquiry hotline, it had produced best practice toolkits and videos on daily building management, repair and financial management. The staff of the respective regional offices of the Community Relations Department of ICAC frequently attended OC meetings to explain integrity and quality practices in building management, especially for those which were about to carry out maintenance or fire safety improvement works.

45. Mr Holden CHOW said that as tender-rigging activities in building renovation works were in violation of the Competition Ordinance (Cap. 619), ICAC should work with the Competition Commission to combat such activities. H/Ops responded that close communication was maintained between ICAC and the Competition Commission, which had

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agreed that the latter would refer tender-rigging complaints involving corruption to the former, while the former would refer tender-rigging complaints not involving corruption to the latter.

ICAC

46. Mr Alvin YEUNG requested ICAC to provide information on the number of corruption complaints relating to tender-rigging in building renovation works on which investigation files had been opened in 2016.

*[To allow sufficient time for discussion, the Chairman advised that the meeting would be extended by 15 minutes.]*

Other issues

47. Ms Claudia MO sought information on the progress and timetable regarding ICAC's investigation into Mr LEUNG Chun-ying's signing of an agreement with the Australian firm UGL Limited in 2011 and his receipt of payments from the UGL Limited in connection with the agreement. C/ICAC responded that it was not ICAC's policy to comment on individual cases.

48. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting asked whether a number of senior staff of the Operations Department had, at an internal meeting on personnel matters, besieged C/ICAC and requested him to step down from the post of C/ICAC. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung also asked whether C/ICAC was besieged by a number of senior staff of the Operations Department at that meeting and asked to resign.

49. C/ICAC responded that all staff members attending the internal meeting between him and senior staff members of the Operations Department to discuss personnel matters had been gentle and polite. It was not appropriate for him to disclose further information about the internal meeting. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung requested putting on record that C/ICAC had not given an answer on whether he had been asked to resign at that meeting with senior staff.

50. Dr Elizabeth QUAT said that ICAC's reputation was being ruined by allegations made by Mr LAM Cheuk-ting, who had repeatedly said that he had received information from sources inside ICAC. She considered that anyone making allegations should provide evidence in support of the allegations. Mr Holden CHOW said that it was unfair for anyone to make unfounded allegations against ICAC. C/ICAC responded that allegations not supported by evidence against ICAC had a negative impact on the reputation of ICAC.

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51. Dr Junius HO expressed concern about the reasons for Mr LAM Cheuk-ting's termination of service with ICAC and whether Mr LAM's allegations arose from grievances during his employment with ICAC.

52. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting said that it was out of order under the Rules of Procedure for a Member to impute improper motives to another Member and requested a ruling by the Chairman. The Chairman ruled that as Dr Junius HO's speech was mainly about the reasons for Mr LAM's departure from ICAC, Dr HO had not imputed improper motives to another Member.

*[To allow sufficient time for discussion, the Chairman advised that the meeting would be further extended by five minutes.]*

53. Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked whether ICAC had cancelled its annual dinner in 2016 after the resignation of a senior staff of the Operations Department. C/ICAC responded that the annual dinner in 2016 was originally scheduled for 15 July 2016. As the date coincided with the last day of service of a senior staff member, the annual dinner had been deferred. He supplemented that ICAC had just organized a spring gathering on the seventh day of the Lunar New Year which attracted a record high attendance of close to 600 colleagues.

54. Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked whether the Operations Department had experienced any pressure from C/ICAC in the investigation of cases relating to senior government officials. H/Ops responded that C/ICAC had never interfered with any investigations of the Operations Department. He stressed that all staff of the Operations Department had always carried out investigations impartially irrespective of the persons involved.

55. Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked whether H/Ops had tendered his resignation in the previous year but soon withdrawn the resignation afterwards because of the need to prevent ICAC from being ruined by C/ICAC. H/Ops responded that after submitting an application for early resolution of agreement with ICAC, many colleagues had strongly appealed to him to remain in office. Having considered such a plea from colleagues, the overall interest of ICAC and to avoid a severe blow to the operation of the Operations Department, he had subsequently decided to withdraw his application. He stressed that the matter should not be interpreted as the existence of any discord between him and C/ICAC.



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ICAC

56. The Chairman requested ICAC to arrange a visit for members to facilitate their understanding about the work of ICAC. He said that non-Panel Members would be invited to join the visit.

57. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:47 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
7 March 2017