立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)865/08-09 (These minutes have been cleared by the Chairman)

Ref: CB1/PL/CI/1

Panel on Commerce and Industry

Minutes of the special meeting held on Friday, 5 December 2008, at 2:15 pm in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building

Members present: Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP

Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC

Hon CHIM Pui-chung

Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, BBS, JP

Member attending: Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun

Members absent: Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP

Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, SBS, JP

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king

Hon Tanya CHAN

Dr Hon Samson TAM Wai-ho, JP

Clerk in attendance : Ms YUE Tin-po

Chief Council Secretary (1)3

Staff in attendance : Ms Annette LAM

Senior Council Secretary (1)3

Ms Debbie SIU Legislative Assistant (1)6

Action

I. Proposal to move a motion for adjournment at the Council meeting on 17 December 2008 for the purpose of enabling Members to debate the issue on further support measures for small and medium enterprises

The Chairman advised that at the meeting on 1 December 2008, members urged the Administration to devise more concrete measures to effectively boost the confidence of lending institutions in providing credit facility and introduce more support measures to assist the small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Given the current predicament of SMEs and the impact of the global financial turmoil on the economy of Hong Kong, Mr Tommy CHEUNG had suggested at that meeting that an opportunity should be provided for Members to express their views on further support measures for SMEs and for the Administration to provide its response at a Council meeting to be held in December 2008. As the proposal was made after the end of the extension of the official meeting time on 1 December 2008, the Panel had requested the Clerk to explore the arrangement to take forward the matter.

- 2. <u>The Chairman</u> said that this special meeting was held to discuss how to take forward Mr Tommy CHEUNG's suggestion. Having considered the Secretariat's advice, he sought members' support for him, in the capacity as the Panel Chairman, to move a motion for adjournment on "Predicament faced by the small and medium enterprises due to tightened credit facility from banks" under Rule 16(4) of the Rules of Procedure at the Council meeting on 17 December 2008. He referred members to the wording of the motion tabled at the meeting.
- 3. <u>The Panel</u> generally supported the proposed adjournment debate and the wording of the motion. <u>Members</u> agreed that the Chairman should give notice to move the motion under Rule 16(5) at the Council meeting on 17 December 2008. Noting that two debates on Members' motions had already been scheduled for that Council meeting, <u>members</u> agreed that the House Committee's support should be sought on the following:
 - (a) the adjournment debate be held in addition to two other debates on Members' motions with no legislative effect at the Council meeting on 17 December 2008;
 - (b) the slot so allocated would not be counted as the Chairman's own slot as an individual Member; and

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- (c) President to be requested to consider exercising his discretion to extend the duration of the adjournment debate beyond one and half hours, in order to enable all Members wishing to speak at the adjournment debate to do so.
- 4. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:30 pm.

(*Post-meeting note*: The Chairman moved a motion for adjournment at the Council meeting on 17 December 2008.)

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
20 February 2009