

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

**Summary of submissions received on the
Consultant's Report on Culture, the Arts, Recreation and Sports Services
(Position as at 25 May 1999)
(Translation)**

I. Overall suggestions/culture and the arts

Organization/Individual/Summary of Views	Government's Response
<p><u>Hong Kong Cultural Sector Joint Conference</u></p> <p>1. The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) should not confine the scope of the consultancy study to reforming the administrative framework and maintaining continuity in the current municipal services. In order not to let go the rare chance to plan for Hong Kong's long term cultural development, the Government should adopt a broader cultural vision.</p>	<p>We agree that we should make the best use of the opportunity to devise a new administrative framework for the provision of arts and culture, sports and recreation services in an open manner with new vision and fresh ideas. Basically, the Government hopes to set up a framework to facilitate rather than directly manage the arts and sport so as to create an open environment to encourage the participation of cultural and non-government organisations, and to develop partnership with non-government agencies for the promotion of diversified culture. We will continue to respect the two basic principles - the freedom of expression and creativity and the pluralistic development of arts. On sports and recreation, we will continue to focus on sports-for-all and elitist training in parallel. Through the new administrative framework, we hope to join forces with the cultural sector to promote popularization and excellence of arts. We also hope that by promoting heritage protection and various cultural exchange activities, we could foster a sense of belonging and identity among Hong Kong people and strengthen Hong Kong's own unique culture which embodies a successful blend of the East and West.</p>

2. The current proposal only aims at restructuring the existing framework and enhancing efficiency of services. It fails to incorporate a macroscopic perspective. Nor can it fulfill the Government's objectives of "pluralism" and "an open framework". A desirable cultural framework should consist of a 3-tier structure as follows—

- (a) A statutory Culture Commission, which is independent and which has real powers conferred by democratic means, should be set up, comprising representatives from public authorities in areas of education, lands and planning, information technology and broadcasting, members of the various tier of councils, professionals from the arts and cultural sectors and other members of the public. It should be headed by a full-time Commissioner for Culture recruited through an open recruitment exercise;
- (b) various middle-level bodies with different functions or fields of interests should be set up. They should be responsible for formulating concrete policies and monitoring policy implementation; and
- (c) basic-level agencies and organizations responsible for policy implementation should be independent from the bureaucratic structure.

In following up the recommendations in the Consultant's report and devising the new administrative framework for arts and culture, sports and recreation services, we will continue to listen to the precious views from the various sectors, concerned individuals and experts. The Task Force is now working on the recommendations with a view to putting the new framework in place for the provision of leisure and cultural services to the public at the beginning of next year as scheduled.

The proposed setting up of a high-level Culture and Heritage Commission is a positive response to promote cultural development. Owing to the diversity of arts and culture, the suggested membership for the proposed Commission will include Chairmen of four statutory bodies i.e. the Hong Kong Arts Development Council, the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, the Antiquities Advisory Board, and the Hong Kong Arts Centre. They will, together with other members, advise the Government on overall cultural policies, particularly on issues which are of general concern across the arts, culture and heritage sectors like arts education in schools, promotion of cultural tourism and international cultural exchanges etc. The Commission will also assume an advisory role on the harmonizing, prioritizing and coordinating of policies and activities of the existing statutory bodies.

