立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)2413/11-12 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB1/BC/12/09

Bills Committee on Competition Bill

Minutes of the 32nd meeting held on Tuesday, 28 February 2012, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present: Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC (Deputy Chairman) Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, SBS, S.B.St.J., JP

Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, SBS, JP

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP

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

Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP

Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS, JP

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP

Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, BBS, JP

Hon CHAN Hak-kan

Hon Paul CHAN Mo-po, MH, JP

Hon CHAN Kin-por, JP

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, BBS

Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon Tanya CHAN

Hon WONG Yuk-man

Members absent: Hon Albert HO Chun-yan

:

:

Dr Hon Margaret NG

Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP

Hon CHIM Pui-chung

Prof Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP

Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau

Public Officers attending

Agenda item I

Ms Linda LAI Wai-ming, JP

Deputy Secretary for Commerce and Economic

Development (Commerce and Industry)

Mr Raymond WU Wai-man

Principal Assistant Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce & Industry)

Attendance by invitation

Agenda item I

Session I

The Hong Kong Metals Manufacturers Association

<u>Ltd.</u>

Mr Michael YU Lee-ming

Permanent Honorable Chairman

Hong Kong Jewelry Manufacturers' Association

Mr Ricky LAM Chi-keung

Chairman

Hong Kong Business Community Joint Conference

Mr Aaron SHUM Secretary - General

Kowloon Chamber of Commerce

Mr CHENG Kwan-suen

Chairman

Federation of Hong Kong Industries

Mr Willy LIN Deputy Chairman

The Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong

Mr Jimmy NG Wing-ka Vice President

Consumer Council

Ms Connie LAU, JP Chief Executive

<u>Individual</u>

Mr Douglas HSIA

The Federation of Hong Kong Footwear

Mr TAM Shing Executive Vice President

<u>Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises General</u> Association

Mr LAU Ping-kwan Vice Chairman

Hong Kong Promotion Association for Small and Medium Enterprises

Mr CHUNG Tai Chairman

<u>Hong Kong SME Development Federation Ltd.</u>

Dr Edward LAM President

Federation of International SME Ltd.

Mr CHAN Pui-kong Vice President

Hong Kong SME Development Association

Dr KAM Shui-yung Chairman

<u>Hong Kong Industry, Trade and Investment Association</u>

Mr Joseph LEUNG Lai-fung Chairman

Hong Kong Metal Finishing Society

Mr CHONG Lung-sam Chairman

Graphic Arts Association of Hong Kong

Mr CHAN Pui-kay Chairman

Hong Kong Electro-Plating Merchants Association

Mr NG Kwok-on Chairman

<u>Hong Kong Federation of Innovative Technologies</u> <u>and Manufacturing Industries Limited</u>

Mr KONG Hon-po Industry Chairman

The Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association

Mr CHAN Kei-biu Honorary Chairman

The Hong Kong Energy Conservation Association

Mr WONG Siu-fai President Hong Kong Software Industry Association

Mr IP Ngai-sang Chief Executive Officer

<u>Hong Kong Comics & Animation Federation</u> Limited

Mr WAN Siu-lun Director

Movie Producers and Distributors Association of Hong Kong Limited

Mr Tony SHU Tat-ming Executive Secretary

<u>International Federation of the Phonographic</u> <u>Industry (Hong Kong Group) Limited</u>

Mr FUNG Tim-chee Chief Executive Officer

<u>The International Association of CFOs and Corporate Treasurers (China) Limited</u>

Mr Allen LEUNG President

Licensing & Franchising Association of Hong Kong

Mr LEE Wai-sang Chairman

<u>The Alternative Investment Management</u> Association

Mr Christophe LEE Chairman

<u>Hong Kong Venture Capital and Private Equity</u> Association

Mr Conrad TSANG Chairman, PRC Committee

Arcotect Limited

Ms Judy LEUNG Wai-chu Chief Operating Officer

Hong Kong Motion Picture Industry Association Ltd.

Mr Brian CHUNG Chief Executive

Asian Licensing Association

Mr CHAN Lap-man Founding Chairman

Mandarin Optical Manufactory Co. Ltd.

Mr Tony CHOW Ching-lam Director

Nu Design Limited

Mr Vincent WONG Chiu-chuen Director

Technical (HK) Manufacturing Limited

Mr Brian SUN CEO

Brilliant Trading Co. (1974) Limited

Mr Victor YIU Wai-yin Director

Artis Jewellery Co. Ltd.

Mr WONG Chun-wai Director

Sunny Creations Ltd.

Mr Sunny CHAN Cho-shing Managing Director

Buildview Jewellery Limited

Mr CHAN Wan-hung Director

The Federation of Hong Kong Watch Trades & Industries Ltd.

Mr AU Yu-fan Chairman

IDEE Creations

Ms LEUNG Chui-ting Executive Creative Director

Blue Box Holdings Limited

Mr YEUNG Chi-kong Vice Chairman

Yeung's Manufacturing Ltd.

Mr YEUNG Chee-tat Vice President

GLAMM Holdings Ltd.

Ms Elise TSUI San-man Managing Director

Arts Optical International Holdings Ltd.

Mr Michael NG Hoi-ying Chairman

Momentum 107

Mr HO Man-kit Convener

Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises
Association

Mr Wilson SHEA President

<u>Hong Kong Electrical Appliances Manufacturers Association</u>

Mr FUNG King-yiu Director

Session II

The Hong Kong General Chamber of Small & Medium Business

Mr David TING President

Hong Kong Precision Electronics Co. Ltd.

Mr LAI Hin-kiu Managing Director

Global Sources

Mr Spenser AU CEO

Hong Kong Medical and Healthcare Device Industries Association

Ir Dr Andros CHAN Vice Chairman

<u>Concern Group for a Competitive Exhibition</u> <u>Industry in Hong Kong</u>

Mr HUI Man-cheong Spokesman

Hong Kong Metal Merchants Association

Mr LAI Hin-fai Chairman

Individual

Mr CHEUNG Wai-man Professor The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Exporters' Association

Mr Ivan TING Tien-li Vice Chairman

Hongkong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics Ltd.

Ms Alice LUI Director

Power Hub Ltd.

Mr Stephen CHAN King-che Managing Director

Hong Kong (SME) Economic and Trade Promotional Association Ltd.

Mr CHEUNG Tsin-wong President

<u>The Hong Kong Association of International</u> <u>Co-operation of Small & Medium Enterprises</u>

Mr NG Man-kwong Chairman

<u>Hong Kong Jewellery & Jade Manufacturers</u> Association

Mr Billy LAU Chairman

Diamond Federation of Hong Kong, China Limited

Mr Lawrence MA Yung-yi President

Savantas Policy Institute

Miss Germaine LAU Senior Policy Analyst

打破政府壟斷大聯盟

Mr Ken NG 發言人

Individual

Mr Martin OEI Political Commentator

Hong Kong Retail Management Association

Mr Louis TING Representative

Designing Hong Kong Limited

Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN CEO

The British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong

Mr Tim PEIRSON-SMITH Chairman of Business Policy Unit

Kowloon Watch Company

Dr WONG Kam-shing Managing Director

Hang Hing Prestige Company Limited

Mr Steve LAU Director

Bright Sun Coffee Co Ltd

Mr Eric WONG Director & General Manager

Regent Silverware Manufacturing Ltd.

Mr Wilson LEE Kwong-ching Managing Director

Top Quality (H.K.) Co. Ltd.

Ms LAI Yim-king Director

Universe Watch Trading Co. Ltd.

Mr Kenneth Stephen WONG Director

Crown Wine Cellars Ltd.

Mr. Gregory L DE'EB General Manager

Kampery Group

Mr Simon WONG Ka-wo Group Chairman & Managing Director

Hong Kong Brands Protection Alliance

Dr Lewis LUK Tei Founding President

Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association

Dr Stephen KWOK Chun-pong President

Economic Synergy

Mr Elves LEUNG Member

The American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong

Ms Clara INGEN-HOUSZ Chair of Law Committee

The Lion Rock Institute

Mr Dan RYAN Director

Jan Cheong Sing Hardware

Mr CHING Yue-kwok Manager

Wiseville International Ltd.

