Extract minutes of meeting of LegCo Members' meeting with Tuen Mun District Council members on 13 April 2000

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Action

(E) Progress on the construction of facilities in Tuen Mun

- 32. Ms WONG Lai-sheung said that as Hong Kong had already applied to host the next Asian Games, she was worried that if the application was successful, the Government would review its resources allocation policy on the construction of community facilities. Eventually, works projects classified as priority projects by the former Provisional Regional Council, including the construction of a swimming pool complex in Area 1, Tuen Mun, would be dropped. She hoped that LegCo Members would assist in following up the progress of the projects. Mr SHUNG King-fai pointed out that the District Officer of Tuen Mun had advised that a review would be conducted by the Government on the works projects planned by the former Provisional Regional Council. That being the case, he was afraid that the relevant development projects would be further delayed, resulting in a wastage of resources.
- 33. The Convenor said that LegCo Members had set up a Subcommittee to follow up the outstanding capital works projects of the two Provisional Municipal Councils for inclusion into the Government's Public Works Programme (the Subcommittee). It was charged with the duty of discussing with the Government the way forward regarding the former Provisional Regional Council's projects under planning. The Convenor agreed to refer the project mentioned by Ms WONG to the Subcommittee for follow-up action.

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34. Referring to the paper provided by TMDC member, Mr KWU Hon-keung, which was tabled at the meeting, Ms Josephine CHAN Shu-ying opined that LegCo should formulate its stance on the planning policy of community facilities. She pointed out that the proposed construction of a community hall in Area 4, Tuen Mun was delayed time and again for reasons such as meeting plot ratio requirement and finding adequate co-users, etc. Moreover, the proposed construction of a community hall in Siu Hong Court, Area 51 of Tuen Mun, also experienced similar delay. She suggested that to ensure effective use of land resources, the Government should review the policy on construction of community facilities in the light of the problems arising from the plot ratio and co-user requirements. She considered that there should be flexibility in that construction work should be allowed to commence, while identification of suitable co-users would follow.

- 35. Mr TO Sheck-yuen also asked LegCo Members to follow up the works project on the construction of a community hall complex in Area 4 as highlighted in Mr KWU Hon-keung's paper.
- 36. Mr CHAN Wan-sang pointed out that the Castle Peak Foothills Bypass was very close to the viaduct next to Lung Mun Oasis, thus seriously affecting the quality of living of the residents in Blocks 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Lung Mun Oasis. The air quality of the recreation ground on the podium of the housing estate was also seriously impaired. Although residents of Lung Mun Oasis had, in the past two years, stricken to have environmental improvement facilities constructed at the affected section of the viaduct, no decision had been made by the Administration so far. He urged LegCo Members to follow up the proposed improvement works.
- 37. <u>Hon Albert HO</u> said that the Government seemed to have reservations about the development projects planned by the two Provisional Municipal Councils. He also pointed out that although LegCo Members had the power not to approve the funding proposals for works projects submitted to LegCo by the Government, they had no right to instruct the Government as to which project should be accorded priority.
- 38. Mr LEE Hung-sham, Ms CHING Chi-hung and Mr TO Sheck-yuen enquired about the latest progress of the construction of the swimming pool complex in Area 1, Tuen Mun. Ms Josephine CHAN Shu-ying also expressed concern about the problem of inadequate library facilities in Tuen Mun. They asked LegCo Members to assist in following up the planning and progress of the provision of such facilities. The Convenor responded that TMDC members' views on the issue would be referred to the Subcommittee and relevant Panel for follow-up action.

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