<p>3. The Government should expeditiously work out a specific timetable for its follow-up actions (such as those for contracting out civic centres for private sector management). It should respond to those proposals made by the Consultant which do not receive enough attention (e.g. the construction of a Museum of Contemporary Art be held in abeyance), and also address the areas not covered in the Report (such as the review in arts education). There should be more public consultation and more discussion with experts in the process.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p><u>Ms LEUNG Chi-fan</u></p> <p>1. Endorses and supports the position paper of the Hong Kong Cultural Sector Joint Conference.</p>	<p>As stated in Page 1 to 2.</p>
<p><u>The Democratic Party (DP)</u></p> <p>1. It is clearly stated in the Consultant's Report that a Leisure and Cultural Services Department is to be established under the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) to take over the responsibilities relating to culture, recreation and sports which are currently within the ambit of the PMCs. This represents an attempt to centralize the policy-making powers which have all along been vested with the elected councils. The proposed framework allows full bureaucratic intervention in the areas concerned. The DP strongly opposes such an arrangement which, in DP's views, represents the beginning of the Government's full manipulation of culture.</p>	<p>As stated in Page 1, the Government plans to set up a framework to facilitate rather than directly manage the provision of arts and culture, sports and recreation services. We aim to streamline our structure to avoid duplication of efforts, to facilitate policy formulation, to strengthen organisation, to improve efficiency and to increase the accountability of the use of public funds. Through the new framework, the Government hopes to develop partnership with non-government bodies in promoting cultural and leisure activities in an open environment. We also plan to streamline departmental structures to ensure the public be provided with the required services, and to enhance the participation of the sectors and the general public gradually so as to provide more diversified and dynamic cultural and leisure services.</p>

<p>2. In the consultancy study, it is proposed that an establishment of over 9,000 staff is required to deal with matters relating to culture, sports and recreation. It is also proposed that these staff members will be absorbed by the new Leisure and Cultural Services Department. This proposal completely safeguards the interest of bureaucracy and ignores the demand of the public for a streamlined civil service and the decentralization of powers relating to cultural, sports and recreational matters.</p> <p>3. Urges the Government not to strangle the chances for public participation in public affairs. The “one council, one department” proposal by the PMCs and the DP can best achieve the objectives of a streamlined structure, enhanced accountability and democratization.</p>	<p>We will strictly confine the establishment of the proposed new Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and at the same time request the new department to keep raising the level of cultural and leisure services. Apart from that, we will actively identify services and venues to implement the pilot scheme of contracting out services and venues management, and study the possibility of expanding such scheme, of corporatisation and of privatisation. We welcome the sectors and non-government organisations concerned to work with us in implementing these initiatives in partnership.</p> <p>The outcome of consultation on Review of District Organisations conducted by the Government last year clearly showed that the community understood and supported that food safety and environmental hygiene services should be directly held responsible by the Government. The sectors of culture, arts and sports were of the view that duplication of efforts must be removed in order to enhance efficiency and cost-effectiveness. The “one council, one department” proposal could neither solve the problem of fragmentation of responsibilities nor achieve cost-effectiveness. Hence, when the result of the District Organisations Review was announced last year, the Chief Executive decided to re-organise the district organisations and municipal services. We are now putting in every effort to implement the said policy and will not re-consider the proposal of “one council, one department”.</p>
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Mr Timothy YUEN/Ms Lingki CHAU

1. Opposes that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department should be made responsible for implementing all duties relating to culture and arts because in respect of public accountability and the check-and-balance system in their operation, the new Department and the PMCs are government departments of a similar nature.
2. Proposes the following 3-tier structure for culture and arts—
 - (a) Culture and Heritage Commission — it serves as the supreme authority in the Government to decide on the definition of culture and allocate resources and funds accordingly;
 - (b) Arts Development Council (ADC) — it serves as the administrator of the arts in Hong Kong. The ADC will be responsible for promoting the development of mainstream arts and art industries both in Hong Kong and overseas. The City Hall and the Cultural Centre will come under the direct supervision of the ADC. With the provision of venues, programs will be arranged and box-office revenues and private sponsorship will follow; and
 - (c) Proposes to decentralize powers mainly on the basis of venues by corporatizing their operation. District facilities should be supervised by district councils and people with knowledge of the interests of the district should be invited to participate.

In Chapter 5 of the Consultant's Report, it clearly explains the reason for proposing the setting up of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, its organisation and duties.

