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From : Clerk to Panel
To : Hon CHOY So-yuk (Chairman)
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan (Deputy Chairman)
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Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBS, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, JP
Hon LAW Chi-kwong, JP

LegCo Panel on Home Affairs

Follow-up to meeting on 14 September 1998

I forward for members' reference a position report on the Arts and Sport Development Fund.

(Miss Flora TAI)
for Clerk to Panel

Encl.

c.c.	Hon Fred LI Wah-ming	jb	
	Hon CHAN Yuen-han	jb	Non-Panel Members
	Hon CHAN Kam-lam	jb	
	Hon LAU Chin-shek, JP	jb	
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LegCo Panel on Home Affairs

Position Report on

Arts and Sport Development Fund

Purpose

This paper sets out for information of panel members the present position of the Arts and Sport Development Fund (the Fund).

Background

2. The Fund with a Government contribution of \$300 million was set up under the aegis of the Sir David Trench Fund for Recreation in January 1997. The Secretary for Home Affairs is the authority for awarding grants from the Fund.

3. The Fund aims to provide supplementary funding support for implementation of the initiatives in the respective five-year strategic plans of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) and the Hong Kong Sports Development Board (HKSDB) which are statutory bodies tasked with developing the arts and sport respectively. Other activities of a 'one-off' nature which are not included in the respective strategic plans but are considered to be of significant contribution to the development of the arts and sport in Hong Kong are also eligible for support.

4.. In 1997-98, a total of \$48.8 million was approved for disbursement from the Fund, of which \$30 million (61%) was in support of HKADC projects and \$18.8 million (39%) HKSDDB projects. In 1998- 99, a total of \$36.2 million was approved, of which \$24.2 million (67%) was for arts and \$12 million (33%) was for sports projects.

Present Position

5. As at 31 March 1999, the Fund had a balance of \$281.6 million.

6. The Administration will continue to disburse grants from the Fund to support and enhance the strategic development of the arts and sport in Hong Kong, taking into account the recommendations of the HKADC and HKSDDB. Particular attention will be given to high priority non-recurrent projects that are related to the key objectives in the Strategic Plans of the two bodies, which are not fully funded through recurrent subventions but which have a well-defined scope and time- frame.

Home Affairs Bureau
May 1999