Mr HO Yuk-chi Director & General Manager

Zigen Pharmaceutical Ltd.

Mr Albert B WONG Managing Director

Wings Trading (HK) Co., Ltd.

Mr PAU Kit-kwan CEO

Individual

Professor Hans MAHNCKE Senior Coordinator Office of the Provost City University of Hong Kong

Individual

Mr Mark WILLIAMS
Professor
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

The Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong

Mr LOONG Hon-biu Secretary General

The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce

Mr David FONG Vice Chairman

<u>The Hong Kong Chinese Importers' & Exporters' Association</u>

Mr CHEN Jian-wen Standing Committee Member

Individual

Mr Peter WONG Columnist

Session III

The Professional Commons

Mr Kelvin SIT Research Officer

<u>Hong Kong Gold & Silver Ornament Workers & Merchants General Union</u>

Mr Danny CHAU Vice President

ROMUS Ltd.

Mr James LIM Chun-chung Director

COG Ltd.

Ms Maggie YIP Suk-lin General Manager

Hong Kong Mould and Product Technology Association

Mr Robert YAN Zhao-jia Executive Committee Member The Toys Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong

Mr CHEUNG Tak-ching President

MRC Technology International Ltd.

Miss Eva WONG Yee-fan General Manager

Community Development Initiative

Mr Michael MO Kwan-tai Chief Development Officer

Hong Kong Environmental Industry Association

Mr NG Kin-wah Vice President

Individual

Dr Robert HANSON Scholar

Individual

Mr Andrew SHUEN Columnist

Hong Kong Young Industrialists Council

Mr LIU Kam-hing
Executive Committee Member

Hong Kong Logistics Association

Mr Stephen CHENG President

Hong Kong Auto Parts Industry Association

Mr TAN Che-keung Vice President

Tomson Holdings Limited

Dr Tommy TAM Hok-lam Managing Director

Clerk in attendance: Mr Derek LO

Chief Council Secretary (1)6

Staff in attendance: Mr Timothy TSO

Assistant Legal Adviser 2

Ms Sarah YUEN

Senior Council Secretary (1)6

Ms Michelle NIEN

Legislative Assistant (1)6

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I Meeting with deputations and the Administration

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(LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(01)	from the discussion at the
LC Paper No. CB(1)1031/11-12(02)	meeting on 14 February 2012 —Administration's paper on exemption arrangements for statutory bodies under the
LC Paper No. CB(1)320/10-11(02)	Competition Bill —Administration's information paper on overview of major components of the Competition
LC Paper No. CB(1)1523/10-11(02)	follow-up questions arising from the meeting on 22 February 2011
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(02)	(paragraphs 12 to 14 on exemption)—Submission from The Hong Kong Metals Manufacturers Association Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(03)	—Submission from Hong Kong

Jewelry Association Manufacturers'

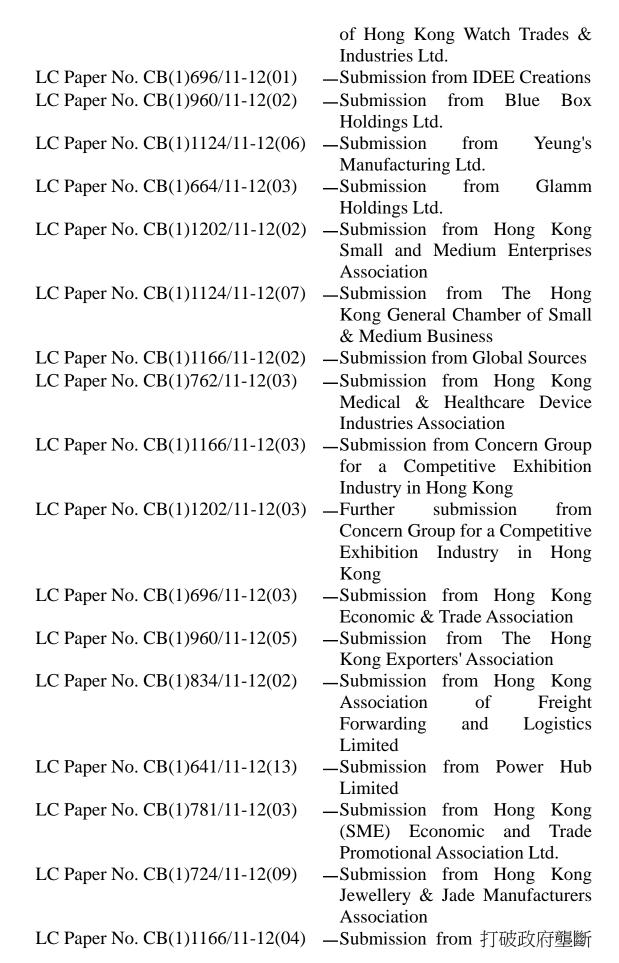
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LC Paper No. CB(1)740/11-12(10)	—Submission from Hong Kong
LC Paper No. CB(1)724/11-12(03)	Software Industry Association —Submission from Hong Kong Comics & Animation Federation Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)960/11-12(04)	—Submission from MovieProducers and DistributorsAssociation of Hong Kong
LC Paper No. CB(1)1181/11-12(03)	Limited —Submission from International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (Hong Kong Group)
LC Paper No. CB(1)740/11-12(06)	Limited —Submission from The International Association of CFOs and Corporate Treasurers
LC Paper No. CB(1)1034/11-12(02)	(China) Limited—Submission from Licensing &Franchising Association of Hong Kong
LC Paper No. CB(1)717/11-12(02)	—Submission from The Alternative Investment Management Association
LC Paper No. CB(1)2056/10-11(01)	—Submission from Hong Kong Venture Capital and Private Equity Association
LC Paper No. CB(1)724/11-12(08)	—Submission from Arcotect Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)995/11-12(04)	—Submission from Hong Kong Motion Picture Industry Association Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)717/11-12(04)	—Submission from Asian Licensing Association
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(05)	—Submission from Brilliant Trading Co. (1974) Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)762/11-12(05)	—Submission from Artis Jewellery Co. Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)815/11-12(03)	—Submission from Sunny Creations Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)641/11-12(06)	—Submission from Buildview Jewellery Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)686/11-12(01)	—Submission from Red Lemon Incorporation
LC Paper No. CB(1)1050/11-12(06)	—Submission from The Federation