As stated in Page 1, the Culture and Heritage Commission will advise the Government on new initiatives of overall cultural policy and arts development, particularly on issues which are of general concern across the arts, culture and heritage sectors. The Commission will not undertake any executive functions or seek to direct the work of the existing statutory bodies. We will clearly define the terms of reference of the Commission and its work relationship with other arts and culture organisations.

Hong Kong Music Officer Grade Staff Association

1. Opposes the Consultant's proposal to transfer the Music Office, currently under the joint administration of the Provisional Municipal Councils (PMCs), to the Academy for Performing Arts (APA) for the following reasons—

(a) APA focuses on training talents whereas the Music Office focuses on training audience. Given their different objectives, they differ from each other in terms of teaching methods, *modus operandi* as well as the sectors with which they come into contact;

(b) APA lacks the experience in conducting musical instrument classes in groups, staging more than 300 activities for the promotion of music on a yearly basis, running outreach interests classes for all ages and participating in community development;

(c) There is quite a great difference between the two in the fees they levy. The Music Office charges \$130 to \$265 monthly for musical instrument courses, compared with \$600 to \$1,900 for APA's Junior Music Programs; and

Paragraphs 3.10 to 3.11 of the Consultant's Report have made it clear that the proposed transfer of the Music Office to the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (APA) is based on management and educational considerations.

As regards issues arising from the proposed transfer of the Music Office to the APA, our initial responses are as follows:-

a. Government funding

The Government will continue to promote musical activities at the district level and intends to provide funding support to the APA which is to take over the Music Office so that young people can be given musical and instrumental training through the courses and activities offered by the Music Office.

b. Music Centres

Should the Music Office be transferred to the APA next year as recommended, the Government will not close or reduce the existing five music centres. Nor will their number of students be decreased.

<p>(d) The Consultant’s Report only emphasizes “the objective of the long term development of performing artists training in Hong Kong”, ignoring another objective, i.e. the long term development of audience</p> <p>2. Proposes that, as a first step, the Music Office be maintained under a government department which provides related services, such as the Education Department or the new Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The next step is to consider transferring the Music Office to an independent government-funded body, and set up a committee comprising government officials and representatives from all sectors in the community to monitor the operation of the Music Office.</p>	<p>c. Tuition fees</p> <p>If the APA takes over the Music Office next year as proposed, the Government will continue to finance the expenditures of the Music Office. The APA will set tuition fees according to the existing method of calculation adopted by the Music Office. In other workds, the fees will remain at the current level.</p> <p>d. Communication channel</p> <p>After the proposal has been materialised, we believe the APA will set up a proper consultative mechanism so that parents’ views can be sought on the day-to-day operation and development of the Music Office.</p>
<p><u>Ms TSE Shuk-han</u></p> <p>1. Opposes the Consultant’s proposal to put the Music Office under the APA for the following reasons—</p> <p>(a) The main tasks of the Music Office are to promote and popularize music in order to facilitate and further the overall development of music in society, whereas the APA concentrates on training professionals and upgrading the professional standard of music. Both of them have a vitally important yet different role to play. Amalgamation will certainly affect the nature of their distinctive services, thus jeopardizing the quality of their current services; and</p> <p>(b) At present, the APA is a private body and its operation is not subject to the regulation of the public. It is very difficult to guarantee that the APA can provide at a reasonable cost high quality services for the popularization of music education in future, similar to the role currently played by the Music Office.</p>	<p>Ditto</p>

<p><u>A group of members of the Sai Wan Ho outreach interests classes</u></p>	
<p>1. Opposes putting the Music Office under the leadership of the APA.</p>	<p>Ditto</p>
<p>2. Urges the Government to reposition the Music Office with a view to ensuring continuity in its operation, and safeguarding the interest and social status of the instructors.</p>	<p>Ditto</p>
<p><u>Music Office Parents Association</u></p>	
<p>1. The APA serves as an avenue for the development of professional arts whereas the task of the Music Office is to popularize music education, with the general public being the target of its services. If the Music Office is to be put under and administered by the APA, the questions of how to strike a balance in respect of allocation of resources, the use of venues, supervision, future development and administration will arise but these questions are not in the least addressed in the Consultant's Report.</p>	<p>Ditto</p>
<p>2. Concerns that if the Music Office is not directly monitored by an elected council, there will be no channel for parents to lodge their complaints against services which affect the students, and therefore considers that the Music Office should continue to be managed by an elected council.</p>	<p>Ditto</p>

