

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)2372/06-07
(These minutes have been
cleared by the Chairman)

Ref : CB1/PL/CI/1

Panel on Commerce and Industry

**Minutes of special meeting
held on Monday, 25 June 2007, at 10:00 am
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present** : Hon Vincent FANG Kang, JP (Chairman)
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS (Deputy Chairman)
Dr Hon LUI Ming-wah, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, SBS, JP
Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
- Member attending** : Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP
- Members absent** : Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, SBS, JP
Hon CHIM Pui-chung
- Clerk in attendance** : Miss Erin TSANG
Chief Council Secretary (1)3
- Staff in attendance** : Ms Elyssa WONG
Deputy Head (Research and Library Services Division)

Ms YUE Tin-po
Senior Council Secretary (1)5

Mr Michael YU
Research Officer 7

Ms Guy YIP
Council Secretary (1)1

Ms May LEUNG
Legislative Assistant (1)6

Action

I. Proposed overseas duty visit to the United States, Dubai and Europe
(LC Paper No. CB(1)1961/06-07(01) -- Paper prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat)

The Chairman recalled that at the meeting held on 12 June 2007, some members had proposed that an overseas duty visit be conducted by the Panel, together with the Panel on Economic Services (ES Panel), during the summer recess of the Legislative Council in order to obtain first-hand information on the development of convention and exhibition facilities, as well as cruise terminal facilities. He invited members to express views on whether the proposal should be taken forward and if yes, the duration and itinerary of the visit.

2. Members considered that in view of the rise in the number of exhibition facilities in the neighbouring regions in recent years, it was necessary for Hong Kong to look for new measures to enhance its advantages continuously as an international conventions and exhibition centre. Overseas experiences, such as the enhanced exhibition facilities in the United States and Germany, would provide useful reference for members in their discussion with the Administration on the future development of new exhibition venues in Hong Kong. Moreover, as the Government had already announced its plan for the development of a new cruise terminal at Kai Tak through an open land tender, members also considered it worthwhile to obtain first-hand information on how major cruise ports overseas were developed and their latest development. As such, members in general agreed that, subject to the consent of the ES Panel, an overseas duty visit for about 10 days should be conducted by the two Panels in view of the high overlapping membership of the two Panels and members' common interests in the facilities to be studied. They further opined that the proposed visit would be open to non-Panel Members. Regarding the itinerary, they considered that the visit should cover cities renowned for their state-of-the-art convention and exhibition facilities, as well as cruise terminal facilities particularly those commissioned in recent years. Suggested places to be visited might include Dubai, Germany, Barcelona, Los Angeles and Las Vegas. The visit should be scheduled from the third week of August to mid/end of September 2007 before the exhibition season was over.

Secretariat

3. The Chairman said that, subject to the consent of the ES Panel, the Secretariat should issue a circular inviting members of the two Panels as well as all other Members to indicate their interest in joining the overseas duty visit. Those who expressed interest would also be invited to attend an informal meeting to be scheduled shortly to discuss details of the visit programme and related matters. Approval from the House Committee for conducting the above visit would be sought at its meeting to be held on 6 July 2007.

(Post-meeting note: A circular (LC Paper No. CB(1)1992/06-07) inviting members of the two Panels as well as non-Panel Members to express interest in joining the proposed overseas duty visit and to attend an informal closed meeting on 29 June 2007 for discussion of the visit programme and related matters was issued on 26 June 2007.)

II. Any other business

4. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:30 am.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
19 September 2007