

Panel on Security

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 27 October 2004)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Items proposed by members

1. Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Identity Card Project

At the special meeting on 14 February 2001, the Administration undertook to report the progress of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Identity Card Project to the Panel on a regular basis. The Administration briefed members on the results of the second Privacy Impact Assessment study and the latest developments on non-immigration applications for incorporation into the smart identity card at the meeting on 10 July 2002. The Bills Committee on Registration of Persons (Amendment) Bill 2001 and other interested Members visited the Immigration Department on 8 March 2003 to view a demonstration on the new work process of the Smart Identity Card System.

To be confirmed

In the course of deliberations of the Registration of Persons (Amendment) Bill 2001, the Administration undertook -

- (a) to brief the Panel on Security on the progress of the implementation of the System before the Commissioner of Registration specifies the date on which the System comes into operation;

(Note : A demonstration to Members in a live production environment was conducted on 17 June 2003.)

- (b) to draw up a code of practice in consultation with the Privacy Commissioner setting out the rules on the collection, use of and access to smart ID card data and the conduct of privacy compliance audit;

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

(Note : Director of Immigration appointed a consultant in February 2004 to conduct the fourth Privacy Impact Assessment, the outcome of which would assist in the compilation of a code of practice.)

- (c) to provide a copy of the privacy compliance audit report to LegCo after the audit is completed;
- (d) to brief the relevant Panels before introducing subsidiary legislation providing for the incorporation of new non-registration of persons related applications in the chip of a smart ID card; and
- (e) to launch publicity programmes through overseas Economic and Trade Offices to notify overseas HKSAR permanent residents of the ID card replacement exercise and the requirement to apply for a new card within 30 days of their return to Hong Kong.

(Note : The Administration has advised that relevant publicity including placing advertisements in newspapers, distributing leaflets and displaying posters, has been launched since August 2003 with the assistance of Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices overseas.)

The Registration of Persons (Amendment) Bill 2001 was passed by the Legislative Council on 19 March 2003 and commenced operation on 12 May 2003. The Administration's final report on the third Privacy Impact Assessment had been circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)917/03-04 on 8 January 2004. The Administration's progress report on the Project had been circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)3025/03-04 on 6 July 2004.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

The Secretary for Security had made Orders under the Registration of Persons Ordinance to direct certain persons to apply for new identity cards. A subcommittee formed to examine such Orders had concluded its work and made a report to the House Committee on 27 June 2003. The Orders commenced operation on 10 July 2003 and the territory-wide replacement exercise had started on 18 August 2003. To prepare for the second cycle of the replacement exercise, the Secretary for Security had made another Order to direct persons born in 1958 to 1963 to apply for new identity cards. The Order was gazetted on 12 December 2003 and commenced operation on 5 February 2004. To prepare for the third cycle of the replacement exercise commencing in September 2004 and to make special arrangement for cross-boundary drivers to apply for new identity cards, the Secretary for Security had made an Order to direct persons born in 1952 to 1957 and certain cross-boundary drivers to apply for new identity cards. The Order was gazetted on 7 May 2004 and commenced operation on 1 July 2004.

2. Commencement of the Fire Safety (Buildings) Bill

In the course of examination of the commencement clause of the Fire Safety (Buildings) Bill, the Bills Committee considered that the Bill should not come into operation before the amendments to the Building Management Ordinance to empower owners' corporations to borrow from the Building Safety Loan Scheme had been enacted. The Administration would, when time was ripe and circumstances permit, prepare a paper setting out its views and proposal for bringing the Bill into force for discussion by the Panel. The Administration undertook not to bring the Bill into operation without first obtaining the support of a great majority of members of the Panel.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

The Administration provided a paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)104/04-05(01) issued on 27 October 2004) advising that subject to the passage of the Building Management (Amendment) Bill, which was expected to be introduced into the Legislative Council in April 2005, and related subsidiary legislation, the Administration would in due course prepare a paper to consult the Panel on the timing for bringing the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance into force.

3. Guidelines in the Force Procedures Manual on the seizure of property

In the course of deliberation concerning the time for the return of seized property, the Bills Committee on Karaoke Establishments Bill made reference to the general guidelines in the Force Procedures Manual. A member of the Bills Committee took the view that the guidelines in the Force Procedures Manual should set out more information such as whether the seizure was absolutely necessary, the quantity of items which should be seized and whether quantity seized would have a punitive effect. The Bills Committee agreed that the matter should be referred to the Panel for follow-up. A note dated 17 May 2004 from Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2561/03-04(01) on 28 May 2004 and the Administration's response was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)3067/03-04 on 12 July 2004.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

4. Monitoring of anti-terrorism measures by the Administration

In the course of deliberations of the Bills Committee on United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Bill, the Administration undertook to review periodically the anti-terrorism measures set out in legislation to ensure that they were in line with the international trend. The Bills Committee agreed that the monitoring of anti-terrorism measures should be referred to the Panel for follow-up. The Administration provided updated information on the anti-terrorism laws of a number of overseas jurisdictions at the Panel meeting on 20 February 2003 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1113/02-03(03).

To be confirmed

A submission from the Amnesty International, Hong Kong Section Limited on the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)170/02-03 on 25 October 2002 for members' information. The Administration's response to the submission was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)411/02-03 on 19 November 2002.

At the suggestion of members, the subject of "Measures to combat terrorist activities in Hong Kong" was discussed at the meeting on 5 December 2002.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

At the meetings on 16 January 2003 and 20 February 2003, the Panel was consulted on the proposals in the United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) (Amendment) Bill 2003, which sought to implement relevant international conventions against terrorism, and to provide the means for the Secretary for Security to effectively freeze terrorist assets which are not funds. The Administration subsequently introduced the Bill on 21 May 2003. A Bills Committee formed to study the Bill had completed its work and the Bill was passed at the Council meeting on 30 June 2004. During the resumption of Second Reading debate on the Bill, the Administration stated that it would review the reporting requirements under section 12 of the Ordinance and section 25A of the Drug Trafficking (Recovery of Proceeds) Ordinance and the Organized and Serious Crimes Ordinance in the context of the exercise to put in place the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering's Forty Recommendations which was scheduled to start in 2004-05.

In its letter dated 27 October 2004 (LC Paper No. CB(2)110/04-05(01) issued on 28 October 2004), the Administration advised that it planned to launch the proposed review of the suspicious transaction reporting requirements in the first quarter of 2005.

5. Follow-up on measures to combat illegal employment

Measures to combat illegal employment were discussed at the Panel meeting on 13 November 2003. Hon James TO suggested that the issue be discussed again at the meeting in December 2004.

To be confirmed

6. Follow-up on issues relating to the Police's List of Recordable Offences

Issues relating to the Police's List of Recordable Offences and Certificate of No Criminal Conviction were discussed at the meeting on 2 April 2004. Hon James TO proposed that the matter be followed up by the Panel.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

**7. Report on the research study on regulation of
interception of communications in overseas jurisdictions**

At the meeting on 2 April 2004, members agreed that a research study on the regulation of interception of communications in overseas jurisdictions should be conducted by the Research and Library Services Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat. The outline for the research study was endorsed by the Panel at the meeting on 13 May 2004.

To be confirmed

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
27 October 2004