<p>3. Proposes that the Home Affairs Bureau should re-examine and re-consider the future of the Music Office. Channels for communication should be established to consult all sectors of the community and those who are directly affected such as the instructors/students and their parents. It is regrettable that the Music Office Parents Association, being a statutory body recognized by the Government, has not been consulted on this issue.</p>	<p>Ditto</p>
<p><u>Museum of Site</u></p> <p>1. Opposes the proposal of “one council, one department”. As a transitional arrangement, it is acceptable for matters related to cultural and arts education to be continuously coordinated by the Home Affairs Bureau but the Government may consider a long term approach, such as the feasibility of setting up a Cultural Services Council, and consider the inclusion of elected members in its composition.</p> <p>2. Proposes that the Culture and Heritage Commission will, in future, conduct a broad policy review of cultural and arts education.</p> <p>3 It is hoped that by 2002, the Culture and Heritage Commission will have a statutory status, with an independent secretariat and independent powers in the provision of funding.</p>	<p>We will take note of the views from various sectors so as to work out the respective scopes of work, compositions and consultative arrangements of the Culture and Heritage Commission and the new Leisure and Cultural Services Department. With the formation of the new department, we will consider inviting professionals of different fields, both local and overseas experts, to advise us on our arts policy, various facilities and services such as libraries and museum services to help enhance the diversity of our cultural development.</p> <p>As stated in pages 2 and 4 above.</p> <p>Noted</p>

<p>4. The Government may consider whether the Chairman of the Education Commission and the Director of Education should sit on the Culture and Heritage Commission as ex-officio members. This will not only facilitate co-ordination in respect of the roles in cultural education, it also enables cultural and arts perspectives to be adopted for policy co-ordination and formulation in the area of education and helps resolving the relevant problems.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>5. Regarding the various advisory boards under the new Leisure and Cultural Services Department, consideration may be given to the inclusion of an advisory board for the promotion/education on culture and arts with a view to upgrading the level of discussion on cultural matters and broadening the scope of discussion.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>6. There is a need to review the assessment criteria for cultural and arts education and the rationale behind.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>7. Expresses reservations on the proposal to put the Music Office under the APA. Proposes that the Home Affairs Bureau should re-consider and re-define what conditions and qualifications a mechanism should have in order to take over the Music Office, and also identify its objectives and direction after taking over the Music Office.</p>	<p>As stated in pages 5 and 6.</p>
<p>8. It is hoped that the Music Office can operate independently and be subject to public scrutiny, especially in the areas of administrative arrangements and allocation of resources, disregarding the Music Office is to be put under the management of which department/authority.</p>	<p>Ditto</p>

<p>9. Accepts the Consultant's proposal that international museum experts be invited to Hong Kong to re-formulate policy on museum services.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>10. The new Heritage Museum requires the support of sufficient cultural resources in order to cater for activities run by the Government, the public and education groups with interests in museums. The Government should provide additional funding for the ADC so that improvement can be made in the annual \$1.63 million funding for the Arts Education Committee.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p><u>Provisional Urban Council (PUC)</u></p>	
<p>1. The PUC is extremely disappointed that the Consultant only aimed at centralizing powers for the Government, without putting forward an overall long-term development plan for culture and sports in Hong Kong.</p>	<p>As stated in page 1, we should make good use of this unprecedented opportunity to design a new and more efficient framework for culture, the arts, recreation and sports services. In addition, we will collaborate with all cultural and sports organisations and local groups with vision and an open-minded attitude with a view to promoting the status of Hong Kong as a vibrant and cosmopolitan city well into the next millenium.</p>
<p>2. An elected council should be made responsible for making decisions, allocating resources and supervising the work of various departments in respect of cultural, recreational and sports services. Therefore, the PUC disagrees with the Consultant's recommendation that the Government should appoint advisory committees to advise on these areas of work.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

