

40/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong 香港灣仔告士打道 5 號稅務大樓 40 樓

## Advisory Council on the Environment Views on the Buildings Energy Efficiency Bill

On 8 June 2009, the Advisory Council on the Environment (the Council) discussed the Administration's proposed legislative framework of mandatory implementation of the Buildings Energy Codes (BECs) at its meeting. The Council's views on the proposed legislative framework are as follows -

- (a) the Council supported the proposed legislative framework of mandatory implementation of the BECs, which was an important environmental initiative to help fulfill Hong Kong's international commitment to reducing its energy intensity, alleviating global warming and combating air pollution;
- (b) the Council was pleased to note that a target-based green performance framework had already been implemented for government buildings which would have a demonstrative effect to enhance environmental awareness of the community;
- (c) the Council noted that regular reviews would be conducted to update the energy efficiency standards in light of technological advancement and considered that it would be an important mechanism to ensure that the set of BEC would be up-to-date;
- (d) the Council suggested extending the energy audit requirement to buildings other than commercial buildings under the scheme in the longer term;
- (e) the Council suggested devising new or enhancing current recognition schemes to give incentives to building owners who could achieve higher level of performance in energy conservation; and

(f) the Council suggested that education programmes be rolled out for the scheme to increase public awareness by focusing the environmental benefits in terms of reduction in air pollutants as well as financial benefits in terms of savings in electricity bills.