立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1) 798/02-03 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB1/BC/7/01/2

Bills Committee on Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2002

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 9 January 2003 at 10:45 am in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

Members present: Hon HUI Cheung-ching, JP (Chairman)

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon SIN Chung-kai

Hon Andrew WONG Wang-fat, JP Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP

Members absent: Hon CHAN Kam-lam, JP

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP

Public officers attending

: Mr Martin GLASS

Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the

Treasury

Mr Edward MAK

Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the

Treasury

Mr Allen LAI

Senior Government Counsel

Mr CHOW Kwong

Assistant Commissioner of Customs and Excise

Mr LAM Ming-mon

Senior Staff Officer (Dutiable Commodities

Administration), Customs and Excise Department

Mr HUI Chiu-chun

Staff Officer (Excise Control), Customs and Excise

Department

Mr LEUNG Yuk-chiu

Senior Inspector (Excise Research), Customs and

Excise Department

Clerk in attendance: Ms Connie SZETO

Chief Assistant Secretary (1)4

Staff in attendance: Miss Anita HO

Assistant Legal Adviser 2

Mr S C TSANG

Senior Assistant Secretary (1)7

Action

I Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(1) 651/02-03 -- Minutes of meeting held on

18 December 2002)

The minutes of meeting held on 18 December 2002 were confirmed.

II Meeting with the Administration

(LC Paper No. CB(1) 650/02-03(01) -- Information paper provided by

the Administration on matters arising from the Bills Committee meeting on

3 January 2003

LC Paper No. CB(1) 650/02-03(02) -- Draft Committee Stage

amendments proposed by the

Administration

LC Paper No. CB(3) 343/01-02 -- The Dutiable Commodities

(Amendment) Bill 2002

LC Paper No. CB(1) 544/02-03(02) -- Marked-up copy of the

Dutiable Commodities

(Amendment) Bill 2002)

Action

2. The Bills Committee deliberated (Index of proceedings attached at the **Annex**).

Admin 3. The Administration undertook to take follow-up actions as follows:

- (a) To provide further elaboration on the term "absolute discretion" as quoted in paragraph 5 of the Administration's paper tabled at the meeting and on the reference to "absolute discretion" in section 7;
- (b) To consider other formulation for new section 8A in the light of suggestions made by members in order to provide greater clarity to OBS applicants or licensees on the criteria to be taken into account by the Commissioner;
- (c) To consider including a provision to require the Commissioner to give reasons on refusal to grant, renew, or to revoke OBS licences; and
- (d) On the new Regulation 22AA, to provide further information on the requirement for OBS licensees to submit renewal application no earlier than two months before expiry of the licences, and similar provisions in existing legislation.

III Any other business

4. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:25 pm.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
24 January 2003