<p>3. The Consultant recommended that district activities should be evaluated and reviewed on the basis of cost-effectiveness, and that cultural events should also serve to promote tourism. The PUC is concerned about the Government controlling cultural and recreational services by “financial” means in future.</p> <p>4. The Consultant’s proposal to include several additional seats on the SDB is essentially useless. SDB should mainly comprise sports professionals and representatives from the sports community in its membership.</p> <p>5. Given the Government’s intention to take over the resources and venues within the ambit of the two Municipal Councils in respect of recreational and sports services, it should further streamline its structure and in the meantime, abolish the SDB in which case the Government can directly approach the various representative sports associations in Hong Kong in order to avoid redundancy in the organizational structure.</p> <p>6. While every organization is very concerned about the venues and resources for organizing activities, the Consultant has made no concrete recommendation in this regard.</p>	<p>The ‘user pays’ and ‘full cost recovery’ principle is generally adopted in setting fees and charges for Government services. However, in determining the fees and charges for certain areas, such as medical and educational services, the Government is prepared to make policy decisions to bear part of the costs in view of the pressing needs of the society. When it comes to the charges for cultural, sports and recreational services, it basically belongs to the latter category. There is, therefore, no need to worry about “Government regulating cultural and recreational services by financial means”.</p> <p>We treasure the views and participation of sports professionals and representatives from the sports community in the work of SDB and will consider the proposal.</p> <p>Under the new administrative framework, SDB will continue to play its statutory role of professional training whereas the new department will focus more on public recreation and ‘Sports for All’.</p> <p>Noted</p>
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<p>7. Museum services need to be managed by professionals and require professional input from experts and consultants on design and acquisitions so it is inappropriate to contract out these services for private sector management. Furthermore, privatization of museum services will result in admission fees being determined by commercial viability and hence, an increase in the fees will be inevitable. This is certainly not in the interest of the public.</p>	<p>We will duly consider the feasibility and scope of contracting out of services and ensure that the public will be provided with all necessary municipal services.</p>
<p>8. If only one or two libraries are to be tendered out for private sector management, it will be unlikely to maintain uniformity in library services and service co-ordination will also become difficult.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>9. If cultural programmes are subsidized only on the principle of cost-effectiveness, many small-scale cultural organizations will be eliminated due to a lack of funds for activities, adversely affecting arts and cultural development in Hong Kong consequently.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>10. Concerns that the APA may not wish to give support and allocate equitable resources to music training at the grassroots level as provided by the Music Office.</p>	<p>As stated in pages 5 to 6.</p>
<p>11. Opposes the Consultant's proposal to discontinue district activities and the provision of funding for such activities.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

<p>12. The “one Urban Council, one Urban Services Department” proposal is more desirable in that it achieves the objectives of a democratic and streamlined framework and also economy of resources. Besides, it clearly defines the functions of the Urban Council which shall be responsible for managing venue facilities, and in respect of cultural and recreational services, it shall be mainly responsible for organizing various activities at the district and grassroots level and continuously providing funds to facilitate the operation of the four major performing companies in Hong Kong.</p>	<p>As stated in page 3.</p>
<p><u>Arts Development Council (ADC)</u></p> <p>1. The Culture and Heritage Commission should be a provisional body for a term of two years with the primary duty to follow up the review of the administrative framework for culture and arts with a view to devising a long-term proposal on the new institutional framework for the consideration of the Government.</p> <p>2. The Culture and Heritage Commission should be a high-level commission which is linked with the cultural sector as well as the community as a whole. It should adopt a comprehensive and macroscopic perspective in considering the cultural framework and policies. Its composition should also include members who do not belong to the cultural sector.</p> <p>3. The Commission should study the ways to support and co-ordinate matters relating to cultural exchange.</p>	<p>We will consider the opinions concerning the future work and composition of the Culture and Heritage Commission and whether the new Leisure and Cultural Services Department should take over funding allocation to major arts organisations which are the current recipients of the “3-year grants” from the ADC.</p> <p>Ditto</p> <p>Ditto</p>

