

Extract of

**Economic Relaunch Working Group
Minutes of the Eighth Meeting held on 2 July 2003 (Wednesday)
at 11:00 a.m. in Room 1220, West Wing, CGO**

Present

Mr Antony Leung, FS (Chairman)
Mr Henry Tang, SCIT
Mr Stephen Ip, SEDL
Miss Yvonne Choi, DIS

In attendance

Miss Denise Yue, PS(CI)
Mr Alan Lai, PS(Tsy)
Mrs Pamela Tan, DHA
Ms Eva Cheng, CT
Mrs Ella Tam, DDIS
Mr Raymond Tam, AA/FS
Mrs Mary Leung, PrS/FS
Mr Ian McCabe, Burson-Marsteller
Ms Ophelia Tsang, ADG(3), InvestHK (Note-taker)
Mr David Chiu, CEO(SD), InvestHK
Miss Hannafew Chan, AA/ADG3/InvestHK
Mr Chris Sun, AD2/HAD (for ERWG Paper 27/03)
Mr James Thompson, (for item 3)
American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong
Mr Jon Niermann, Walt Disney Co Ltd (for item 3)
Mr Mike Denzel, NBA Asia, Ltd (for item 3)
Mr John Berrick (for item 3)

Apologies

Dr Patrick Ho, SHA
Mr Frederick Ma, SFST
Mr W K Lam, D/CEO
Mr M J T Rowse, DGIP (Secretary)

Action

Agenda item 3 : Presentation by American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong on “International Autumn Festival”

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4. Messrs James Thompson, Jon Niermann, Mike Denzel and John Berrick made a presentation on “International Autumn Festival”. Under the proposal, a variety of entertainment events would run from Friday evening to Sunday for four consecutive weekends in October. Performance highlights would be broadcast in USA and other countries. The estimated subsidy from the Government was about HK\$100 million.

5. **The meeting** agreed to support the proposal in principle and to underwrite the event up to HK\$100 million, subject to InvestHK’s scrutiny and satisfaction of the detailed budget. Members also agreed that November would be preferable to October for holding the Festival. AmCham/Disney should endeavour to make the event as commercially viable as possible, with a view to reducing the Government’s subsidy and making it an annual event.

6. **CT** said that sufficient lead time should be allowed for promoting the Festival to attract inbound tourists. She also pointed out that incidental costs should be taken into account in studying the detailed budget as there could be cost to Government not included in AmCham’s budget. InvestHK would keep the Working Group informed of the development in organising the “International Autumn Festival”.

*InvestHK
July 2003*