

**Para. 8 of the meeting minutes**

**Staff cost of the Vocational Training Council**

For the 1998/99 academic year, the Vocational Training Council spent 3.1% of its staff costs on staff at the directorate level. For UGC-funded institutions, the percentages range from 2.5% to 15.6%. The difference is attributable to the difference in levels and mix of programmes being offered in individual institutions.

**Para. 13 of the meeting minutes**

**Dialogue with Staff Association Representatives**

The senior management of the Vocational Training Council (VTC) supports the view that there should be dialogue with staff union representatives. In order to ensure close dialogue with union representatives, the VTC has established a Council Consultative Committee comprising representatives of senior management and the staff associations. This committee meets every other month to discuss working conditions, conditions of service and other relevant matters. In addition, two staff association representatives attend the Council's Administration Committee (two thirds of this Committee are Council members), which provides advice on the terms and conditions of staff, and the organisational structure of the VTC.

2. As regards the suggestion for a staff union representative to attend meetings of the VTC, the VTC senior management intends to consult its governing Council at the next meeting in June. The Administration will take into account the Council's views in taking forward the suggestion.

**Para. 15 of the meeting minutes**

**Recognition of Certificate in Vocational Studies (CVS) for Civil Service Appointment**

The Education and Manpower Bureau has ongoing discussion with the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) regarding the recognition of CVS qualification for civil service appointment. Relevant information has been forwarded to CSB for consideration.

**Paras. 26 and 27 of the meeting minutes**

## **Criteria for Progression of Common First-year Students to Year 2 and the distribution of training places of the Vocational Training Council**

After completing the common first year, students gain entry to the second year of a Diploma or Higher Diploma based solely upon their measured performance at the end of the first year and their course choice, that is, students who perform better will be given a higher priority to proceed to the Diploma or Higher Diploma of their preference.

2. In the 1999/2000 academic year, 5 500 Diploma places and 2 100 Higher Diploma places were offered by the VTC. The ratio of Diploma places to Higher Diploma places is approximately 2.5:1. However, it should be noted that the ratios of Diploma places to Higher Diploma places for different subjects are different.

3. As regards other issues raised by Members of the Panel on Manpower, the Administration has addressed them at the meeting.