

立法會
Legislative Council

Ref : CB2/BC/1/07

LC Paper No. CB(2)1078/07-08
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Bills Committee on Legislative Council (Amendment) Bill 2007

**Minutes of the second meeting
held on Friday, 1 February 2008, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Members present : Hon Howard YOUNG, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS (Deputy Chairman)
Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, SBS, S.B.St.J., JP
Dr Hon LUI Ming-wah, SBS, JP
Hon Margaret NG
Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP
Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP
Hon LAU Kong-wah, JP
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, JP
Hon Daniel LAM Wai-keung, SBS, JP
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Hon KWONG Chi-kin
Hon Mrs Anson CHAN, GBM, JP

Members absent : Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong
Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, SBS, JP
Hon TAM Heung-man

Public Officers attending : Item II
The Administration

Mr Arthur HO Kin-wah
Deputy Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Mr Ivanhoe CHANG Chi-ho
Principal Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs

Ms Rayne CHAI Chih-hui
Senior Government Counsel

Mr Eddie NG Sik-hay
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer for Registration and Electoral
Office

Miss Rebecca LEE On-nai
Senior Electoral Officer for Registration and Electoral Office

Clerk in attendance : Mrs Percy MA
Chief Council Secretary (2)3

Staff in attendance : Mr Kelvin LEE
Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Mrs Eleanor CHOW
Senior Council Secretary (2)4

Action

I. Confirmation of minutes of meeting
(LC Paper No. CB(2)981/07-08 - Minutes of meeting on 22 January 2008)

The minutes of meeting held on 22 January 2008 were confirmed.

II. Meeting with the Administration
(LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08(01) - Administration's paper on "Functional
Constituencies of the Legislative Council")

LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08(02) - Administration's paper on "Outline on the
Content of the Bill"

LC Paper No. CB(3)215/07-08 - The Bill

LC Paper No. CB(2)892/07-08(01) - Marked-up copy of the Bill)

Action

2. The Bills Committee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).
3. The Administration was requested to -
 - (a) explain the mechanism and criteria for inclusion of organizations in the electorate of functional constituencies (FCs);
 - (b) advise whether there was room for amending the Legislative Council Ordinance (LCO) to broaden the electorate base of FCs, such as replacing corporate electors by individual electors, in the 2008 LegCo election;
 - (c) provide further information on the 75 applications for inclusion in the electorate of FCs since the enactment of the Legislative Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2003 (Annex B to LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08(01) refers); and
 - (d) on the existing size of potential electorate and the number of registered electors of the Engineering FC, explain why the figures set out in Annex C to LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08(01) were different from those quoted by Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO at the meeting.

(Post-meeting note : The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1022/07-08(01) on 5 February 2008.)

4. The Administration also agreed to -
 - (a) reflect to the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs some members' views that the electorate base of some FCs should be broadened in the 2008 LegCo election in order to tie in with the developments and situation of the relevant FCs; and
 - (b) take proactive steps to encourage potential electors in FCs to register as electors, in view of the low voter registration rates of some FCs (Annex C to LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08(01) refers).

III. Any other business

Invitation of views

5. Mrs Anson CHAN and Mr SIN Chung-kai suggested that the Bills Committee should receive views from the 75 organizations whose applications for inclusion in the electorate of FCs had been rejected. Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Ir Dr Raymond HO and Mr Abraham SHEK did not support the suggestion. They pointed out that it would be unfair if the Bills Committee decided to receive views from the 75 organizations, but not the other organizations. In addition, as the scope of the Bill was confined to

Action

technical amendments to the LCO only, receiving views by the Bills Committee from organizations as proposed would give the public a false impression that the electorate of FCs could be broadened. Deputy Chairman, who presided at the latter part of the meeting in the absence of the Chairman, said that given the issue of broadening the electorate of FCs was outside the scope of the Bill, it was inappropriate for the Bills Committee to invite views on this subject.

