

Panel on Manpower
List of follow-up actions
(position as at 15 June 2007)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Progress of the implementation of the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) System	18.1.01	The Administration was requested to provide monthly progress reports on the implementation of the MPF System.	The progress report as at the end of April 2007 was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1844/06-07 on 14 May 2007.
2. Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals	4.4.03 (Joint meeting with the Panel on Security)	The Administration agreed to provide members with progress reports on the Scheme on a regular basis.	Progress report on the Scheme for the period from 1 October 2006 to 31 March 2007 circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1739/06-07 on 2 May 2007.

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3. Prevention of abuse of the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF)	15.12.05	The Administration was requested - (a) to consider providing a paper setting out its legal view on the issue of requiring all restaurant proprietors to provide bank guarantees for the statutory entitlements of employees; and (b) to provide information on the outcome of suspected fraudulent cases involving PWIF where prosecution had been instituted.	Response awaited. - Ditto -
4. Measures to protect the statutory entitlement of employees under the Employment Ordinance	16.2.06	The Administration was requested to consider executing Labour Tribunal awards on behalf of employees.	Response awaited.
5. Training and refresher courses for workers who operate the specified loadshifting machines used in construction sites	28.4.06	(a) The Administration was requested to look into the various issues raised by members in conjunction with the relevant parties and revert to the Panel.	Response awaited.

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	13.6.06 (Meeting of the Subcommittee on Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Loadshifting Machinery) Regulation (Commencement) Notice 2006)	(b) The Administration was requested - (i) to revert to the Panel on the issue of extending the proposed subsidy scheme of the Occupational Safety and Health Council to refresher courses for the loadshifting machines in the second phase; and (ii) to provide the revised timetable for conducting the consultancy study on introducing a smart card to replace the various certificates relating to industrial safety training.	Response awaited. - Ditto -
6. Strategic review of the Employees Retraining Board	30.5.06	The Administration undertook to provide members with details of its plan for the strategic review, including its scope and coverage.	Response awaited.
7. Age discrimination in employment	20.7.06	The Administration was requested to provide statistics on complaints received by the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Labour Department relating to age discrimination in employment on a regular basis.	Response awaited.

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8. Transport allowance for retrainees under the Employees Retraining Scheme	24.10.06	The Administration was requested to consider channelling resources from the Transport Support Scheme for providing transport allowance for retrainees under the Employees Retraining Scheme and to revert to the Panel on work progress.	Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1881/06-07 on 16 May 2007.
9. Training for ethnic minorities	24.10.06	(a) The Administration was requested to provide information on the details of training courses offered to ethnic minorities, provision of assistance to help them secure employment and the number of persons who had secured employment.	Response awaited.
	17.5.07	(b) The Administration was requested to provide information on the number of CEF-approved training courses designed to meet the specific needs of ethnic minorities. The Administration also agreed to provide information on career-oriented training programmes and retraining courses offered by the Vocational Training Council and the Employees Retraining Board for these people.	- Ditto -

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10. Effectiveness of training programmes under the Task Force on Continuing Development and Employment-related Training for Youth (Task Force)	24.10.06	The Administration was requested to report to the Panel on the effectiveness of the training programmes when the findings of the study on the overall effectiveness of the programmes under the Task Force were available.	Response awaited.
11. Extension of temporary jobs in the public sector	16.11.06	<p>The Administration was requested -</p> <p>(a) to report to the Panel on how the temporary jobs and temporary job holders would be "regularised";</p> <p>(b) to provide information, in respect of each department, on the number of workers before and after their jobs had been regularised together with the reasons for the change, e.g. whether they left employment on their own accord or they were dismissed; and</p> <p>(c) to provide information, in respect of each government department, on the meaning of "regularisation" of jobs, whether the existing temporary job holders could be offered long-term contracts and the duration of their contracts, the establishment of these regularised jobs, and the modus operandi in employing temporary workers on the regularised jobs.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p align="center">- Ditto -</p> <p align="center">- Ditto -</p>

