

Panel on Manpower

List of follow-up actions

(position as at 8 October 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 reports for the months from May 2007 to August 2007 were circulated vide LC Paper Nos. CB(2)2207/06-07, CB(2)2508/06-07, CB(2)2629/06-07 and CB(2)2713/06-07 respectively on 20 June, 16 July, 16 August and 14 September 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.

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
3. Prevention of abuse of the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF)	15.12.05	<p>The Administration was requested -</p> <p>(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</p> <p>(b) to provide information on the outcome of suspected fraudulent cases involving PWIF where prosecution had been instituted.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Ditto -</p>
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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	<p>13.6.06 (Meeting of the Subcommittee on Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Loadshifting Machinery) Regulation (Commencement) Notice 2006)</p>	<p>(b) The Administration was requested -</p> <p>(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</p> <p>(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.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>
<p>6. Strategic review of the Employees Retraining Board</p>	<p>30.5.06</p>	<p>The Administration undertook to provide members with details of its plan for the strategic review, including its scope and coverage.</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p>
<p>7. Age discrimination in employment</p>	<p>20.7.06</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2536/06-07 on 20 July 2007.</p>

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10. 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 circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2646/06-07 on 27 August 2007.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>
11. Wage Protection Movement for employees in the cleansing and guarding services sectors (WPM)	18.1.07	<p>(a) The Administration was requested to provide information on 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.</p>	Response awaited.

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	19.4.07	<p>(b) The Administration was requested -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to provide the Panel with a written response to issues raised by deputations attending the meeting; (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 (iii) to provide the Panel as soon as possible with details of the mechanism and criteria for assessing the overall effectiveness of WPM. 	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>
	5.7.07	<p>(c) The Administration was requested to collect the following data for the mid-term review -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the average monthly salaries of cleaning workers and security guards; and (ii) the number of workers who were employed by entities participating in WPM and receiving wages not lower than the relevant market averages in the market. 	<p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>

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		<p>(d) Regarding the cases referred to in the submission from the Hong Kong Buildings Management and Security Workers General Union, the Administration was requested to provide the Panel with a report, in which details of the cases (e.g. the name/type of entities involved, the number of workers affected, and the expiry date of these workers' existing contracts etc.) should be included.</p>	Response awaited.
12. Occupational injuries and accidents	<p>21.12.06</p> <p>15.3.07</p>	<p>(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.</p> <p>(b) The Administration was requested to provide -</p> <p>(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;</p>	<p>Response awaited.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>

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	21.6.07	<p>(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</p> <p>(iii) statistics relating to inspection and prosecution of supermarkets for non-compliance with the safety requirements under the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance.</p> <p>(c) The Administration was requested to provide information on the number of industrial accidents in the construction industry which respectively involved self-employed persons and workers employed by subcontractors.</p>	<p>Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2770/06-07 on 2 October 2007.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>
13. 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.

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14. Implementation of Qualifications Framework (QF)	Meeting of the Bills Committee on Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Bill	<p>The Administration has undertaken to report to the Panel -</p> <p>(a) the progress of implementation of QF in individual industries on a half-yearly basis; and</p> <p>(b) 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>
15. Issues relating to the payment of death grant under the Pneumoconiosis Ex Gratia Scheme	21.6.07	The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel in October 2007 on its discussion with the Pneumoconiosis Medical Board on measures to expedite the payment of death grant to the family members of pneumoconiotics who died of pneumoconiosis.	Response awaited.
16. Arrears of wages in the construction industry	5.7.07	(a) The Administration was requested to provide the Panel with the number of labour disputes/claims involving arrears of wages which were reported by Labour Relations Officers (LROs), and information on whether LROs had been unfairly treated by the principal contractors for having reported the cases to the Labour Department (LD);	Response awaited.

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		<p>(b) The Administration has undertaken to provide members with the leaflet published by LD which provides the definition of self-employed persons; and</p> <p>(c) The Administration was requested to map out a policy to require principal contractors to make wage payments direct to their subcontractors' workers, and revert to the Panel in the new legislative session.</p>	<p>Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2722/06-07 on 18 September 2007.</p> <p>Response awaited.</p>
<p>17. Youth employment and training programmes offered by the Labour Department</p>	<p>5.7.07</p>	<p>(a) In respect of the Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme (YWETS), the Administration was requested to provide the following statistics by programme year in tabular form -</p> <p>(i) the number of youngsters who were placed into training vacancies under YWETS; and</p> <p>(ii) the number of trainees who secured employment in the open market upon completion of the training.</p> <p>(b) Regarding the complaint against the Mass Transit Railway (MTR), the Administration undertook to touch base with MTR and revert to the Panel on information obtained.</p>	<p>Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2754/06-07 on 28 September 2007.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>

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		<p>(c) The Administration was requested to provide details on -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the total number of trainees participating in the Youth Pre-employment Training Programme (YPTP) and YWETS; (ii) the percentage of trainees who had completed the training under YPTP and YWETS; and (iii) the percentages of trainees who were able to secure jobs in the open market after completion of the training. <p>(d) The Administration agreed to provide information on different training schemes/ projects available for youths and the respective number of trainees/apprentices participating in these schemes.</p>	<p>Response circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2754/06-07 on 28 September 2007.</p> <p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p> <p>- Ditto -</p>