<p>4. Proposes that in future, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department should be made responsible for co-ordinating the allocation of resources to large-scale professional art groups, including the current recipients of the “3-year grants” from the ADC.</p>	<p>Ditto</p>
<p><u>Association of Managers, Cultural Services</u></p>	
<p>1. Supports the establishment of a new Leisure and Cultural Services Department to bring the management of cultural and leisure facilities in Hong Kong under one roof, hence facilitating the better utilization and deployment of resources.</p> <p>2. Urges the Government to create the post of Assistant Director (Entertainment and Museums) from 1 January 2000.</p> <p>3. Considers that the Culture and Heritage Commission should set up a highly transparent system for its operation. In particular, people who are connected with the performing companies or other art interests should not become members of the Commission so as to avoid any conflict of interest. Priority should be given to professionals in the arts and cultural sector, education sector, publishing sector and the media in the appointment of members.</p>	<p>We note the Association’s support for the establishment of the new Leisure and Cultural Services Department for optimization of resources. We will also consider its proposals regarding the work of the new department, the composition of the Culture and Heritage Commission, the strengthening of the role of the District Boards in promoting arts at district level, corporatisation of performing companies, contracting out of services as well as venue operation. As to the proposed corporatisation and contracting out of services, we will consult the staff and staff unions concerned.</p> <p>Noted</p>

4.	<p>The Government should respect the contribution of local experts as well as their knowledge and experience in respect of the culture, history and environment of Hong Kong. The Government should not blindly follow the practices of the overseas countries. Instead, overseas experts and local experts should be given the chance to work in concert in order to draw on their collective wisdom.</p>	Noted
5.	<p>While agreeing that the role of the District Councils in extending the base of audience and popularizing arts at the district level should be strengthened, the Association considers the Consultant's recommendation to discontinue the small-scale outdoor entertainment programmes at district venues contradictory to the objective of enhancing cultural activities in districts. Disagrees that the number of audience be used as the only criteria for determining whether or not these outdoor programmes are successful.</p>	Noted
6.	<p>Considers that the need and the way to corporatize the three performing companies should be analyzed in detail, contemplated seriously and handled with care.</p>	Noted
7.	<p>The Government must continue to oversee the core services of venues including the booking arrangements, operation and management of venues, and promotion of venues. Some other services (such as cleaning, security, audio and lighting facilities) which have been contracted out should continue to be provided in such manner, and they should be supervised by cultural services managers.</p>	Noted

8.	It is inappropriate for the Government to hastily accept the proposal to contract out the services provided by the Urban Council Computerized Ticketing System.	We will carefully study the feasibility and scope of services to be contracted out.
9.	Supports in principle the review of the frequency of cultural activities and arts festivals currently organized by the two PMCs to rationalize their provision so that resources can be more effectively utilized. However, this does not mean that the resources for those activities should be reduced.	Noted
10.	Strongly urges the respective Task Forces to consult the trade unions of the relevant grades when reviewing the contracting out of cultural services, corporatization, and matters relating to the re-structuring of government departments responsible for cultural and entertainment services.	Noted

