Select Committee to Inquire into Matters Relating to the Post-service Work of Mr Leung Chin-man

Further information provided by Mr Andrew Wong in response to the Clerk to Select Committee's letter of 7 July 2010

- 1. In relation to your written reply dated 9 June 2010 (SC(2) Paper No. W50(C)), in response to the Clerk to Select Committee's letter of 26 May 2010, please advise/clarify:
- When you responded to Question 1(a), on the meetings which you had attended during which issues relating to the Hunghom Peninsula development were discussed, you made reference to the meetings of the Policy Committee ("PC") held on 24 October 2002 and 27 February 2003 and meeting of the Senior Officials Meeting ("SOM") held on 13 February 2004, and provided some of your answers based on your recollection. Please advise if you have checked the minutes and/or other records of these three meetings when you provided your response. Please also provide the relevant parts of the minutes and/or record of these three meetings to substantiate your answers to Question 1(a);

Mr Wong's Response: I have checked the papers and the minutes of these three meetings when I provided my response.

According to the minutes of the PC meeting held on 24 October 2002, the discussion was on the comprehensive market-oriented housing policy. There was no discussion on the Hunghom Peninsula development project.

According to the minutes of the PC meeting held on 27 February 2003, the discussion was on the proposal of using some Subsidized Home Ownership flats as Government departmental quarters and the proposal to use the overhung Home Ownership Scheme flats as guesthouses for Mainland tour groups. There was no discussion on the Hunghom Peninsula development project.

According to the minutes of the SOM held on 13 February 2004, the then Director of Information Services, when giving a general report

on issues of interest to the media, reported that the sale of the Hunghom Peninsula flats had attracted lots of commentaries on the terms of the deal, and that the LegCo Panel would discuss the issue of the Hunghom Peninsula. The then Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands also briefed members on the sale of the Hunghom Peninsula flats.

Extracts of the relevant parts of the minutes of the SOM will be provided separately.

(b) Whether you were the Secretary to the PC when you served as Director of Administration from August 2000 to March 2004, and what were your respective roles in the PC and the SOM;

Mr Wong's Response: I was not Secretary to the PC when I served as Director of Administration (D of Adm) from August 2000 to March 2004. As D of Adm was not a member of the PC or the SOM, I was only in attendance at weekly PC meetings and SOMs.

(c) Which bureau or department was responsible for preparing the paper for the PC meeting on 24 October 2002 on the comprehensive market-oriented housing policy referred to in your answer to Question 1(a), and in what capacity Mr LEUNG attended the said meeting;

Mr Wong's Response: The then Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau was responsible for preparing the paper for the PC meeting on 24 October 2002 on the comprehensive market-oriented housing policy. Mr LEUNG Chin-man attended the said meeting in his capacity as the then Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Housing).

(d) If the answers to (c) above are the Housing Department and the Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Housing)/ Director of Housing respectively, why you were not aware of Mr LEUNG's involvement in the Hunghom Peninsula case then in 2002, and why you became first aware of Mr LEUNG's involvement in the Hunghom Peninsula case only in early August 2008 as stated in your response to Question 1(b); and

Mr Wong's Response: As I mentioned in my response to (a) above, there was no discussion on the Hunghom Peninsula development project at the PC meeting held on 24 October 2002.

(e) You stated in your response to Question 1(a) that the media coverage on, amongst others, the sale of the Hunghom Peninsula flats was reported at the SOM on 13 February 2004. Please advise who made the report and why you, having learnt of the media coverage, were not aware of Mr LEUNG's involvement in the Hunghom Peninsula case then in 2004.

Mr Wong's Response: At the SOM held on 13 February 2004, the then Director of Information Services, when giving a general report on issues of interest to the media, reported that the sale of the Hunghom Peninsula flats had attracted lots of commentaries on the terms of the deal, and that the LegCo Panel would discuss the issue of the Hunghom Peninsula. The then Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands also briefed members on the sale of the Hunghom Peninsula flats. I was not aware of Mr LEUNG's involvement in the Hunghom Peninsula case back then as Mr LEUNG was not present at the SOM and there was no record that his name was mentioned during the discussion.