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12. Wage Protection Movement (WPM) for employees in the cleansing and guarding services sectors	21.12.06	(a) The Administration was requested to provide further details about the participating enterprises, e.g. the size of the enterprises, the number of cleaners and security guards employed, and the number of owner's corporations participating in WPM as well as their geographical distribution by district.	The requested information was set out in the two Administration's papers (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1828/06-07(12) and CB(2)1857/06-07(03)) issued respectively on 14 and 15 May 2007, as well as the Administration's letter dated 17 May 2007 issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1906/06-07(02).) The requested information) was set out in the two) Administration's papers) (LC Paper Nos.) CB(2)1828/06-07(12) and) CB(2)1857/06-07(03))) issued respectively on 14) and 15 May 2007, as well) as the Administration's) letter dated 17 May 2007) issued vide LC Paper No.) CB(2)1906/06-07(02).
	18.1.07	(b) The Administration was requested to provide - (i) the name, nature and size of the enterprises participating in WPM, and the number of cleaners and security guards employed by them; (ii) the number of private buildings with owners' corporations which had indicated support for WPM; and	

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	19.4.07	<p>(iii) the impact of wage requirement in WPM on the vacancies placed by employers through the Labour Department (LD) and specifically, the number of vacancies which LD had rejected after the launch of WPM; and</p> <p>(c) The Administration was requested -</p> <p>(i) to provide the Panel with a written response to issues raised by deputations attending the meeting;</p> <p>(ii) to consult the Equal Opportunities Commission whether the intent to make special arrangements for the more vulnerable groups if a statutory minimum wage was introduced would constitute discrimination under the Disability Discrimination Ordinance; and</p> <p>(iii) to provide the Panel as soon as possible with details of the mechanism and criteria for assessing the overall effectiveness of WPM.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p>Response awaited.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>

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13. Occupational injuries and accidents	21.12.06	(a) The Administration was requested to provide a breakdown of the occupational injuries or accidents of employees in the Hospital Authority, including the rehabilitation personnel.	Response awaited.
	15.3.07	(b) The Administration was requested to provide - (i) in respect of the study undertaken by the Administration to consider whether mesothelioma should be designated as a statutory compensable occupational disease and the feasibility of extending the Pneumoconiosis (Compensation) Ordinance to cover mesothelioma, a concrete timetable for completing the study;	Response awaited.
		(ii) a breakdown, by age, occupation and type of work engaged, on the patients diagnosed as suffering from silicosis caused by work in 2006; and	- Ditto -
		(iii) statistics relating to inspection and prosecution of supermarkets for non-compliance with the safety requirements under the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance.	- Ditto -

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14. Protection against unreasonable and unlawful dismissal by reason of the fact that an employee has given evidence, or agreed to give evidence, in any proceedings in relation to the enforcement of the Employment Ordinance (EO)	18.1.07	The Administration agreed to provide members with statistics on cases in which the employers were ordered to pay remedies under EO in respect of unreasonable and unlawful dismissal in the past few years.	Response awaited.
15. Proposed changes to the Tropical Cyclone Warning System	15.3.07	The Administration was requested to provide information on whether the Hong Kong Observatory's plan to implement changes to the Tropical Cyclone Warning System from the coming tropical cyclone season would have impact on employees' work arrangements in times of typhoons.	Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1870/06-07 on 16 May 2007.
16. Implementation of Qualifications Framework (QF)	Meeting of the Bills Committee on Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Bill	<p>(a) The Administration has undertaken to report to the Panel -</p> <p>(i) the progress of implementation of QF in individual industries on a half-yearly basis; and</p> <p>(ii) the results of the review of the pilot scheme on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the Printing and Publishing, Watch and Clock, and Hairdressing industries.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>

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	17.5.07	<p>(b) The Administration was requested to address the following issues raised by members and revert to the Panel in writing -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) measures to monitor the fee charging policy of assessment agencies, and the level of fees charged by these agencies for RPL assessment;(ii) the level of subsidy provided for employees undergoing RPL assessment, and whether reimbursement of RPL assessment fees could be made if employees did not have plans to enroll in QF-recognised training courses; and(iii) expanding the coverage of the proposed financial assistance schemes to include labour unions and trade associations as eligible training providers.	Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2172/06-07 on 14 June 2007.