

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 9/04-05

Ref: CB(3)/SC/PL(04-05)

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 8 October 2004

Formation of the Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee

Purpose

This paper invites Members to determine the size of the Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee of the House Committee and the procedure for electing Members to sit on it.

Background

2. Rule 34 of the House Rules provides for the formation of a Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee under the House Committee. The Subcommittee co-ordinates all parliamentary liaison activities between the Council and other parliamentary organizations outside Hong Kong, considers proposals for setting up friendship groups with such organizations, and makes recommendations to the House Committee. In addition, members of the Subcommittee participate, on a regular basis, in receiving parliamentarians and delegations visiting Hong Kong. The Subcommittee's terms of reference are in the **Appendix**.

3. The Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee of the first term of the Legislative Council consisted of a chairman, a deputy chairman and seven members. In the second term of the Council, the House Committee decided that the Subcommittee could have a maximum of 12 members and that it was not necessary to fill all the 12 seats if less than 12 nominations were received at the time of election. At the meeting of the House Committee held on 20 October 2000, nine Members were elected to the Subcommittee. It was also agreed that the Subcommittee's membership should be balanced and broadly representative of the groups in the Council.

4. The need for the Hong Kong legislature to establish and maintain contacts with legislatures outside Hong Kong has always been recognized. On the recommendation of the Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee in the first term of the Legislative Council, friendship groups with members of the legislatures of Australia, Canada, European Union, Japan and Singapore have been established.

5. All Members of the Council are entitled to participate in the activities of these friendship groups. Such activities are mainly social in nature and provide opportunities for the exchange of views among parliamentarians. During the second term of the Legislative Council, visits to Canada, Singapore and Thailand were organized. Members of the Japan-Hong Kong Parliamentarian League visited the Council in 2003.

Decisions sought

6. Members are invited to:
- (a) determine the size of the Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee (there were nine members in the Subcommittee of the first and second terms of the Legislative Council respectively); and
 - (b) adopt the previous procedure whereby the election of Members to the Subcommittee was by way of nominations at a meeting of the House Committee. A valid nomination should be made orally by a Member, seconded by at least one other Member who should not be the Member being nominated, and accepted by the Member being nominated. If there are more nominations than the places available, an election by a show of hands will be conducted.

Election of Members to the Subcommittee

7. If the House Committee endorses the election procedure in paragraph 6 above, it is recommended that the election of Members to the Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee be conducted at the House Committee meeting to be held on 15 October 2004.

Legislative Council Secretariat
6 October 2004

Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee

Terms of Reference

- (1) To promote liaison and develop good relationship with parliamentary bodies in various territories;
- (2) To consider proposals for the formation of friendship groups with legislatures outside Hong Kong;
- (3) To deal with all matters pertaining to the activities of parliamentary friendship groups, including sending delegations on visits outside Hong Kong and hosting activities with delegations visiting Hong Kong; and
- (4) To make recommendations to the House Committee in respect of the above.