Date of next meeting

6. Members noted that the next meeting would be held on 4 February 2008 at 5:00 pm.
7. The meeting ended at 12:35 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
15 February 2008

**Proceedings of the second meeting of the
Bills Committee on Legislative Council (Amendment) Bill 2007
on Friday, 1 February 2008, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
000315-000340	Chairman	Confirmation of minutes of meeting	
000341-000711	Chairman Administration	Briefing by the Administration on its paper on "Functional Constituencies of the Legislative Council" (LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08)(01))	
000712-001743	Ms Margaret NG Chairman Administration	Mechanism and criteria for inclusion of certain organizations in the electorate of functional constituencies (FCs) Room for broadening the electorate base of FCs in the 2008 LegCo election from legal point of view, having regard to the Interpretation made by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on 6 April 2004 (para 12 of LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08)(01) refers)	Admin to follow up (para 3(a) of the minutes) Admin to follow up (para 3(b) of the minutes)
001744-010025	Ms Audrey EU Chairman Dr Fernando CHEUNG Mrs Anson CHAN Mr WONG Yung-kan Mr WONG Ting-kwong Ir Dr Raymond HO Mr Abraham SHEK Administration	Contribution of FCs to Hong Kong in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (paras 2 and 3 of LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08)(01)) Queries on the contribution rate of each FC to Hong Kong (Annex A to LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08)(01)), e.g. Labour, Agriculture and Fisheries, Engineering, Heung Yee Kuk and District Council FCs, etc. Clarification by the Administration that - (a) contribution of FCs to Hong Kong covered economic, social and other aspects; (b) the table set out in Annex A concerning FCs' contribution to GDP was prepared at the request of members; and (c) GDP figures were compiled by the Census and Statistics Department according to international statistical standards. The classification of data might not be compatible with the delineation of FCs	

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
010026-010413	Deputy Chairman Mrs Anson CHAN Administration	Broadening the electorate base of FCs in the 2008 LegCo election	
010414-010930	Deputy Chairman Ir Dr Raymond HO Mr Abraham SHEK	Contribution of FCs to Hong Kong in terms of GDP Number of FCs and delineation/adjustment of electorate of FCs (paras 4-10 of LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08)(01))	
010931-011531	Deputy Chairman Administration Mrs Anson CHAN	75 applications from organizations for inclusion into FCs (paras 11 and 12 of LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08)(01)) Reasons for rejecting the 75 applications for inclusion into FCs	
011532-012128	Deputy Chairman Administration Ir Dr Raymond HO	Applications for inclusion into the Engineering FC Need to consult the professional bodies concerned in the event that the electorate of FCs for the professional sectors (e.g. Engineering FC) was to be broadened	
012129-012752	Deputy Chairman Administration Mrs Anson CHAN Mr SIN Chung-kai	Views of members that the reasons for rejecting the 75 applications were unacceptable, as new corporate bodies with a status comparable to that of existing corporate electors were added to some FCs in the 2004 LegCo election	Admin to follow up (paras 3(c) and 4(a) of the minutes)
012753-013420	Deputy Chairman Ir Dr Raymond HO Administration	Views of Ir Dr Raymond HO that the size of potential electorate and number of registered electors of Engineering FC (Annex C to LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08)(01)) were lower than the figures he had	Admin to follow up (para 3(d) of the minutes)
013421-013821	Deputy Chairman Mrs Anson CHAN Administration	Concern about low voter registration rate in some FCs, e.g. Textiles and Garment FC Publicity to promote voter registration	Admin to follow up (para 4(b) of the minutes)
013822-014921	Deputy Chairman Administration Mrs Anson CHAN Mr SIN Chung-kai Mr TAM Yiu-chung Ir Dr Raymond HO Mr Abraham SHEK	Briefing by the Administration on its paper on "Outline on the Content of the Bill" (LC Paper No. CB(2)983/07-08)(02)) Invitation of views	

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
014922-015100	Deputy Chairman Administration	Date of next meeting	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
15 February 2008