

## **Supplementary Information on**

### **FCR(2012-13)7 : One-off subsidy to assist vehicle owners to replace the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their petrol and liquefied petroleum gas taxis and light buses for the FC Meeting on 13 April 2012**

As requested by the FC Chairman at the pre-meeting briefing with the Administration on 11 April 2012, we provide supplementary information on the above FCai as appended below.

#### **The Cost of Replacing Catalytic Converters and Oxygen Sensors**

2. We recommend in the FCai to provide a one-off subsidy to assist vehicle owners to replace the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their taxis and light buses fuelled by petrol or liquefied petroleum gas. The cost of replacing catalytic converters and oxygen sensors have two key components – labour and replacement parts. Among taxis, the labour cost for the replacement will not vary significantly with taxi models because the required man-hours, skill level and tools are similar. So is the case for light buses. However, the cost of replacement parts could vary according to the vehicle models due to differences in their emission reduction performance and the connecting pipework and fixture which are associated with the catalytic converters.–

3. In paragraph 12 of the FCai, we have estimated the average costs per vehicle under the recommendation are about \$6,060, which include both the costs of a catalytic converter and an oxygen sensor plus labour costs. The figure is estimated on the basis of the overall estimated costs for replacing catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of the vehicle fleet, which now stands at a total of 21,630 eligible vehicles, having regard to the market information and the make-up of the fleet..

#### **The Panel on Environmental Affairs Meeting on 27 February 2012**

4. In response to Members' questions at the 27 February 2012 meeting of the Panel on Environmental Affairs of this Council, we explained

that the cost of replacing catalytic converters would vary depending on the size of a vehicle. We cited for reference that the average cost of a catalytic converter of a light bus would be around \$5,000 while the cost of the replacement work would be worked out after the tendering exercise. This figure also does not include the cost of the oxygen sensor.

#### Conclusion

5. Subject to approval of the recommendation in the FCai, we will undertake an open tender for the supply of the replacement parts and the replacement service. The actual replacement cost will be available after the tender.

Environmental Protection Department  
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