

Panel on Education
List of follow-up actions
(position as at 12 December 2003)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
<p>1. <u>Loans to non-profit-making international schools</u></p> <p>1.1 Review of the policy on financial assistance to schools operated by the English Schools Foundation (ESF)</p>	<p>26.11.99 (Finance Committee)</p>	<p>The Administration agreed to report the outcome of the review to the Panel in due course.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest position</u> Current per class subsidy has already been frozen at the 1999-2000 school year price level. The Administration is reviewing the subsidy policy on ESF taking into account the prevailing financial stringency of Government, cost-effectiveness of ESF's operation and the interests of parents and students.</p>
<p>2. <u>Further expansion of the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme (NLS)</u></p> <p>2.1 Risk-adjusted factor and repayment period</p>	<p>19.6.00</p>	<p>The Panel requested the Administration to review the risk-adjusted factor and the repayment period of NLS in the light of members' comments at the meeting.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest position</u> The Administration is considering the possibility of outsourcing NLS to the private sector.</p>

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<p>3. <u>Briefing on the Higher Education Review</u></p> <p>3.1 Institutional governance and staff grievances</p>	<p>2.12.02</p>	<p>The University Grants Committee (UGC) agreed to provide an update on the development of an internal grievances and complaint mechanism in UGC-funded tertiary institutions at an appropriate time.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest position</u> The institutions are at various stages of reviewing their governance and management structures, including their internal grievances and complaint mechanisms. The Administration will provide an update in due course.</p>
<p>4. <u>Education expenditure in the draft Estimates for 2003-04</u></p> <p>4.1 List of village schools to be closed down</p>	<p>17.3.03</p>	<p>The Administration undertook to inform the Panel after consulting the village schools concerned.</p>	<p>Eleven village schools are expected to close down by the end of the 2003/04 school year.</p>
<p>5. <u>Enhanced School Development and Accountability</u></p> <p>5.1 Implementation of the enhanced school development and accountability (SDA) framework</p>	<p>28.4.03</p>	<p>The Administration agreed to provide an interim report on the results of implementation by the end of the 2003-04 school year.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest position</u> Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) will conduct External School Review to 100 schools from February to June 2004. An interim report on</p>

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			<p>the results of implementation of the SDA framework will be prepared by the end of the 2003-04 school year.</p> <p>The development of SDA is to be based on on-going review, consultation with schools and the establishment of protocols. With a phase-in approach in the implementation of SDA, schools' capacity for evaluating their own performance will be strengthened, and school operation will become more transparent and accountable.</p>
<p>6. <u>Matching Fund for University Grants Committee-funded Institutions</u></p> <p>6.1 Review of the operation of the Matching Grant Scheme</p>	<p>19.5.03</p>	<p>The Administration undertook to provide a report on the review of the first phase of the Matching Grant Scheme.</p>	<p>Proposal for second phase of the Scheme submitted to Panel for discussion on 9 December 2003.</p>

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<p>7. <u>Study on teaching in small classes</u></p> <p>7.1 Strategies and practices of variable group teaching</p>	<p>16.6.03</p>	<p>The Administration undertook to provide details of the good strategies and practices, the particulars of the schools practising variable group teaching and the interim review on the proposed study on effective group strategies of small class and other variable group teaching in primary schools.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest Position</u> Data collected from the questionnaire survey is being analysed, and school visits are being conducted. The Administration will revert to the Panel on the findings on 16 February 2004 (tentative).</p>
<p>8. <u>Results of the 2003 Language Proficiency Assessment for teachers</u></p> <p>8.1 Options for upgrading the quality of English teachers</p>	<p>23.6.03</p>	<p>The Panel requested the Administration to explore workable options for upgrading the quality of English teachers and provide a paper in October 2003.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p><u>Latest Position</u> The Hong Kong Institute of Education has introduced preparation courses for Language Proficiency Assessment for Teachers since August 2003. More would be organized from September 2003 to January 2004. A paper to report details will be prepared soon.</p>

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<p>9. <u>Future provision of associate degree programmes in the City University of Hong Kong</u></p> <p>9.1 Report of the Working Group on Associate Degree Programmes established by the CityU Council</p>	<p>30.6.03</p>	<p>The Administration and UGC agreed to provide the Panel with the report of the Working Group in due course.</p>	<p>A draft Working Group report was issued for consultation within CityU, and would be submitted to the CityU Council in due course.</p> <p>Panel further discussed the issue in 20 October and 17 November 2003.</p>

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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