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LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(05)	—Submission from Hong Kong
I C D N CD (1) 11 (C) 11 10 (OC)	Retail Management Association
LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(06)	—Submission from The British Chamber of Commerce
LC Paper No. CB(1)696/11-12(02)	-Submission from Hang Hing
	Prestige Company Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)664/11-12(01)	—Submission from Bright Sun
Le 1 apei 110. eb(1)004/11-12(01)	Coffee Co. Ltd.
I C D N CD (1) 505 (11 10 (01)	
LC Paper No. CB(1)585/11-12(01)	—Submission from Universe Watch
	Trading Co. Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)686/11-12(04)	—Submission from Crown Wine
	Cellars Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)740/11-12(07)	-Submission from Hong Kong
20 Tuper 110. 02(1)/ 10/11 12(0/)	Brands Protection Alliance
I.C. Damar No. CD(1)1202/11 12(04)	
LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(04)	—Submission from Hong Kong
	Small and Medium Enterprises
	Association
LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(01)	—Submission from Economic
	Synergy
LC Paper No. CB(1)1181/11-12(04)	—Submission from Mr Simon LEE
LC Paper No. CB(1)1049/11-12(01)	—Submission from The American
LC 1 apel No. CB(1)1049/11-12(01)	
	Chamber of Commerce in Hong
	Kong
LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(07)	—Submission from Zigen
	Pharmaceutical Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)641/11-12(08)	—Submission from Wings Trading
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	(HK) Co. Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(02)	—Submission from Professor Hans
2014[0110.02(1)1100/11 12(02)	MAHNCKE, Senior Coordinator,
	Office of the Provost, City
	University of Hong Kong
LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(08)	—Submission from Professor Mark
	WILLIAMS, School of
	Accounting and Financing, Hong
	Kong Polytechnic University
LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(05)	—Submission from The Real Estate
Le Tuper Ivo. eb(1)1202/11 12(03)	
	Developers Association of Hong
I C D N CD (1) 11 10 (11 10 (01)	Kong
LC Paper No. CB(1)1143/11-12(01)	—Submission from Mr David LAI,
	Wanchai District Councillor
LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(03)	-Submission from The Chinese
•	General Chamber of Commerce
LC Paper No. CB(1)899/11-12(02)	Submission from The Hong
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	Kong Chinese Importers' &
LC Paper No. CB(1)883/11-12(04)	Exporters' Association —Submission from Hong Kong
Le l'apel 110. eB(1)003/11 12(01)	Apparel Society Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)641/11-12(10)	—Submission from Able Lapidary
	& Jewelry Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)865/11-12(02)	—Submission from Hong Kong Footwear Association
LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(09)	—Submission from The
1 C D 1 1 CD (1) 0 47 (11 10 (00)	Professional Commons
LC Paper No. CB(1)847/11-12(02)	—Submission from Hong Kong
	Gold & Silver Ornament Workers and Merchants General Union
LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(10)	—Submission from COG Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)769/11-12(04)	—Submission from Hong Kong
Le l'apel 10. eb(1)/05/11-12(04)	Mould and Product Technology
	Association
LC Paper No. CB(1)960/11-12(03)	—Submission from The Toys
-	Manufacturers' Association of
	Hong Kong
LC Paper No. CB(1)724/11-12(04)	—Submission from MRC
I C D N CD(1)1202/11 12(0C)	Technology International Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(06)	—Submission from Ms Christine FONG Kwok-shan, Sai Kung
	District Councillor
LC Paper No. CB(1)905/11-12(01)	—Submission from Hong Kong
	Young Industrialists Council
LC Paper No. CB(1)641/11-12(12)	—Submission from Tomson
	Holdings Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)847/11-12(01)	—Submission from Hong Kong
LCD N CD/1\1104/11 10/00\	Investment Funds Association
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(08)	—Submission from Hong Kong Electronics Industry Council
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(09)	—Submission from AsiaWorld-Expo
Le l'apel 110. eB(1)1124/11 12(0))	Management Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(10)	—Submission from Prorsum Group
1	Holdings Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(11)	—Submission from CK Cheung
	(CPA) Co., Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(12)	•
I C Depar No. CD(1)1124/11 12/12)	Airways Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(13)	—Submission from Hongkong United Dockyards Ltd., Salvage
	& Towage Division
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LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(04)	—Submission from Crowe Horwath
	(HK) CPA Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(05)	—Submission from Institution of
	Dining Art
LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(06)	—Submission from SME Forum
LC Paper No. CB(1)834/11-12(03)	—Submission from Perception
	Digital Holdings Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(04)	—Submission from Hong Kong
	Green Manufacturing Alliance
LC Paper No. CB(1)1143/11-12(02)	—Submission from UBM Asia
	Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)1143/11-12(03)	—Submission from Reed
	Exhibitions Limited
LC Paper No. CB(1)740/11-12(02)	—Submission from Sonca Products
-	Ltd.
LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(11)	—Submission from The Hong Kong
_	Association of Banks
LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(07)	—Submission from Hong Kong
	Toys Council)
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<u>The Bills Committee</u> received views from the 106 deputations attending the meeting (index of proceedings attached at **Appendix**).

Views in support of exempting statutory bodies

- 2. <u>The majority of deputations attending the meeting</u> indicated support for the exemption of most statutory bodies, in particular the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), from the Bill, for the following reasons
 - (a) some overseas competition laws granted exemption to statutory bodies. Statutory bodies in Hong Kong were subject to public scrutiny and would abide by the competition rules even though they were not subject to the regulation of the enacted Bill. If any exempted statutory bodies were found to have breached the competition rules, the Administration could request the statutory bodies concerned to rectify their anti-competitive behaviour. If these statutory bodies refused to act as requested, the Administration might, pursuant to the criteria as set out in clause 5(2), consider invoking the power of clause 5(1)(a) of the Bill so that the competition rules and the enforcement provisions would apply to these statutory bodies;
 - (b) TDC was not just an exhibition organizer but a non-profit making statutory body tasked to promote trade for Hong Kong to the extent that it would readily organize trade fairs and exhibitions at a loss, and

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would provide other essential non-profit making trade services to the small and medium enterprises (SMEs), particularly those engaged in new and emerging businesses. Over the years, TDC had made significant contribution to the development of trade and hence the economy of Hong Kong. If TDC was to be made subject to the Bill, its performance of the above important role, and in turn Hong Kong's economy and the supply of job opportunities, might be adversely affected:

- (c) if TDC was made subject to the Bill, its competitors would be able to expand their market shares and eventually squeeze out TDC by falsely claiming that TDC's services and assistance to SMEs were anti-competitive. In the end, SMEs would suffer and had to pay higher fees for participation in trade fairs and exhibitions run by private organizers which might not be as successful as TDC's world-acclaimed trade fairs and exhibitions. Hong Kong might thus lose its leading role in the exhibition industry in the Asia Pacific region;
- (d) TDC organized only about 30% to 45% of the trade fairs and exhibitions in Hong Kong, in some of which serving just as a joint organizer. It did not enjoy priority in the use of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC), nor did it enjoy monopoly in the exhibition industry as TDC's competitors claimed. Its apparent monopoly was due to the inadequacy of venues for exhibitions in Hong Kong and hence the small number of exhibitions held;
- (e) TDC's market share in the exhibition industry should be viewed from an international perspective, and its organization of exhibitions should not be viewed as an economic activity but a public function to help Hong Kong SMEs compete with their overseas counterparts, thereby maintaining Hong Kong's position as a leading centre for international conventions and exhibitions; and
- (f) if TDC was not exempted under the enacted Competition Ordinance and was forced to share its database on Hong Kong enterprises with private exhibition organizers, enterprises might have concerns about data privacy and abuse.
- 3. <u>The Kowloon Chamber of Commerce</u> and <u>the Consumer Council</u>, however, proposed that the list of exempted statutory bodies should be reviewed after implementation of the enacted Competition Ordinance, preferably once every few years. <u>Zigen Pharmaceutical Ltd.</u> added that TDC's exemption from the Bill

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might be removed several years after it had recovered costs incurred from assisting new and emerging trades, so that it would have resources to assist future upcoming trades. The Toys Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong preferred partial exemption of TDC whereby only its public functions would be exempted. The Professional Commons opined that statutory bodies which had no or insignificant economic activities should be exempted. Statutory bodies which engaged in economic activities would need to satisfy all four of the criteria stated in the Professional Commons' submission (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(09)) before they could be made subject to the provisions of the Bill.

4. <u>Some deputations</u>, including the Federation of Hong Kong Industries (FHKI), The Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association Limited, Hong Kong Metals Manufacturers Association Ltd., Hong Kong Business Community Joint Conference, Blue Box Holdings Ltd., Hong Kong Metal Merchants Association, Hong Kong (SME) Economic and Trade Promotional Association Ltd. and Hong Kong Young Industrialists Council opined that FHKI should also be exempted. <u>Hong Kong (SME) Economic and Trade Promotional Association Ltd.</u> also called for the exemption of the Hong Kong Productivity Council, the Hong Kong Science Park and all non-profit making business associations. <u>The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce</u> added that all statutory bodies should be exempted.

