

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)194/09-10
(These minutes have been clear
with the Chairman)

Ref : CB1/PL/EA/1

Panel on Environmental Affairs

Minutes of meeting
held on Thursday, 15 October 2009, at 11:30 am
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

- Members present** : Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP (Chairman)
Hon CHAN Hak-kan (Deputy Chairman)
Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, SBS, S.B.St.J., JP
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP
Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, GBS, JP
Hon KAM Nai-wai, MH
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Hon CHAN Kin-por, JP
Hon Tanya CHAN
- Members absent** : Hon LEE Wing-tat
Prof Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP
- Clerk in attendance** : Miss Becky YU
Chief Council Secretary (1)1
- Staff in attendance** : Mrs Constance LI
Assistant Secretary General 1
- Mrs Mary TANG
Senior Council Secretary (1)2
- Mr Franco KWONG
Council Secretary (1)1
- Ms Alice CHEUNG
Senior Legislative Assistant (1)1

Miss Queenie LAM
Senior Legislative Assistant (1)2

Miss Mandy POON
Legislative Assistant (1)4

Action

I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

Election of Chairman

Ms Audrey EU, Chairman in office, invited nominations for the chairmanship.

2. Ms Cyd HO nominated Ms Audrey EU, and the nomination was seconded by Mr Jeffrey LAM. Ms Audrey EU accepted the nomination.

3. There being no other nominations, Ms Audrey EU was declared Chairman of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session.

Election of Deputy Chairman

4. Ms Audrey EU took the chair and invited nominations for the deputy chairmanship.

5. Ms Cyd HO nominated Mr CHAN Hak-kan, and the nomination was seconded by Ir Dr Raymond HO. Mr CHAN Hak-kan accepted the nomination.

6. There being no other nominations, Mr CHAN Hak-kan was declared Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session.

II. Schedule of meetings for the 2009-2010 session

7. Members agreed that all meetings of the Panel would be held on the fourth Monday of each month at 2:30 pm. Referring to the proposed schedule of regular meetings of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session, members agreed to the following changes -

- (a) meeting in October 2009 would be deferred to Monday, 2 November 2009, at 10:45 am;
- (b) meeting in December 2009 would be held on Tuesday, 15 December 2009, at 10:45 am;
- (c) meeting in March 2010 would be held on Monday, 29 March 2010, at 2:30 pm; and
- (d) meeting in July 2010 would be held on Wednesday, 21 July 2010 at 2:30 pm.

(*Post-meeting note:* The meeting schedule for the 2009-2010 session was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1) 46/09-10 on 16 October 2009.)

III. Items for discussion at next meeting

(Appendix V to LC Paper No. — List of outstanding items for
CB(1) 10/09-10 discussion)

Appendix VI to LC Paper No. — List of follow-up actions)
CB(1) 10/09-10

8. Members agreed to discuss the following items at the next regular meeting to be held on Monday, 2 November 2009, at 10:45 am -

- (a) Policy initiatives of the Environment Bureau in the Chief Executive's Policy Address 2009-2010; and
- (b) United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Copenhagen in December 2009

9. Miss Tanya CHAN suggested that the subject of green buildings should be followed up by the Panel. Ms Cyd HO noted that the Panel on Development had been following up the public engagement process on "Building Design to Foster a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment" conducted by the Council for Sustainable Development. The Chairman said that as she would meet with the Secretary for the Environment (SEN) to discuss the work plan of the Panel for the current session, she would raise the subject with SEN to decide on whether it should be followed up by the Panel, or jointly with the Panel on Development.

10. Mr CHAN Hak-kan expressed concern on the increase in domestic electricity consumption in recent years. In addition to the proposed distribution of cash coupons for the purchase of compact fluorescent lamp as set out in the Policy Address, he considered that more should be done to conserve energy.

11. Ms Cyd HO said that the visit to Guangdong in May 2009 had indeed facilitated a better understanding on the measures being contemplated by the Mainland authorities in protecting the environment. She proposed to conduct another visit to Guangdong to study in greater detail the various measures, including those related to regional air quality and the progress of Cleaner Production Partnering Programme. The Chairman said that the proposal should be further discussed at a forthcoming Panel meeting.

12. The Chairman reminded members of the special meeting scheduled for Friday, 16 October 2009, at 9:30 am to receive a briefing by SEN on the relevant policy initiatives in the Chief Executive's Policy Address 2009-2010.

IV. Any other business

Subcommittee on Improving Air Quality

13. The Chairman said that the LegCo Secretariat had issued a circular to consult Subcommittee members on the need for the Subcommittee to continue its work in the current legislative session. As three Subcommittee members had indicated objection, there was a need for the Panel to decide on whether the Subcommittee should continue its work.

14. Mr Jeffrey LAM enquired about the outcome of consultation. The Clerk advised that three Subcommittee members, namely Ir Dr Raymond HO, Mr Jeffrey LAM and Mr CHAN Kin-por, were opposed to the continuation of the work of the Subcommittee. Ms Miriam LAU did not indicate any views while the rest of the Subcommittee members were supportive of the continuation of the work of the Subcommittee.

15. Mr CHAN Kin-por said that he did not support the continuation of the work of the Subcommittee because improving air quality was a major issue in respect of environmental protection and hence, this should be discussed by the Panel rather than the Subcommittee which had limited membership. He preferred the Panel to hold more meetings to discuss the subject of improving air quality rather than having separate discussions by the Subcommittee. His views were shared by Mr Jeffrey LAM who suggested that extended Panel meetings could be held when the subject was discussed. The Chairman said that the need for extended meetings had discussed in great length in the past. The decision to set up a Subcommittee was not only to enable more focused discussion on improving air quality, but also to avoid holding extended meetings by the Panel.

16. Mr KAM Nai-wai expressed support for the continuation of the work of the Subcommittee as there were issues, such as the review of Air Quality Objectives, which required follow-up actions by the Subcommittee. Ms Cyd HO said that the more focused discussion by the Subcommittee had indeed yielded positive results as evidenced by the inclusion of members' views in the Public Consultation on the Review of Air Quality Objectives. She indicated support for the continuation of the work of the Subcommittee, adding that Panel members were not obliged to join the Subcommittee. Besides, the smaller membership of the Subcommittee would make it easier for it to attain a quorum for meetings.

17. As the members supporting the continuation of the work of the Subcommittee had outnumbered those who did not, the Chairman concluded that the Subcommittee should continue its work in the current legislative session. A circular to invite Panel members to re-signify membership for the Subcommittee would be issued shortly.

18. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 11:53 am.