

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)2315/02-03  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/BC/9/02

**Bills Committee on Betting Duty (Amendment) Bill 2003**

**Minutes of meeting  
held on Friday, 23 May 2003 at 3:15 pm  
in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members Present** : Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan  
Hon Eric LI Ka-cheung, JP  
Hon SIN Chung-kai  
Hon Howard YOUNG, JP  
Hon Ambrose LAU Hon-chuen, GBS, JP  
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo  
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, SBS, JP  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP  
Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung  
Hon IP Kwok-him, JP  
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
- Members Absent** : Hon James TO Kun-sun  
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP  
Hon WONG Sing-chi
- Public Officers Attending** : Mr Stephen FISHER  
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2)
- Ms Esther LEUNG  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (5)
- Mr Ryan CHIU  
Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (5)1

Mr W L CHEUNG  
Senior Government Counsel (Law Drafting Division)  
Department of Justice

**Clerk in Attendance** : Miss Flora TAI  
Chief Assistant Secretary (2)2

**Staff in Attendance** : Mr Stephen LAM  
Assistant Legal Adviser 4

Miss Lolita SHEK  
Senior Assistant Secretary (2)7

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Action

**I. Meeting with the Administration**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)2101/02-03(01), CB(2)2111/02-03(02), and CB(2)2134/02-03(01)]

The Committee deliberated the response from the Administration to the issues raised by members at the meeting on 9 May 2003 (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

Adm 2. The Administration was requested to take the following actions –

Measures to address gambling-related problems

- (a) to commission academic institutes other than the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to conduct tracking surveys on the impact of gambling participation and prevalence of problem and pathological gambling in Hong Kong so as to increase the objectivity of the results of the surveys since the former had already conducted a similar survey for the Government in 2001;
- (b) to expedite the implementation of the measures to address gambling-related problems so that preventive education programmes and the provision of treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers would commence before the operation of authorized football betting;
- (c) to ensure that the counseling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers would be provided by qualified experts;

- (d) to review the demand for the services mentioned in (b) above regularly and provide the required resources to meet the additional demand, if any;
- (e) to consider conducting correlation studies in Macau;
- (f) to consider establishing a mechanism to ensure the provision of funding for the continuous operation of the dedicated fund and hence the continuation of the measures to address gambling-related problems even if the operation of authorized football betting was discontinued in future;
- (g) to ascertain whether there was any expert advice on the causal relationship between football betting and problem or pathological gamblers;

Membership of the Gaming Commission and the advisory committee on the dedicated fund

- (h) to ensure that representatives from the fields of religion, education, social work and research would be appointed to the advisory committee on the management and use of the dedicated fund;
- (i) to ensure that representatives from the fields of religion, education and social work would be appointed to the Gaming Commission; and
- (j) to amend the proposed new section 6B in the Bill to specify the membership of the Gaming Commission as proposed in (i) above.

3. Ms Cyd HO said that if the Administration refused to accept the request in paragraph 2(j) above, she would move an amendment to the proposed new section 6B in the Bill to specify the composition of the Gaming Commission accordingly.

4. Members agreed that the Hong Kong Jockey Club should be invited to a future meeting of the Bills Committee to present its views on the proposed licensing conditions for football betting.

## II. Any other business

### Dates of future meetings

5. In addition to the four meetings already scheduled for May and June, members agreed to conduct four more meetings as follows -

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Friday, 13 June 2003	8:30 am
Monday, 16 June 2003	8:30 am
Wednesday, 18 June 2003	10:45 am
Friday, 20 June 2003	8:30 am

6. Members noted that 81 organizations and individuals had requested to present views on the Bill. They agreed that -

- (a) the Bills Committee would also receive public views at its meetings on 10 and 12 June 2003 respectively;
- (b) 27 deputations and individuals would be invited to present their views at each of the meetings scheduled for 28 May, 10 and 12 June 2003;
- (c) the speaking time for each deputation/individual would be 4 minutes; and
- (d) at the discretion of the Chairman, deputations/individuals which/who commented on the provisions of the Bill would be given a longer speaking time.

7. Members also noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 28 May 2003 to receive public views.

8. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:55 pm.

**Proceedings of the meeting of the Bills Committee on  
 Betting Duty (Amendment) Bill 2003  
 on Friday, 23 May 2003 at 3:15 pm  
 in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
0000 - 0910	Chairman Mr Andrew CHENG Ms Cyd HO Mr Tommy CHEUNG Mr Eric LI	Scheduling of additional meetings to receive public views and to continue the discussion of the Bill in June 2003	
0911 - 1731	Chairman Admin Mr SIN Chung-kai Mr Andrew CHENG Mr Tommy CHEUNG	Invitation from the Hong Kong Jockey Club for a visit to its computer facilities for the operation of authorized football betting	
1732 - 2634	Chairman Admin	Admin's response to the issues raised by members at the meeting on 9 May 2003  Proposed measures to address gambling-related problems [LC Paper No. CB(2)2111/02-03(01)]	
2635 - 2917	Mr Andrew CHENG Chairman Admin	Selection of academic institutes to conduct tracking surveys on the impact of gambling participation, and prevalence of problem and pathological gambling in Hong Kong	<b>Admin (see para. 2(a) of minutes of meeting)</b>
2918 - 3927	Chairman Mr Michael MAK Admin	Provision of additional funding for the dedicated fund and distribution of funding among the three types of preventive and remedial measures proposed to address gambling-related problems  Provision of counseling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers by qualified professionals	<b>Admin (see para. 2(c) of minutes of meeting)</b>

3928 - 5423	Ms Cyd HO Chairman Admin	Commencement of counseling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers  Provision of the required resources to meet additional demand for counseling and treatment services in future	<b>Admin</b> <b>(see para. 2(b) and (d) of minutes of meeting)</b>
5424 - 011724	Ms Audrey EU Admin Chairman Mr Tommy CHEUNG	Relationship between authorized football betting and problem and pathological gambling in Hong Kong  Existing treatment programmes available for problem and pathological gamblers	<b>Admin</b> <b>(see para. 2(g) of minutes of meeting)</b>
011725 - 012147	Chairman Mr Michael MAK Admin	Treatment for problem and pathological gamblers  Conduct of correlation studies in Macau	<b>Admin</b> <b>(see para. 2(e) of minutes of meeting)</b>
012148 - 012827	Chairman Ms Cyd HO Admin	Commencement of counseling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers  Membership of the Gaming Commission and the advisory committee on the dedicated fund  Establishment of a mechanism to ensure the continuous operation of the dedicated fund	<b>Admin</b> <b>(see para. 2(f), (h), (i) and (j) of minutes of meeting)</b>
012828 - 012928	Chairman Mr Timothy FOK	Allocation of the tax revenue generated from football betting for the promotion of soccer sport  [LC Paper No. CB(2)2134/02-03(01)]	
012929 - 013318	Chairman	Admin's response to the submissions received on the authorization of football betting and the Bill  [LC Paper No. CB(2)2111/02-03(02)]  Date of next meeting	