

立法會 CB(2) 1332/04-05(14)號文件
LC Paper No. CB(2) 1332/04-05(14)



Clark to Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Attn: Ms. Anna Cheung
Fax: 25090775
Date: 19th April 2005

Dear Anna,

Legislative Council
Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Thank you for your invitation. I am sorry to inform you that a representative from Civic Exchange will not be able to attend the meeting on 26th April 2005, but please see below our written submission on the proposed Fisheries Protection (Amendment) Bill.

Civic Exchange is generally supportive of the proposed bill. However, we do have some comments:

1. The term "recreational fishing" should be well defined;
2. Recreational fishing should be subject to the controls under the proposed licence system;
3. Destructive trawling activities should be banned;
4. All Fisheries Protection Areas (FPAs) should also be designated as "no-take" zones;
5. The "closed season" should be proposed as soon as possible (NOT "*if the fisheries resources deteriorate further after implementation of the first two measures AND when we consider it necessary*"). Actually, the fisheries resources have been deteriorating for decades so there is an urgent need to have better fisheries protection measures. Further implementation will only take another 3 to 5 years.
6. The Government should allocate funding for buying-back some of the licences in order to limit the fishing efforts to achieve sustainable fisheries. What can be expected is that all vessel-owners will apply for a permit as "*the fees for licence issuance or renewal will be set on a cost recovery basis*".

We hope our comments will be taken into account when modifying the proposed bill.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Thierry T.C. Chan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thierry T.C. Chan
Researcher

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