Views against exemption

- 5. <u>The following deputations and individuals</u> expressed opposition to the proposed broad exemption of statutory bodies, including TDC, from the Bill
 - (a) Momentum 107;
 - (b) Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association;
 - (c) Global Sources;
 - (d) Concern Group for a Competitive Exhibition Industry in Hong Kong;
 - (e) Professor CHEUNG Wai-man, The Chinese University of Hong Kong;
 - (f) Savantas Policy Institute;
 - (g) 打破政府壟斷大聯盟;
 - (h) Mr Martin OEI;
 - (i) Hong Kong Retail Management Association;

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- (j) The British Chamber of Commerce;
- (k) Designing Hong Kong Limited;
- (1) The American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong;
- (m) The Lion Rock Institute;
- (n) Jan Cheong Sing Hardware;
- (o) Professor Hans MAHNCKE, Senior Coordinator, Office of the Provost, City University of Hong Kong;
- (p) Professor Mark WILLIAMS, School of Accounting and Financing, Hong Kong Polytechnic University;
- (q) The Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong;
- (r) Mr Peter WONG;
- (s) Community Development Initiative;
- (t) Dr Robert HANSON; and
- (u) Mr Andrew SHUEN.
- 6. The reasons the above deputations and individuals gave included the following
 - (a) broad exemption of statutory bodies was not compatible with international practice or the rule of law. Instead of exempting statutory bodies in their entirety, only their public functions should be exempted. Exempting their economic activities would create an uneven playing field between the Government and the private sector;
 - (b) TDC was performing its public function by organizing non-profit making activities with Government funding. Like TDC, private exhibition organizers had also strived to maintain the number of exhibitions during bad times, and had made various efforts to help SMEs in their development;
 - (c) competition served to enhance service quality in the exhibition industry, reducing rather than pushing up exhibition fees for SMEs as some deputations had claimed. The enacted Ordinance would not

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restrict TDC from continuing its assistance to SMEs because, according to clause 31 and section 3 of Schedule 1 to the Bill, exemption from conduct rules could be granted on public policy grounds or for services of general economic interest;

- (d) taking up about 45% of the market share and being the owner of HKCEC, TDC had already been competing unfairly with private exhibition organizers. Since the Competition Policy Advisory Group could not effectively tackle such anti-competitive acts of TDC, and TDC was outside the purview of the Audit Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman, it was undesirable to further exempt TDC from the Bill; and
- (e) many parties in the community were opposed to exempting TDC from the Bill. Submissions to the Bills Committee in support of exempting TDC were similar in format and contents and their validity was hence questionable.

Follow-up actions required of the Administration

- 7. <u>The Bills Committee</u> requested the Administration to take the following actions
 - (a) provide a consolidated written response to the views, whether in written or verbal form, expressed by deputations and members at the meeting;
 - (b) ensure that TDC would provide to the Bills Committee a written response to the accusation made in paragraph 3 of the submission from Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association (tabled at the meeting and subsequently issued vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(02));
 - (c) provide a response to Mr WONG Ting-kwong's request for the Administration to play a co-ordinating role between TDC and other exhibition organizers such as Global Sources, so as to promote co-operation instead of unhealthy competition among them; and
 - (d) respond to Mrs Regina IP's concern that the currently proposed general and broad exemption of statutory bodies would, as pointed out in the submission from the Law Society of Hong Kong (LC Paper No. CB(1)1219/10-11(02)), create an uneven playing field between the government and the private sector.

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8. <u>Members</u> agreed that the next meeting of the Bills Committee would be held on 19 March 2012 at 2:30 pm.

II Any other business

9. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9:15 pm.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
26 July 2012

Proceedings of the 32nd meeting of the Bills Committee on Competition Bill on Tuesday, 28 February 2012, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
	em I – Meeting with dep	putations and the Administration	
Session I 000932 – 001256	Chairman	Opening remarks The Chairman declared that he was a member of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Commission, Director of the Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation, Non-Executive	
		Director of the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority, Former Chairman of the Vocational Training Council and Member of certain committees under it, Council Member of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), and Honorary President and Member of the General Committee of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries (FHKI).	
001257 – 001645	The Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association	The Association briefed members on its submission (LC Paper No. CB(1)915/11-12(07)) in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill, and expressed regrets that FHKI was not included in the list of statutory bodies proposed to be exempted from the Bill.	
001646 – 001959	The Hong Kong Metals Manufacturers Association Ltd.	The representative of the Association briefed members on the Association's submission (LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(02)) in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill, and queried why FHKI was not similarly exempted.	
002000 – 002309	Hong Kong Jewelry Manufacturers' Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill and commenting on the proposed de minimis arrangements and composition of the Competition Commission (LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(03))	
002310 – 002624	Hong Kong Business Community Joint Conference	The Hong Kong Business Community Joint Conference briefed members on its submission (LC Paper No. CB(1)805/11-12(01)), expressed support for TDC's exemption from the Bill and questioned why FHKI was not similarly exempted. It further expressed the following views –	
		(a) the Bill had adverse impacts on Hong Kong's free business environment, especially on small and medium enterprises (SMEs); and	
		(b) TDC, business associations and SMEs should all be exempted from the Bill.	
002625 -	Kowloon Chamber	The Kowloon Chamber of Commerce stated support for	

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002932	of Commerce	TDC's exemption from the Bill in recognition of its contribution to trade development and hence the economy of Hong Kong and of the Mainland. It proposed that the list of exempted statutory bodies be reviewed once every few years.	
002935 – 003247	Federation of Hong Kong Industries	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill and questioning FHKI's exclusion from the list of exempted statutory bodies (LC Paper No. CB(1)1181/11-12(01))	
003248 – 003511	The Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1063/11-12(01))	
003512 – 003752	Consumer Council (CC)	CC expressed support for the proposed exemption arrangements, including the exemption of TDC. It urged the Government to review the exemption arrangement of statutory bodies in the light of the actual implementation experience of the enacted Ordinance, taking into account the performance of statutory duties by the statutory bodies concerned and the effect of their business practices on competition. (LC Paper No. CB(1)1181/11-12(02) the Chinese version of which was tabled at the meeting)	
003753 – 003950	Mr Douglas HSIA	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(01), and LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(01) tabled at the meeting)	
003951 – 004302	The Federation of Hong Kong Footwear	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)915/11-12(05))	
004303 – 004619	Hong Kong Small & Medium Enterprises General Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)717/11-12(07))	
004620 - 004832	Hong Kong SME Development Federation Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)995/11-12(05))	
004833 – 004934	Federation of International SME Ltd.	The Federation of International SME Ltd. indicated support for TDC's exemption from the Bill in recognition of the great assistance it provided to SMEs, and expressed concern that if TDC was subject to regulation of the Bill, it might be restricted from organizing activities at a loss to help SMEs.	

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004935 – 005253	Hong Kong SME Development Association	The Hong Kong SME Development Association indicated support for exempting TDC from the Bill, highlighting the objective of establishing TDC, the benefits TDC could bring to SMEs, and TDC's non-profit making nature, which had enabled it to provide cheap and even free services to SMEs.	
005254 – 005607	Hong Kong Industry, Trade and Investment Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1063/11-12(02))	
005608 – 005916	Hong Kong Metal Finishing Society	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill and expressing concerns about the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)740/11-12(03))	
005917 – 010110	Graphic Arts Association of Hong Kong	Indication of support for exempting TDC from the Bill in recognition of the great assistance it provided to SMEs	
010111 – 010329	Hong Kong Electro-Plating Merchants Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1094/11-12(04))	
010330 – 010633	Hong Kong Federation of Innovative Technologies and Manufacturing Industries Limited	Presentation of views calling for the introduction of an anti-monopoly bill instead of a competition bill, and indicating support for TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)769/11-12(01))	
010634 – 010827	The Hong Kong Energy Conservation Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)815/11-12(02))	
010828 – 011037	Hong Kong Software Industry Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)740/11-12(01))	
011038 – 011351	Hong Kong Comics & Animation Federation Limited	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)724/11-12(03))	
011352 – 011629	Movie Producers and Distributors Association of Hong Kong Limited	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)960/11-12(04))	
011630 - 011916	International Federation of the	IFPI indicated opposition to the Bill in its present form because of the reasons given in IFPI's submission (LC	

