

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2) 1738/04-05

Ref : CB2/H/5/04

House Committee of the Legislative Council

**Minutes of the 29th meeting
held in the Legislative Council Chamber
at 3:35 pm on Friday, 27 May 2005**

Members present :

Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan

Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, S.B.St.J., JP

Hon Martin LEE Chu-ming, SC, JP

Dr Hon David LI Kwok-po, GBS, JP

Dr Hon LUI Ming-wah, JP

Hon Margaret NG

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong

Hon CHAN Kam-lam, JP

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP

Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP

Hon Howard YOUNG, SBS, JP

Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Hon LAU Chin-shek, JP

Hon LAU Kong-wah, JP

Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBS, JP

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon CHOY So-yuk

Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo

Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP

Hon LI Fung-ying, BBS, JP

Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, JP

Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP

Hon Vincent FANG Kang, JP

Mr LEE Yu-sung	Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1
Mr Arthur CHEUNG	Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 2
Miss Kathleen LAU	Chief Public Information Officer
Miss Becky YU	Chief Council Secretary (1)1
Mrs Constance LI	Chief Council Secretary (2)5
Mrs Betty LEUNG	Chief Council Secretary (3)1
Miss Lolita SHEK	Senior Council Secretary (2)7

Action

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 28th meeting held on 20 May 2005
(*LC Paper No. CB(2) 1654/04-05*)

The minutes were confirmed.

II. Matters arising

Report by the Chairman on her meeting with the Chief Secretary for Administration

2. The Chairman said that there was nothing special to report.

III. Business arising from previous Council meetings

Legal Service Division report on bills referred to the House Committee in accordance with Rule 54(4)

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Asia) Limited (Merger) Bill
(*LC Paper No. LS 71/04-05*)

3. The Chairman said that the Bill was a Member's Bill introduced by Dr David LI to provide for the vesting in Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Asia) Limited of the undertakings of the Hong Kong Branch of Belgian Bank.

4. The Chairman further said that Dr David LI would introduce a minor technical amendment to the Bill to achieve consistency in the Chinese rendition of "conclusive evidence".

5. Mr Albert HO suggested that a decision on the Bill be deferred to the next meeting to allow Members more time to study the Bill.

6. The Chairman proposed that a decision on the Bill be deferred to the next meeting on 3 June 2005. Members agreed.

IV. Further business for the Council meeting on 1 June 2005

(a) Questions

(LC Paper No. CB(3) 628/04-05)

7. The Chairman said that three new questions would be raised by Mr LEE Wing-tat, Mr Andrew CHENG and Mr Martin LEE respectively at the Council meeting on 1 June 2005.

(b) Members' Bill - First Reading and moving of Second Reading

The Methodist Church, Hong Kong, Incorporation (Amendment) Bill 2005

8. The Chairman said that Mr LAU Chi-shek would present the Bill to LegCo on 1 June 2005. The House Committee would consider the Bill at its meeting on 3 June 2005.

V. Business for the Council meeting on 8 June 2005

(a) Questions

(LC Paper No. CB(3) 629/04-05)

9. The Chairman said that 20 questions (six oral and 14 written) had been scheduled for the Council meeting on 8 June 2005.

(b) Bills - First Reading and moving of Second Reading

10. The Chairman said that no notice had been received yet.

(c) Government motion

11. The Chairman said that no notice had been received yet.

(d) Members' motions

(i) Motion to be moved by Hon Vincent FANG Kang

12. The Chairman said that the subject of the motion to be moved by Mr Vincent FANG was "Actively improving the business environment for small and medium enterprises". The wording of the motion had been issued to Members and also tabled at the meeting.

(ii) Motion to be moved by Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long

13. The Chairman said that the subject of the motion to be moved by Dr Joseph LEE was "Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information for pre-packaged food". The wording of the motion had been issued to Members and also tabled at the meeting.

14. The Chairman reminded Members that the deadline for giving notice of amendments, if any, to the motions was Wednesday, 1 June 2005.

VI. Reports of Bills Committees and subcommittees

(a) Report of the Bills Committee on Trade Descriptions (Amendment) Bill 2004

(LC Paper No. CB(1) 1629/04-05)

15. The Chairman said that Ms Margaret NG, Chairman of the Bills Committee, had given a verbal report at the last meeting, and a written report was now provided for Members' reference.

16. Ms Margaret NG said that the Bills Committee supported the Committee Stage Amendments (CSAs) proposed by the Administration.

17. The Chairman said that the Second Reading debate on the Bill would resume on 8 June 2005. The deadline for giving notice of CSAs was Monday, 30 May 2005.

(b) Report of the Bills Committee on Revenue (Allowances for Tax) Bill 2005

(LC Paper No. CB(1) 1626/04-05)

18. Mr CHAN Kam-lam, Chairman of the Bills Committee, said that the Bills Committee supported the resumption of the Second Reading debate on the Bill on 8 June 2005.

19. The Chairman reminded Members that the deadline for giving notice of CSAs was Monday, 30 May 2005.

(c) Report of the Bills Committee on Public Health and Municipal Services (Amendment) Bill 2005

[Hon Fred LI will report that the Bills Committee has decided to hold in abeyance the consideration of the Bill.]

Action

20. Mr Fred LI, Chairman of the Bills Committee, said that at its meeting on 24 May 2005, members expressed various concerns, including the procedure for exercising the power of entry into private premises, given that about 24 000 multi-storey buildings without owners' corporations, more than 2 000 abandoned huts, and vast areas of private farmland would be affected by the Bill. Mr Tommy CHEUNG and Mr WONG Yung-kan considered that the Administration should consult the 18 District Councils (DCs) and Heung Yee Kuk (HYK) on the proposals in the Bill.

21. Mr LI further said that the Bills Committee had decided to hold in abeyance the consideration of the Bill, to allow time for the Administration to consult 18 DCs and HYK.

VII. Position on Bills Committees/subcommittees
(*LC Paper No. CB(2) 1655/04-05*)

22. The Chairman said that there were 13 Bills Committees and 10 subcommittees in action.

23. The Chairman, in her capacity as Chairman of the Subcommittee to Study Four Items of Subsidiary Legislation under the Road Traffic Ordinance, said that she would move a motion at the Council meeting on 1 June 2005 to extend the scrutiny period of the four Regulations to 29 June 2005.

24. The Chairman said that as there were two vacant slots, the following Bills Committees could commence work –

- (a) Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2005; and
- (b) Bills Committee on Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels and Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2005.

VIII. Any other business

25. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 3:45 pm.