

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)184/05-06
(These minutes have been
cleared by the Chairman)

Ref: CB1/PL/CI/1

Panel on Commerce and Industry

Minutes of meeting
held on Thursday, 13 October 2005, at 10:10 am
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

- Members present** : Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS
Hon CHIM Pui-chung
- Members absent** : Dr Hon LUI Ming-wah, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP
- Clerk in attendance** : Miss Polly YEUNG
Chief Council Secretary (1)3
- Staff in attendance** : Ms Pauline NG
Assistant Secretary General 1
- Ms Debbie YAU
Senior Council Secretary (1)1
- Mr Paul WOO
Senior Council Secretary (1)3
- Ms Caris CHAN
Senior Legislative Assistant (1)1

Miss Queenie LAM
Senior Legislative Assistant (1)2

Ms Sharon CHAN
Legislative Assistant (1)6

I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

Mrs Sophie LEUNG, Chairman of the Panel for the 2004-2005 session, presided over the election of the Chairman of the Panel for the 2005-2006 session. She invited nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel.

2. Mrs Sophie LEUNG was nominated by Mr Andrew LEUNG and seconded by Mr Vincent FANG. Mrs LEUNG accepted the nomination. Mr WONG Ting-kwong, Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2004-2005 session, took over the chair of the meeting. There being no other nominations, Mrs Sophie LEUNG was declared Chairman of the Panel for the 2005-2006 session.

3. Mrs Sophie LEUNG took over the chair of the meeting and invited nominations for the deputy chairmanship. Regarding Mr SIN Chung-kai's nomination of Mr Andrew LEUNG, which was seconded by Mr WONG Ting-kwong, the Chairman drew members' attention to Rule 77(6) of the Rules of Procedure (RoP), which provided that a Member who was the chairman or deputy chairman of a Government advisory body in respect of matters which a Panel considered to be directly related to the terms of reference of the Panel should not be the chairman or deputy chairman of the Panel. The Hong Kong Productivity Council, of which Mr Andrew LEUNG was the Chairman, was included on the list of Government advisory bodies relevant to this Panel which was in Appendix IV of LC Paper No. CB(1)13/05-06 issued to members on 10 October 2005.

4. In view of the above, Mr SIN Chung-kai withdrew his nomination of Mr Andrew LEUNG, and nominated Mr Vincent FANG to be the Deputy Chairman of the Panel. The nomination was seconded by Mr WONG Ting-kwong. Mr Vincent FANG accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, Mr Vincent FANG was declared Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2005-2006 session.

II. Schedule of meetings for the 2005-2006 session

5. Members noted the schedule of meetings for the 2005-2006 session tabled at the meeting. They agreed to hold the regular meetings of the Panel for the 2005-2006 session on the third Tuesday of each month at 2:30 pm.

III. Discussion items for next meeting

(Appendix V to LC Paper No. CB(1)13/05-06 – List of outstanding items for discussion)

Appendix VI to LC Paper No. CB(1)13/05-06 – List of follow-up actions)

Regular meeting on 18 October 2005

6. Members agreed to discuss the following items at the regular meeting on 18 October 2005 –

- (a) Progress Report on the Sixth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization; and
- (b) Briefing by the Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Trade on relevant policy initiatives in the Chief Executive's Policy Address 2005-2006.

Regular meeting on 15 November 2005

7. Members agreed to discuss the following items at the regular meeting on 15 November 2005 –

- (a) Proposals on various copyright-related issues (item proposed by the Administration); and
- (b) Progress report on implementation of the third phase of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement(CEPA III).

Other issues

Offices of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) Government in the Mainland

8. Mr SIN Chung-kai noted that the Chief Executive (CE) had announced in his Policy Address 2005-2006 that following the establishment of the Office of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in Beijing and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong, the SAR Government would discuss with the Central Authorities the setting up of additional offices in Shanghai and Chengdu with a view to promoting closer ties and co-operation with the Mainland. The CE had also decided to establish a Mainland Affairs Liaison Office (MALO) within the Constitutional Affairs Bureau (CAB) to oversee the work of the existing Hong Kong Guangdong Co-operation Co-ordination Unit and all the SAR Government's offices in the Mainland. Mr SIN suggested that the Administration should be invited to brief the Panel on

how the various offices in the Mainland could render support services to Hong Kong people doing business in the Mainland.

9. Mr Jeffrey LAM said that in reply to his earlier enquiry, the Administration had advised that the role of MALO in CAB would be to co-ordinate the work of the SAR Government's offices in the Mainland. Where specific policy issues were involved, such as those related to trade or immigration, his understanding was that they would be dealt with by the relevant policy bureaux.

10. The Chairman said that as the Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Trade (SCIT) would give a briefing to the Panel on the CE's Policy Address on 18 October 2005, members could seek SCIT's clarification on the respective role of CAB and the Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau over these offices. She said that if members considered it necessary, Mr SIN's proposal could be further discussed by the Panel in due course.

EcoPark

11. Mr SIN Chung-kai referred to the implementation of a sustainable development plan to tackle the problem of environmental pollution and suggested that the Panel might wish to follow up on the progress on the building of the EcoPark in Tuen Mun for the development of environmental industries. In this connection, Mr SIN also recapped that Mr Andrew LEUNG had moved a motion on "Policy on the Recycling Industry" at a previous Council meeting.

(Post-meeting note : As issues relating to the development of the EcoPark fall within the purview of the Panel on Environment Affairs (EA Panel) and they were last discussed by the EA Panel on 30 May 2005, Mr SIN Chung-kai agreed that the subject matter should be followed up by the EA Panel.)

III. Any other business

Visit to Science Park

12. The Chairman sought members' views on a letter received from the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation in August 2005 inviting Legislative Council Members to visit the Science Park. Members agreed to the proposed visit but considered that the visit should be conducted after the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks had appointed its Chief Executive Officer. The Chairman requested the Clerk to liaise with the Corporation on the matter.

(Post-meeting note : The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation agrees to inform the Panel of the appointment of its Chief Executive Officer in due course).

13. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:20 am.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
31 October 2005