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	Phonographic Industry (Hong Kong Group) Limited (IFPI)	Paper No. CB(1)1181/11-12(03)); and expressed support for exempting TDC and other statutory bodies from the Bill if they mainly played a promoting role.	
011917 – 012051	The International Association of CFOs and Corporate Treasurers (China) Limited	Presentation of views in support of exempting TDC from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)740/11-12(06))	
012052 – 012357	Licensing & Franchising Association of Hong Kong	the Bill by quoting its own experience	
012358 – 012641	The Alternative Investment Management Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)717/11-12(02))	
012642 – 012943	Hong Kong Venture Capital and Private Equity Association	The Hong Kong Venture Capital and Private Equity Association briefed members on its submission (LC Paper No. CB(1)2056/10-11(01)) in support of the exemption of statutory bodies, in particular TDC, from the Bill, and added that some overseas competition laws also exempted statutory bodies.	
012944 – 013100	Hong Kong Promotion Association for Small and Medium Enterprises	The Hong Kong Promotion Association for Small and Medium Enterprises indicated support for exempting TDC from the Bill because of TDC's great contribution in promoting trade opportunities for Hong Kong as shown in a few examples.	
013101 – 013314	Arcotect Limited	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)724/11-12(08))	
013315 – 013531	Hong Kong Motion Picture Industry Association Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)995/11-12(04))	
013532 – 013941	Asian Licensing Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)717/11-12(04))	
013942 – 014102	Mandarin Optical Manufactory Co. Ltd.	The Mandarin Optical Manufactory Co. Ltd .expressed support for exempting TDC from the Bill, highlighting the contribution which TDC had made to promote the development of the local optical industry, which presently enjoyed a leading position in the world.	

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014103 – 014248	Nu Design Limited	The representative of Nu Design Limited expressed support for exempting TDC from the Bill by elaborating the assistance and support he had received from TDC.	
014249 – 014551	Technical (HK) Manufacturing Limited	Technical (HK) Manufacturing Limited expressed support for exempting TDC from the Bill, pointing out that many places were competing with Hong Kong for a leading exhibition role and that because TDC was not intent on making profits, the exhibitions it organized were of a much higher quality than those organized by private exhibition organizers.	
014552 – 014813	Brilliant Trading Co. (1974) Limited	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill by highlighting the services provided by TDC to help SMEs develop (LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(05))	
014814 – 015043	Artis Jewellery Co. Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)762/11-12(05))	
015044 – 015443	Sunny Creations Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)815/11-12(03))	
015444 – 015559	Buildview Jewellery Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill by highlighting the differences between the exhibitions organized by TDC and those by other exhibition organizers (LC Paper No. CB(1)641/11-12(06))	
015600 – 015749	The Federation of Hong Kong Watch Trades & Industries Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill, highlighting the assistance which TDC had provided to promote the development of local watch trades and industries (LC Paper No. CB(1)1050/11-12(06))	
015750 – 020114	IDEE Creations	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)696/11-12(01))	
020115 – 020435	Blue Box Holdings Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill and urging that FHKI be similarly exempted (LC Paper No. CB(1)960/11-12(02))	
020436 – 020635	Yeung's Manufacturing Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(06))	
020636 – 020811	Glamm Holdings Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)664/11-12(03))	
020812 -	Arts Optical	The Arts Optical International Holdings Ltd. indicated	

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021001	International Holdings Ltd.	support for TDC's exemption from the Bill, highlighting the great efforts TDC had made to promote trade opportunities for SMEs, and to help SMEs compete with large enterprises on a level playing field.	
021002 – 021353	Momentum 107	Momentum 107 questioned whether TDC or the Administration had mobilized deputations to attend this meeting to express support for exempting TDC, which in his view had engaged in certain anti-competitive acts and abused its market power. It opined that instead of exempting statutory bodies in their entirety, only their public functions but not their economic activities should be exempted, lest an uneven playing field between the government and the private sector would be created.	
021354 – 021724	Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association (HKSMEA)	HKSMEA briefed members on its submission tabled at the meeting (LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(02)) and expressed strong objection to exempting TDC from the Bill for the following reasons – (a) TDC had not helped Hong Kong SMEs but had	
		unfairly monopolized Hong Kong's exhibition business;	
		(b) TDC's contribution to trade development as highlighted by deputations above was not a justification for exempting it because it had been specifically set up to perform the above functions with government funding. Moreover, although it was using public money, it was paying its senior management excessive remuneration; and	
		(c) TDC charged SMEs low exhibition fees not because it was not profit-oriented but because it owned the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) and hence could organize exhibitions at low costs.	
021725 – 021959	Hong Kong Electrical Appliances Manufacturers Association	The Hong Kong Electrical Appliances Manufacturers Association expressed support for exempting TDC from the Bill by elaborating the assistance it and the trade had received from TDC in promoting trade opportunities.	
022000 - 022244	Chairman Administration	The Administration made the following response –	
<i>0222</i> 44	Administration	(a) all views expressed by deputations in both written and verbal form would be seriously considered;	
		(b) the statutory bodies to be exempted from the Bill did not engage in any, or had insignificant amount of economic activities. For statutory bodies engaging in economic activities, they were either assisting the Government in implementing public policies and/or	

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		providing essential public services. The proposed exemption arrangements were to ensure that the effective implementation of Government policies or Government's ability to speedily respond to the needs of the community would not be affected by the implementation of the competition law in Hong Kong;	
		(c) although TDC engaged in some economic activities, such activities were carried out to implement the Government's policy on trade promotion. Its exemption from the Bill could help eliminate any uncertainties as to whether certain activities, which formed part of TDC's core statutory functions, might be alleged as anti-competitive, and thus ensure its uninterrupted support to local industries and SMEs; and	
		(d) statutory bodies had to adhere to the competition rules even though they were not subject to the enacted Ordinance. The Administration would, through the Competition Policy Advisory Group (COMPAG), handle complaints on statutory bodies and would request the exempted bodies to rectify any anti-competitive behaviour.	
022245 – 022750	Chairman Ms Emily LAU HKSMEA	Ms Emily LAU declared that she was a member of the LegCo Commission. She asked the Administration to respond to Global Sources' earlier claim that TDC admitted to organizing exhibitions and trade fairs in competition with other organizers according to commercial principles. She further asked HKSMEA to explain why its stance regarding TDC's exemption from the Bill was so different from the other SMEs.	
		HKSMEA gave the reasons for its stance as follows –	
		(a) TDC had not done enough to help SMEs, and as a result, Hong Kong's toy and watch industries had lost their leading positions;	
		(b) the trade fairs and exhibitions organized in the Mainland and Hong Kong's neighbouring countries were better than those in Hong Kong. There was therefore a need to enable overseas exhibition organizers to compete with TDC on a level playing field to bring about improvements; and	
		(c) at present most participants in TDC's exhibitions were businesses from the Mainland which TDC had deliberately made efforts to enlist. This trend would affect Hong Kong SMEs' business as shown in the case quoted in paragraph 3 of its submission (tabled at the meeting and subsequently issued vide LC Paper	

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		No. CB(1)1202/11-12(02)). Ms LAU opined that the Administration should ensure that TDC would provide to the Bills Committee a written response to the accusation made in paragraph 3 of HKSMEA's submission.	Administration
022751 – 023138	Chairman Mr WONG Ting-kwong	 Mr WONG Ting-kwong opined that – (a) exhibition organizers such as Global Sources should seek to co-operate with TDC, such as by using TDC's service, to maximize use of both HKCEC as well as the Asia-World Expo (AWE) to promote Hong Kong's economy; (b) in contrast to TDC which was a non-profit making statutory body serving Hong Kong, international exhibition organizers such as Global Sources only aimed to make profits in Hong Kong; and (c) the Administration should play a co-ordinating role between TDC and other exhibition organizers such as Global Sources, so as to promote co-operation instead of unhealthy competition among them. 	
		The Chairman urged the Administration to provide a written response to Mr WONG's request in (c) above.	The Administration to take action as requested in paragraph 7(c)
023139 – 023513	Chairman Mrs Regina IP Administration	 Mrs Regina IP expressed the following views – (a) the focus of the discussion at this meeting was not TDC's contribution but the appropriateness of exempting its economic activities from regulation of the Bill; and (b) if the concern about excessive litigation and compliance costs was the justification behind TDC's exemption from the Bill, private undertakings should similarly be exempted unless double standards were adopted. The Administration gave the following explanation – (a) whether a statutory body should remain exempted from the Bill would be assessed according to the relevant criteria set out in the Bill; (b) private undertakings could also seek exemption if they met the criteria set out in Schedule 1 to the Bill; 	