II. Recreation and Sports

<u>Hong Kong Sports Development Board (SDB)</u>	
1. When the SDB was first established in 1990, it had undertaken to formulate all issues pertaining to policy formulation on sports development. The Consultant's Report seems to defer this responsibility to the Administration Branch of the new Department and does not spell out who should take the lead;	The Home Affairs Bureau will maintain its role in formulation of the overall policy for recreation and sports while there is no change in the statutory functions of the SDB.
2. Given that the SDB has been acting as a government agency for the allocation of funds to the National Sports Association (NSAs), it will make sense that <u>all</u> funding, including those ad hoc resources given by the PMCs in the past, should be channeled through the SDB;	Noted
3. There is a need for a central strategy to be formulated so as to provide for an equitable distribution of sports venues amongst the NSAs for serious training and competitions, having regard for the public-at-large in the recreational pursuits; and	Will refer to the new Leisure and Cultural Services Department for consideration.
4. The PMCs, Home Affairs Bureau and the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, all have ex-officio status on the SDB, but not the other way round. There should be some kind of reciprocity with the new Department and the other stakeholders to maximize communication.	As suggested in the Consultant's Report, we will take follow-up action and strengthen the co-ordination and communication among different sports organisations. Membership of the SDB will be increased from the present 13 to 17 to enhance professional and community input as well as the representativeness of "the Sports Federation and Olympics Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC)" in the SDB.

<u>Hong Kong, China Rowing Association</u>	
1. Hong Kong must learn from countries which have succeeded in developing high levels of participation coupled with international success.	Noted
2. Clubs and NSAs must be given priority use of public sports facilities, followed by schools, then casual use by the public.	How to optimise and strike a proper balance on the usage of venue facilities will be considered by the HAB and the LCSD.
3. The primary delivery of organized sport to the community should be through clubs.	We recognise the importance of community sports clubs in sports promotion.
4. The best way to provide sport for school children is through clubs. Schools should concentrate on their academic role and parents and teachers should encourage children to join sports clubs.	The Home Affairs Bureau and the new LCSD will consider ways and measures to promote “Sports in Education”.
5. Clubs should be offered an incentive to recruit young people by gearing financial support to the number of young members.	Noted
6. The Board of the SDB should be enlarged and made more representative. A more effective way of appointing Board members is needed. The Director of the Leisure & Cultural Services Department does not need to be an ex-officio member.	Preparatory work for increasing the membership of SDB is in hand. As recommended in the Report, the expanded SDB will facilitate the appointment of a broader cross-section from and communication with the sports community.
7. The SDB should draw up the development plan for sport, in consultation with others.	To be considered and examined by the HAB, LCSD and the SDB according to their respective roles for the implementation of different development plans for sports.

<p>8. The development plan must include a strategy for the construction of sports facilities.</p> <p>9. A development fund for constructing sports facilities should be created.</p> <p>10. The development plan should be adopted as the official Government plan for sport.</p> <p>11. The SDB should be responsible for executing the development plan, assisted by the Leisure & Cultural Services Department.</p>	<p>Ditto</p> <p>Ditto</p> <p>Ditto</p> <p>Ditto</p>
<p><u>Sports Federation and Olympics Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC)</u></p> <p>1. The Consultancy Report fails to tackle the fundamental problems of funding, distribution of resources, and differing priorities in management of future sports.</p> <p>2. SF&OC's representatives on any board of the Hong Kong Sports Development Board should enjoy parity with SDB.</p> <p>3. SDB should transfer its whole marketing promotion section to the SF&OC for the benefit of the National Sports Associations on one hand and to reduce its own costs on the other.</p>	<p>We will balance different demands arising from the development of sports and it will continue to be our policy to accord equal status to the popular sports and elitist training.</p> <p>All SDB members enjoy equal status and collaborate in pursuance of the SDB's objectives.</p> <p>The SDB will be consulted.</p>

