# 立法會 Legislative Council

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### LegCo Panel on Home Affairs

# Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 10 October 2000 at 11:40 am in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

**Members** : Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo (Chairman) **Present** 

Hon CHOY So-yuk (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan Hon Albert HO Chun-yan Prof Hon NG Ching-fai Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon Andrew WONG Wang-fat, JP Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, SBS, JP

Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong, JP

Hon Henry WU King-cheong, BBS

Hon WONG Sing-chi Hon IP Kwok-him, JP

**Members** : Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBS, JP **Absent** Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Clerk in : Miss Flora TAI

Chief Assistant Secretary (2)2 Attendance

Staff in : Mrs Justina LAM

**Attendance** Assistant Secretary General 2

Mr Stanley MA

Senior Assistant Secretary (2)6

## I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

In accordance with Rule 77(5) of the Rules of Procedures, <u>Miss Cyd HO</u>, as presiding Member of the meeting, called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel.

- 2. <u>Mr Andrew CHENG</u> was nominated by Miss CHOY So-yuk and the nomination was seconded by Mr James TO. Mr Andrew CHENG accepted the nomination. There being no other nomination, <u>Miss Cyd HO</u> declared that Mr Andrew CHENG was elected as Chairman of the Panel. <u>Mr Andrew CHENG</u> then took the chair.
- 3. <u>The Chairman</u> called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel.
- 4. <u>Miss CHOY So-yuk</u> was nominated by Mr James TO and the nomination was seconded by Mr IP Kwok-him. Miss CHOY So-yuk accepted the nomination. There being no other nomination, the Chairman declared that Miss CHOY So-yuk was elected as Deputy Chairman of the Panel.

#### II. Schedule of meetings for the 2000-2001 session

5. <u>Members</u> agreed that regular meetings of the Panel would be scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30 pm and the next regular meeting would be held on Tuesday, 14 November 2000.

### III Discussion items for future meetings

- 6. <u>The Chairman</u> informed the meeting that arising from Members' meetings with members of the Eastern District Council (DC) and Tuen Mun DC on 8 June and 13 April 2000 respectively, the following two items had been referred to the Panel for follow-up -
  - (a) Honorarium and allowance for DC members: and
  - (b) Progress on the construction of community halls.

Mr Albert HO said that the Administration had repeatedly stated that following the dissolution of the municipal councils, the function and powers of DCs would be enhanced. He was of the view that the Panel's discussion on item (a) should include functions of the DCs.

- 7. At the Chairman's suggestion, <u>members</u> agreed to discuss the following items at the next meeting scheduled for 14 November 2000 -
  - (a) Functions of DCs and honorarium and allowance for DC members; and
  - (b) Policy on the construction of community facilities.

For the discussion of agenda item (a), <u>Miss Emily LAU</u> requested the Clerk to provide relevant records of remarks about DC functions made by the Chief Executive and public officers for members' reference.

- 8. <u>Miss Cyd HO</u> proposed that the Panel should form a subcommittee to study the issue of discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation. <u>Miss CHOY So-yuk</u> expressed reservation on the proposal. She said that the Panel might end up forming too many subcommittees since its terms of reference covered a wide range of specific issues. <u>Miss HO</u> said that she was concerned that the Panel might have difficulty in forming a quorum to discuss the issue. <u>Mr IP Kwok-him</u> was of the view that the Panel should first discuss the issue before deciding whether a subcommittee should be formed.
- 9. The Chairman suggested and members agreed that the item should be included in the list of discussion items for future meetings. Miss Cyd HO suggested that the Panel should discuss the item as early as possible and invite deputations to present their views. At Mr Albert HO's suggestion, members also agreed that the Administration should be requested to provide a discussion paper so that members could map out the way forward for future discussion. Mr HO added that anti-discriminatory legislation in respect of sexual orientation in overseas countries could serve as useful reference.

# IV Any other business

10. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 11:55 am.

Legislative Council Secretariat 23 October 2000