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		(c) various measures including the provision on the de minimis arrangements and the warning notice proposed in October 2011 had already addressed the concerns expressed by the SMEs.	
		The Chairman requested the Administration to respond to Mrs IP's concern that the currently proposed general and broad exemption of statutory bodies would, as pointed out in the submission from the Law Society of Hong Kong (LC Paper No. CB(1)1219/10-11(02)), create an uneven playing field between the government and the private sector.	The Administration to take action as requested in paragraph 7(d)
023514 – 023535	Chairman Mr Philip WONG Mr WONG Ting-kwong	Dr Philip WONG declared that he was a member of the LegCo Commission and Council Member of TDC. Mr WONG Ting-kwong declared that he was a member of	
		the LegCo Commission.	
023536 – 023602	Chairman	The Chairman thanked the deputations for attending the meeting, and invited them to submit further views to the Bills Committee in writing.	
		Break from 023603 to 024553	
Session II		•	
024554 – 024654	Chairman	Opening remarks	
024655 – 025051	The Hong Kong General Chamber of Small & Medium Business	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1124/11-12(07))	
025052 – 025420	Hong Kong Precision Electronics Co. Ltd.	Hong Kong Precision Electronics Co. Ltd. indicated support for exempting TDC from the Bill by describing the assistance and services it received from TDC, which unlike private exhibition organizers was tasked to help SMEs develop and was hence accountable to them. The Company expressed concern that if TDC was regulated, it might be restricted from charging lower exhibition participation fees.	
025421 – 025807	Global Sources	Presentation of views against exempting TDC from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(02))	
025808 – 030101	Hong Kong Medical & Healthcare Device Industries Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill and denying that it was monopolizing the exhibition market (LC Paper No. CB(1)762/11-12(03))	
030102 – 030427	Concern Group for a Competitive Exhibition Industry in Hong Kong	Presentation of views against exempting TDC from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(03) and LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(03) tabled at the meeting)	

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030428 – 030748	Hong Kong Metal Merchants Association	The Hong Kong Metal Merchants Association expressed support for exempting TDC from the Bill by highlighting TDC's contribution to promoting trade opportunities for SMEs, and expressed concern that if TDC was not exempted from the Bill, it would be forced to organize exhibitions according to commercial principles and hence charge higher exhibition participation fees to the detriment of SMEs and in turn consumers. The Association indicated support for exempting FHKI from the Bill by also highlighting the efforts and contribution it had made to promote the development and enhance the competitiveness of Hong Kong industries, and by pointing out that FHKI was also not a profit-making body.	
030749 – 031041	Professor CHEUNG Wai-man, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Professor CHEUNG highlighted the findings of a survey on the exhibition trade which he conducted a few years before, and indicated opposition to exempting TDC from the Bill for the following reasons — (a) the organization of exhibitions was an economic activity and not a public service as some deputations claimed; and (b) competition would only cause fees to go down to benefit SMEs.	
031042 – 031413	The Hong Kong Exporters' Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)960/11-12(05))	
031414 – 031530	Hong Kong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics Limited	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)834/11-12(02))	
031531 – 031657	Power Hub Limited	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)641/11-12(13))	
031658 – 031912	Hong Kong (SME) Economic and Trade Promotional Association Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of the exemption of TDC, FHKI, the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC), the Hong Kong Science Park and all non-profit making business associations from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)781/11-12(03))	
031913 – 032145	The Hong Kong Association of International Co-operation of Small and Medium Enterprises	The Hong Kong Association of International Co-operation of Small and Medium Enterprises indicated support for exempting TDC from the Bill by highlighting the assistance and support it received from TDC, and TDC's contribution to the development of trade and in turn Hong Kong, both of which might be affected if TDC was subject to regulation of the Bill.	

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032146 – 032526	Hong Kong Jewellery & Jade Manufacturers Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)724/11-12(09))	
032527 – 032928	Diamond Federation of Hong Kong, China Limited Hong Kong Jewellery & Jade Manufacturers Association	The representative of the Diamond Federation of Hong Kong, China Limited indicated support for exempting TDC from the Bill on grounds that the development of the diamond trade relied heavily on quality trade fairs organized by TDC at reasonable fees. Moreover, TDC did not have monopoly as it was the organizer of only one of the four relevant exhibitions organized every year. He further expressed the following views –	
		(a) the accusation made in HKSMEA's submission was questionable because the booths of TDC's exhibitions were allotted through the drawing of lots conducted according to a set of objective criteria in a very transparent manner; and	
		(b) exhibitors had no bargaining power where exhibition participation fees were concerned. In this regard, TDC had struck a balance between making profits and performing its corporate social responsibility through charging exhibitors reasonable fees.	
032929 – 033241	Savantas Policy Institute	Savantas Policy Institute stated support for the promotion of competition and consumer protection, and hence had reservation about the proposed exemption arrangements for the following reasons –	
		(a) some of the exempted statutory bodies were engaging in economic activities and hence competing with the commercial sector for profits;	
		(b) only a few Asian countries exempted statutory bodies from their competition laws in entirety. In fact, the proposed exemption arrangements under the Bill were different from those in the European Union (EU), on whose competition laws the Bill had modeled;	
		(c) EU competition laws only exempted economic activities conducted by statutory bodies as public services. Hong Kong should follow suit and subject all statutory bodies to regulation of the Bill except for the above type of activities; and	
		(d) according to a United Nations report, a conscious decision-making process should take place before exempting an activity of a statutory body from the competition law. For example, by assessing whether the activity concerned would really benefit the economy and by consulting stakeholders including	

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		competitors and consumers.	
033242 – 033553	打破政府壟斷大聯 盟	打破政府壟斷大聯盟 briefed members on its submission (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(04)), and supplemented the following views –	
		(a) exemption of TDC from the Bill was unfair to the private sector;	
		(b) judging from the significant pay rise offered to TDC's directorate staff during the financial tsunami, it was questionable whether TDC was really providing services to help SMEs; and	
		(c) the establishment of statutory bodies would affect SMEs' operation and lead to the creation of monopoly in many areas. By exempting them from the Bill, their monopoly would only grow further. As such, the Administration should delete the existing exemption clauses from the Bill, and consult the public on the exemption arrangements that should be made.	
033554 – 033858	Mr Martin OEI	Mr Martin OEI stated opposition to exempting TDC from the Bill on the following grounds –	
		(a) TDC was in fact only performing its public functions for which it received Government funding when it organized non-profit making activities. All statutory bodies engaging in economic activities should be regulated by the Bill;	
		(b) both TDC and HKPC were not solely performing their statutory roles but were competing with their respective trades to the detriment of the SMEs concerned and in contravention of the principle of free competition. Whether TDC should continue to exist or subject to greater regulation should be seriously examined; and	
		(c) the exhibition fees charged by TDC were in fact not very cheap if the extremely high fees it charged for related services were taken into account. TDC should not be allowed to establish monopoly in the exhibition market.	
033859 – 034206	Hong Kong Retail Management Association	Hong Kong Retail Management Association expressed the following views –	
		(a) TDC should not be exempted from the Bill in its entirety; and	
		(b) the Government should deal with the exemption of vertical agreements at this stage instead of leaving it	

