Bills Committee on Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Bill

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 4 October 2005

- (1) To advise the proposed controls under the Bill which are over and above the requirements of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and/or not covered under the existing Animals and Plants (Protection of Endangered Species) Ordinance (Cap. 187) and the justifications for such controls. To also advise whether a scheduled species caught or bred domestically in Hong Kong falls within the control under the Bill.
- (2) To elaborate the requirements under the proposed section 29(1) on a person to state the scientific name and common name of a scheduled species in his possession or under his control (live or dead) and the elements of offence under the proposed section 29(2), in particular, not knowing the scientific name amounts to reasonable excuse under the proposed section 29(2)(a). To also consider specifying in proposed section 29 the different levels of control for scheduled species (live or dead) under CITES Appendices.
- (3) To consider applying different grace periods for dealings in different scheduled species. To also advise the arrangements for unsold stock after expiry of the grace periods.
- (4) To explain the rationale for empowering authorized officers, including those from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, to enter/inspect trading premises, dispose/forfeit things seized (in particular, things which the owners do not know that they are scheduled species) and arrest.
- (5) To relay to the Economic Development and Labour Bureau the need to clarify any misunderstandings about the need for the proposed controls which are indeed in line with international practices.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
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