<p>4. The future role of SDB is to advise on the Government on sports development and to take care of the administrative work of the Sports Institute, which should be left alone to concentrate on sports training as long as the emphasis is still on focus sports.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>5. SF&OC, as the representatives of the National Sports Associations (NSAs), must have great input into the SDB, especially over the criteria and the application of their criteria in sports development and the choosing of focus sports or focus talents.</p>	<p>As recommended by the Consultant, the SF&OC will have one additional seat on the SDB. The amendment bill will soon be submitted to the Legislative Council for consideration.</p>
<p>6. The SDB's subcommittee on focus sports concept should look into all aspects of SDB and the Government should not act on the consultant's recommendations until the subcommittee had formulated its views.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>7. The future Department of Culture and Leisure Services must privatize or contract out the management and maintenance of facilities to companies with the proviso that they retain and retrain the existing staff force in charge of the arts, culture, recreation and sports facilities.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>8. The Consultancy Report has not mentioned any plan of the future Department of Culture and Leisure Services to ensure ready access by schools to sports facilities.</p>	<p>As recommended, the new LCSD will consider "Sports in Education" in connection with the SDB and the Education Department. The SDB is undertaking a review on the Focus Sports system in consultation with the SF&OC.</p>
<p>9. Emphasis on focus sports rather than focus talents is wrong in concept.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

<p>10. The Government should steer sports, arts and culture in a general direction without too much overt interference.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p><u>Hon CHOY So-yuk</u></p> <p>1. Proposes a framework for sports and recreation with three main features —</p> <p>(a) the Government should be responsible for deciding the broad direction and formulating policies for the development of recreation and sports, as well as developing and distributing resources;</p> <p>(b) an independent and high-level Sports and Recreation Commission can be made responsible for the supervision of recreational and sports services; and</p> <p>(c) the Government can transfer the duties relating to sports and recreation currently performed by the SDB, SF&OC/NSAs/sports associations, District Boards and local organizations to the proposed Sports and Recreation Commission. The SDB should be renamed as appropriate to reflect its specific role to promote the development of sports, and there should be a clearer division of responsibilities among the SDB, SF&OC/NSAs/sports associations, District Boards and local organizations.</p>	<p>We are considering a proper framework to foster the sports and recreational development. Broadly speaking, we hope that the SDB will concentrate its efforts on long-term strategic development and elitist training; the SF&OC will be responsible for co-ordinating different national sports associations and representing Hong Kong on the international front; and the new LCSD, schools and district organisations will jointly promote recreation and sports at district level in addition to liaising with the national sports associations to ensure standards. The enhanced co-operation among various responsible organisations will not only encourage public participation but also provide a channel for those who are talented and interested to receive elitist training and compete on behalf of the territory.</p>

<p>2. The proposed sports and recreational framework has the following merits—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) enhancing co-ordination in the division of labour; (b) reducing disputes over funding; and (c) improving the allocation of venues for training purpose. 	<p>Noted</p>
<p><u>Hong Kong Basketball Association</u></p>	
<p>1. The NSAs should be provided with free and designated training venues to cater for their needs in the development of sports.</p>	<p>The Government will study the feasibility of the proposal in the context of the overall policy governing venue management.</p>
<p>2. A single organization should be responsible for providing organized sports activities. Since its establishment, the SDB has been fair, impartial and open in the allocation of resources. Therefore, the SDB should continue to be made responsible for this area of work.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>3. The SDB should be responsible for formulating the future sports policy in Hong Kong.</p>	<p>The HAB will consult the SDB in formulating/developing the overall sports policy.</p>
<p>4. The SDB should be responsible for developing organized sports activities, incorporating basic to elite training. On the contrary, the proposed new government department should be exclusively responsible for providing chances for the general public to participate in recreational activities.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

<p>5. Community sports clubs and local sports associations should, as far as possible, co-ordinate with the relevant NSAs when organizing sports and recreational activities. The status and the role of NSAs should be clearly defined. NSAs' relationship with community sports clubs and local sports associations should also be spelt out clearly.</p> <p>6. After the abolition of the two PMCs, consideration may be given to allocating the resources to NSAs where appropriate.</p>	<p>The new LCSD and the HAB will consider how they might more clearly define the roles of various organisations.</p> <p>The Government will assess how resources can be best deployed in the interests of sports and recreation.</p>
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