

Panel on Financial Affairs

List of outstanding items for discussion

(as at 26 April 2021)

**Proposed timing
for discussion at
Panel meeting**

1. Briefing by the Financial Secretary ("FS") on Hong Kong's latest overall economic situation

The Panel has invited FS to brief the Panel and all other Legislative Council ("LegCo") Members on macro economic issues on a regular basis since mid-1999. Such briefings are normally held in June and December each year.

June 2021

2. Development of financial technologies (Fintech) in Hong Kong

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest development of Fintech in Hong Kong and the initiatives to facilitate the development.

June 2021

In her letter to the Chairman dated 2 November 2020, Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan suggested that the Panel should invite the Administration and relevant regulatory bodies to brief members on the new licensing regime for virtual asset trading platforms introduced by the Securities and Futures Commission ("SFC"), and the progress in the development of Digital Currency Electronic Payment ("DCEP") system in some Mainland cities.

For the proposed regulatory regime for virtual asset service providers, the Administration will arrange the relevant briefing in due course. For the DCEP system being developed by the Mainland, the Administration has advised that it is not in a position to brief the Panel on the subject.

**Proposed timing
for discussion at
Panel meeting**

The Administration will brief the Panel on the regulation of virtual asset at the Panel meeting to be held in June 2021 together with the agenda item on Fintech.

3. Development strategies and plans of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited ("HKEX")

On 31 January 2020, HKEX launched a consultation on corporate weighted voting rights ("WVR") beneficiaries, and the consultation conclusions were issued on 30 October 2020. At the meeting on 2 November 2020, Hon Christopher CHEUNG suggested inviting the Administration, SFC and HKEX to brief the Panel on the subject. Moreover, some other members suggested that the Panel should invite representatives of HKEX to brief the Panel on its future development strategies and plans.

To be confirmed

The Administration will arrange the relevant briefing in due course.

At the meeting on 1 March 2021, some members referred to the market consultation on "Main Board Profit Requirement" conducted by HKEX in late 2020, and expressed concern that the proposal of raising the profit requirement might have negative impact on the competitiveness of the Hong Kong listing regime, and might adversely affect small and medium sized companies in seeking listing on the Main Board. As the consultation document proposed implementing the new requirement in July 2021, members stressed that the Panel should discuss the relevant issues as soon as possible.

As far as the Main Board profit requirement is concerned, HKEX has taken note of members' views and comments and will consider the way forward after considering the views received during the consultation period. HKEX will update the Panel on the consultation outcome in due course.

**Proposed timing
for discussion at
Panel meeting**

4. Government's investment in Cathay Pacific Airways Limited ("CX")

At the meeting on 2 November 2020, some members suggested that the Administration should update the Panel on the Government's earlier investment in CX under the Land Fund, and requested the Administration to provide reports on issues including repayment situation of the bridge loan provided by the Government to CX so far, and its assessment of CX's ability in repaying the outstanding bridge loan in future.

To be confirmed

5. Bond market development in Hong Kong

At the meeting on 2 November 2020, Hon Abraham SHEK suggested that the Panel should invite the Administration and relevant regulatory bodies to discuss issues relating to securities and bonds listing in Hong Kong. Panel members suggested that the Administration should brief the Panel on the development of Hong Kong's bond market including the development of a green bond market. The Administration will provide a written reply on bond market development in due course.

A fact sheet on "Bond markets in Hong Kong and Singapore" prepared by the Research Office of the LegCo Secretariat was issued to members vide LC Paper No. FS01/20-21 on 1 February 2021.

At the meeting on 1 March 2021, Hon Mrs Regina IP suggested that the Administration should update members on the development of the Islamic bond market in Hong Kong.

The Administration will consult the Panel in April 2021 on two Budget initiatives to promote the further and sustainable development of the bond market in Hong Kong. The opportunity will be taken to address questions from members on the subject of bond market development.

**Proposed timing
for discussion at
Panel meeting**

The Administration briefed the Panel on the above matter at the Panel meeting held on 9 April 2021.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
26 April 2021