立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)2727/07-08 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB2/SS/8/07

Subcommittee on Food Business (Amendment) Regulation 2008

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 15 July 2008, at 2:30 pm in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building

Members : Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP (Chairman)

present Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP

Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, JP

Members: Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, GBS, JP

absent Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP

Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Public Officers : <u>Item II</u>

attending

Food and Health Bureau

Ms Olivia NIP

Deputy Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Mr Francis HO

Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and

Health (Food)2

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Dr LIU Kwei-kin

Assistant Director (Agriculture)

Dr Thomas SIT Hon-chung Assistant Director (Inspection and Quarantine)

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms Rhonda LO Yuet-yee Assistant Director (Operations)2

Department of Justice

Ms Francoise LAM See-man Senior Government Counsel

Clerk in attendance

Miss Flora TAI

Chief Council Secretary (2)2

Staff in attendance

Mr Stephen LAM

Assistant Legal Adviser 4

Ms Alice LEUNG

Senior Council Secretary (2)1

Ms Anna CHEUNG Legislative Assistant (2)2

Action

I. Election of Chairman

Hon Fred LI was elected Chairman of the Subcommittee.

II. Meeting with the Administration

[LegCo Brief issued by the Food and Health Bureau in June 2008, LC Paper No. LS102/07-08, and Appendix III to LC Paper No. CB(2)2593/07-08(01)]

- 2. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).
- 3. In response to the Chairman's enquiry about the legislative timetable, Assistant Legal Adviser 4 advised that the scrutiny period of the Amendment Regulation would expire on 15 October 2008 and, if extended by resolution, it would expire on 5 November 2008. The motion for extension of the scrutiny period would normally be moved by the Chairman of the House Committee if it was anticipated that the subcommittee formed to scrutinize the Amendment

Action

Regulation might not be able to hold its first meeting before the deadline for giving notice of the motion.

- Hon Tommy CHEUNG said that, given that the Third Legislative Council (LegCo) would stand prorogued on 19 July 2008 and it would not be feasible for the Subcommittee to hold another meeting to deliberate on the Amendment Regulation within the remaining few days of the current legislative term, he considered that scrutiny work of the Amendment Regulation should best be left to Members of the Fourth LegCo. Hon WONG Yung-kan also pointed out that, by early October 2008, the relevant traders, farmers and transporters would have decided whether they would surrender their licences/tenancies and accept the Administration's buyout package approved by the Finance Committee on 14 July 2008, and there would be a clearer picture on the inclination of the live poultry trade. At the suggestion of Hon Tommy CHEUNG, members agreed that the Subcommittee should strongly recommend the Fourth LegCo to form a subcommittee to scrutinize the Amendment Regulation at the earliest opportunity. Hon Albert CHAN suggested that, if a subcommittee would be set up in the Fourth LegCo, the Administration should be requested to explain its actions taken since his proposal made five years ago for the Administration to introduce measures to separate live poultry from humans at retail level, and whether there would be a new mode of live chicken supply at retail outlets if the majority of poultry retailers accepted the buyout package.
- 5. <u>Members</u> noted that the Clerk would incorporate the Subcommittee's view and recommendation in a report to be submitted to the House Committee.

III. Any other business

6. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:39 pm.

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
14 August 2008

Clerk

Proceedings of the meeting of the Subcommittee on Food Business (Amendment) Regulation 2008 on Tuesday, 15 July 2008, at 2:30 pm in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
000000 - 000215	Mr Fred LI Mr Tommy CHEUNG	Election of Chairman	
000216 - 000818	Chairman Mr Tommy CHEUNG Mr Albert CHAN ALA4 Mr WONG Yung-kan Ms Audrey EU	Members' agreement on the Subcommittee's recommendation to the House Committee. ALA4's advice on the legislative timetable. Mr Albert CHAN's suggestion about the information to be provided by the Administration if a Subcommittee was to be set up in the Fourth LegCo.	Clerk to prepare a written report to House Committee (para. 5 of minutes)

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 14 August 2008