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		to the future Competition Commission.	
		(LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(05))	
034207 – 034446	The British Chamber of Commerce	Presentation of views against exempting statutory bodies with a commercial function from the Bill, and on other aspects of the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(06))	
034447 – 034804	Kowloon Watch Company	Kowloon Watch Company emphasized that TDC had been assisting Hong Kong to promote trade opportunities instead of competing with other exhibition organizers unfairly and that there was no need to exempt it from the Bill. The Company stated opposition to introduction of the Bill for fear of excessive Government intervention.	
034805 – 035013	Hang Hing Prestige Company Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)696/11-12(02))	
035014 – 035232	Bright Sun Coffee Co. Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)664/11-12(01))	
035233 – 035544	Regent Silverware Manufacturing Ltd.	Indication of support for exempting Hong Kong Export Credit Insurance Corporation and TDC from the Bill in recognition of their assistance and services to SMEs and the public functions they performed	
035545 – 035727	Top Quality (H.K.) Co. Ltd.	Indication of support for TDC's exemption from the Bill in recognition of its assistance to SMEs in exploring new markets	
035728 – 040054	Universe Watch Trading Co. Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)585/11-12(01))	
040055 – 040319	Crown Wine Cellars Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)686/11-12(04))	
040320 – 040547	Designing Hong Kong Limited	Designing Hong Kong Limited expressed support for the Bill but indicated opposition to the exemption of statutory bodies as of right considering that they also engaged in economic activities. For example, trade promotion was the only function of TDC's four major functions that was not an economic activity conducted in competition with other operators. As such, TDC should not be exempted or, if it was to be exempted, it should be allowed to perform its non-competitive function of trade promotion only.	
040548 – 040941	Kampery Group	Kampery Group expressed disagreement with Designing Hong Kong Limited's views above and indicated support	

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		for TDC's exemption from the Bill in recognition of its assistance and services to SMEs at reasonable fees. It further expressed reservation about the introduction of the Bill instead of an anti-monopoly bill.	
040942 - 041100	Mr Martin OEI Chairman Mr CHAN Kin-por	Mr Martin OEI questioned Kampery Group's views and debated with the Chairman on whether it was appropriate for the Chairman to chair the meeting.	
041101 – 041403	Hong Kong Brands Protection Alliance	Hong Kong Brands Protection Alliance briefed members on the Alliance's submission (LC Paper No. CB(1)740/11-12(07)) and added that TDC should be exempted from the Bill unless the Bill sought to protect large enterprises instead of SMEs.	
041404 – 041525	Hong Kong Small and Medium Enterprises Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(04) tabled at the meeting)	
041526 – 041835	Economic Synergy	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(01))	
041836 – 042128	The American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong	Presentation of views against allowing all statutory bodies to enjoy prima facie exemption from the Bill. Exemption should instead be granted on a case-by-case basis with reference to clearly stated criteria (LC Paper No. CB(1)1049/11-12(01))	
042129 – 042510	The Lion Rock Institute	The Deputy Chairman assumed the chair during the Chairman's absence from 042129 to 043958. The Lion Rock Institute expressed opposition to the Bill pointing out that it could not tackle monopoly and opined that the provision of Government funding for statutory bodies competing with private sector operators unfairly was the cause of monopoly. The Institute was therefore opposed to exemption of statutory bodies from the Bill.	
042511 – 042633	Jan Cheong Sing Hardware	Jan Cheong Sing Hardware indicated opposition to the Bill, especially as so many statutory bodies would be exempted and considered it undesirable for CC to support the Bill, having regard that it was one of the statutory bodies to be exempted.	
042634 - 042943	Wiseville International Ltd.	Wiseville International Ltd. indicated support for TDC's exemption from the Bill by quoting its own experience in participating in trade fairs, which showed that TDC's trade fairs were better organized than those by other exhibition organizers, and that there was a need to exempt TDC lest it would be restricted from organizing exhibitions at a loss to assist SMEs.	
042944 –	Zigen	Presentation of views in support of suitably exempting	

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043328	Pharmaceutical Ltd.	TDC from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(07))	
043329 – 043629	Wings Trading (HK) Co. Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)641/11-12(08))	
043630 – 043958	Professor Hans MAHNCKE, Senior Coordinator, Office of the Provost, City University of Hong Kong	Professor MAHNCKE expressed the following views — (a) most views expressed by deputations at this meeting, whether in written or verbal form, were in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill and were similar. It was therefore questionable whether the deputations concerned had come of their own accord, or that TDC had been abusing its dominant or privileged position to make them come forward; and (b) it was ironic that the Administration agreed with the above deputations too, and was proposing to exempt nearly all statutory bodies, including those which were not playing an indispensable role in serving the community but were relics from the past. Instead of exempting these statutory bodies, they should be shut down or privatized. (LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(02))	
043959 – 044312	Professor Mark WILLIAMS, School of Accounting and Financing, Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Presentation of views questioning the exemption of various statutory bodies from the Bill. Instead, statutory bodies should generally be included, and exemption should only be granted to their conducts where relevant (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(08))	
044313 – 044420	The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce	Presentation of views in support of exempting all statutory bodies, including TDC, from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)1133/11-12(03))	
044421 – 044754	The Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong (REDA)	REDA highlighted its stance regarding the Bill stated in its previous submissions, and made the following comments on the proposed exemption arrangements — (a) REDA could not accept the exemption from the Bill of most statutory bodies, in particular the Housing Authority which had been the subject of COMPAG's investigation in the past. This was because all economic activities, whether conducted by statutory bodies or the private sector, should be similarly regulated in keeping with international practices, the spirit of law, and the objective of the Bill; (b) the public functions performed by statutory bodies could already seek exemption as appropriate	

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		according to section 3 of Schedule 1. There was no need to place the Government above law by exempting so many statutory bodies; and (c) the Bill should be amended to empower LegCo to regularly review and revise as necessary the list of exempted bodies.	
		(LC Paper No. CB(1)1202/11-12(05) tabled at the meeting)	
044755 – 045050	The Hong Kong Chinese Importers' & Exporters' Association	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)899/11-12(02))	
045051 – 045400	Mr Peter WONG	Mr Peter WONG stated opposition to exempting statutory bodies from the Bill, and opined that TDC, HKPC and CC should be regulated, and queried the validity of views in support of exempting TDC, which in his view was similar to an independent kingdom not even regulated by the Audit Commission.	
045401 – 045627	Chairman Administration	In response to deputations' views above, the Administration made points similar to those expressed at the end of session I, and added that the Government had the responsibility to provide quality services to the general public and companies of Hong Kong at affordable fees, for example, education, medical, housing and trade promotion services. Hence there was a need for statutory bodies to be treated differently under the Bill to enable them to help provide the above services.	
045628 - 050142	Chairman Ms Emily LAU Global Sources	Ms Emily LAU expressed the following views – (a) that all deputations were free to give views to LegCo, and it might be advisable to enact the Ordinance first even though it might not be perfect, lest Hong Kong would not have a competition law to enable international companies to compete with local companies on a level playing field; and (b) the view of certain deputations that exemption from the Bill should be granted upon application for	
		conduct on a case-by-case basis rather than granting exemption to statutory bodies in their entirety was agreeable. Ms LAU asked Global Sources whether it was willing to co-operate with TDC to create a win-win situation, and whether there were any difficulties in this regard.	
		Global Sources pointed out that as seen from the majority views expressed at this meeting, TDC could abuse its	

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		market power to squeeze out its competitors, and that TDC was not willing to co-operate with it.	
050143 – 050440	Chairman Mr WONG Ting-kwong	Mr WONG Ting-kwong indicated disagreement with Global Sources on abuse of market power by TDC and expressed the following views –	
		(a) Global Sources should co-operate with TDC to create a win-win situation in serving Hong Kong as seen in examples of successful co-operation between TDC and other exhibition organizers;	
		(b) Mr WONG was willing to play a co-ordinating role in this regard; and	
		(c) many SMEs supported TDC because of its services and assistance to them, and would not agree to restricting TDC from continuing such good work by subjecting it to regulation of the Bill.	
050441 – 050512	Chairman	The Chairman thanked the deputations for attending the meeting, and invited them to submit further views to the Bills Committee in writing.	
		Break from 050513 to 053042	
Session III 053043 – 053128	Chairman	Opening remarks	
053129 – 053433	The Professional Commons	Presentation of views in support of exempting statutory bodies which had no or insignificant economic activities. As to statutory bodies which engaged in economic activities, they would need to satisfy all four of the criteria stated in the submission from the Professional Commons (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(09)) before they could be made subject to the provisions of the Bill.	
053434 – 053740	Hong Kong Gold & Silver Ornament Workers and Merchants General Union	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)847/11-12(02))	
053741 – 053950	Romus Ltd.	Expression of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill by highlighting its own experience of TDC's good service and performance	
053951 – 054209	COG Limited	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill by describing the assistance it received from TDC (LC Paper No. CB(1)1166/11-12(10))	
054210 – 054517	Hong Kong Mould and Product Technology	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill, and expression of concerns that if TDC was not exempted, SMEs might need to pay higher fees for taking	

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	Association	part in exhibitions organized by private exhibition organizers intent on making profits (LC Paper No. CB(1)769/11-12(04))	
054518 – 054749	The Toys Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong	Presentation of views in support of exempting the public functions of TDC from the Bill, and calling for co-operation between TDC and other exhibition organizers (LC Paper No. CB(1)960/11-12(03))	
054750 – 055110	MRC Technology International Ltd.	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)724/11-12(04))	
055111 – 055421	Community Development Initiative	Community Development Initiative expressed regret that some members were not paying sufficient attention to deputations' views and expressed the following views –	
		(a) the validity of the views expressed in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill was doubtful, and members should refer to the findings of a survey conducted by the Initiative earlier (LC Paper No. CB(1)2749/10-11(01));	
		(b) the quality of TDC's services was not a justification for exempting it. Nor was the claim that TDC was serving the community a good reason if TDC's activities were economic activities; and	
		(c) instead of exempting statutory bodies in entirety, the Bill should only exempt their public functions as in EU.	
055422 – 055738	Hong Kong Environmental Industry Association	The Hong Kong Environmental Industry Association expressed views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill for the following reasons –	
	Association	(a) TDC was performing important public functions and making a great contribution to trade development and economy of Hong Kong;	
		(b) TDC did not enjoy monopoly as some deputations claimed. The above misunderstanding might have been caused by the lack of exhibition venues in Hong Kong and TDC's success in establishing itself in the international arena; and	
		(c) there might be abuse if TDC was forced by the enacted Competition Ordinance to share its database on Hong Kong enterprises with private exhibition organizers.	
055739 – 060100	Dr Robert HANSON	Dr HANSON expressed the following views –	
000100		(a) under the rule of law, the Bill should bind every	

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		organization instead of exempting most statutory bodies, including TDC considering that it was operating in a mixed market. Instead, exemption should be granted to conducts on a case-by-case basis; and	
		(b) SMEs would not get what they wanted by seeking to exempt TDC because in an international environment, the enacted Competition Ordinance would be subject to international interpretation.	
060101 – 060417	Mr Andrew SHUEN	Mr Andrew SHUEN expressed views against exemption of TDC from the Bill as well as the Bill because it was too powerful.	
060418 – 060723	Hong Kong Young Industrialists Council	Presentation of views in support of exempting TDC and FHKI from the Bill by highlighting their contribution (LC Paper No. CB(1)905/11-12(01))	
060724 – 061008	Hong Kong Logistics Association	Expression of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill in recognition of its contribution and comprehensive quality services	
061009 – 061233	Hong Kong Auto Parts Industry Association	Expression of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill for the following reasons – (a) TDC readily provided necessary services to SMEs at reasonable fees, and had made important contribution to trade development; and	
		(b) during the current economic downturn, TDC should be encouraged instead of restricted from providing greater assistance to SMEs by subjecting it to regulation of the Bill.	
061234 – 061544	Tomson Holdings Limited	Presentation of views in support of TDC's exemption from the Bill (LC Paper No. CB(1)641/11-12(12))	
061545 – 061615	Administration	The Administration thanked the deputations for their views, and undertook to seriously consider them when finalizing the exemption arrangements.	
061616 – 062515	Chairman Ms Emily LAU Hong Kong Environmental Industry Association Tomson Holdings Limited Mr WONG Ting-kwong	Ms Emily LAU said that she tended not to exempt TDC from the Bill but would seriously consider the many views expressed in support of exempting TDC. In response to Ms LAU, Hong Kong Environmental Industry Association, Tomson Holdings Limited and Mr WONG Ting-kwong explained that TDC seemed to enjoy monopoly by taking up a significant number of exhibition slots of HKCEC because it was the organizer of exhibitions which, as an established practice and out of actual needs, such as brand-building needs, took place at HKCEC every	

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		year. Mr WONG Ting-kwong expressed the following views — (a) AWE was not as adequately supported as HKCEC in terms of transport, and infrastructures such as hotels and entertainment facilities; (b) the Government should provide more resources to better connect AWE to other parts of Hong Kong, so as to enable HKCEC and AWE, which were both funded by the Government, to co-operate instead of directly competing with each other; and (c) the presently under-utilized AWE could be used for hosting concerts or as outlets instead of competing	
062516 – 063436	Chairman Mr Andrew SHUEN Mr WONG Ting-kwong Hong Kong Mould and Product Technology Association Community Development Initiative	with HKCEC in hosting exhibitions. Mr Andrew SHUEN and Mr WONG Ting-kwong discussed the following — (a) whether the Bill would, if passed, prevent TDC from continuing to perform its social function of assisting SMEs; and (b) whether the Bill should exempt TDC while applying to the private sector, if excessive litigation was the justification for exempting TDC. Hong Kong Mould and Product Technology Association expressed the following views in support of Mr WONG Ting-kwong and TDC — (a) the Association and many SMEs supported the Bill but considered it necessary to exempt TDC from the Bill because the services which TDC provided to help SMEs secure trade opportunities outside Hong Kong were necessary to enable Hong Kong to compete with other countries. Moreover, the Government was already monitoring how TDC provided the above services. Other countries were similarly subsidizing their exhibition industries, and their exhibition venues were also used for other purposes when not in use for hosting exhibitions; (b) the Bill should focus on tackling monopoly, such as the monopoly of tunnel operators or supermarket	
		chains; and (c) those parties which were opposed to exempting TDC were in fact TDC's competitors such as Global Sources. TDC should be free from regulation of the Bill to enable it to continue to serve Hong Kong to benefit Hong Kong people.	

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		Community Development Initiative pointed out that HKCEC, which was owned by TDC, was directly competing with the private sector by operating businesses such as food and beverage services, film shows and annual meetings. As such, TDC should not be exempted in its entirety. The Chairman pointed out that the above highlighted services of HKCEC were not exempted from the Bill.	
063437 – 063657	Chairman Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung opined that instead of exempting TDC in its entirety, exemption should be granted to only those public functions performed by TDC to promote trade and assist SMEs. The same principle applied to the Housing Authority.	
063658 – 063940	Chairman Mr WONG Ting-kwong Community Development Initiative Administration	Mr WONG Ting-kwong emphasized that booking and scheduling at HKCEC was handled by the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (Management) Limited (the HKCEC Management Limited) and TDC had to book exhibition slots from the HKCEC Management Limited. Community Development Initiative emphasized that HKCEC was owned by TDC.	
		The Chairman and Mr WONG explained that the HKCEC Management Limited was a business entity separate from TDC, and that the former would not be exempted from the Bill. The Administration confirmed their understanding and pointed out that the HKCEC Management Limited was a private company.	
063941- 014025	Chairman Ms Emily LAU	The Chairman thanked the deputations for attending the meeting, and invited them to submit further views to the Bills Committee in writing.	
		The Chairman reminded the Administration to provide a consolidated written response to the views, whether in written or verbal form, expressed by deputations and members at the meeting. Meeting arrangements	The Administration to take action as requested in paragraph 7(a)

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