# 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. FC110/12-13 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB1/F/1/2

## **Finance Committee of the Legislative Council**

# Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting held at Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Friday, 23 November 2012, at 5:30 pm

## **Members present:**

Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan

Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Dr Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP

Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP

Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP

Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP

Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH

Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP

Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP

Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP

Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP

Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, JP

Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, BBS

Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP

Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Hon WONG Yuk-man

Hon Claudia MO

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP

Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin

Hon YIU Si-wing

Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai

Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP

Hon Charles Peter MOK

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Hon CHAN Han-pan

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Kenneth LEUNG

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

Hon KWOK Wai-keung

Hon Dennis KWOK

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, JP

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, JP

Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, BBS, MH, JP

Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan

Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen

#### **Members absent:**

Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Hon TANG Ka-piu
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP

## **Public officers attending:**

Ms Esther LEUNG, JP Deputy Secretary for Financial

Services and the Treasury (Treasury)1

Ms Elsie YUEN Principal Executive Officer (General),

Financial Services and the Treasury

Bureau (The Treasury Branch)

Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Mr Matthew CHEUNG Kin-chung,

GBS, JP

Ms Irene YOUNG, JP Deputy Secretary for Labour and

Welfare (Welfare)2

Mr Patrick NIP Tak-kuen, JP Director of Social Welfare

Mr FUNG Pak-yan, JP Deputy Director of Social Welfare

(Administration)

## Clerk in attendance:

Mr Andy LAU Assistant Secretary General 1

#### **Staff in attendance:**

Mr Derek LO Chief Council Secretary (1)5 Mr Daniel SIN Senior Council Secretary (1)7

Mr Ken WOO Council Secretary (1)5

Miss Queenie LAM

Mr Frankie WOO

Senior Legislative Assistant (1)2

Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3

Ms Christy YAU Legislative Assistant (1)7

## Item No. 1 – FCR(2012-13)54 HEAD 170 – SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT Subhead 000 Operational expenses Subhead 180 Social security allowance scheme

The meeting continued the deliberation on item FCR(2012-13)54 relating to the funding and establishment proposals on the Old Age Living Allowance.

- 2. <u>The Chairman</u> said that at the last meeting held on 16 November 2012, the Finance Committee (FC) had commenced handling of members' motions to express a view or views under paragraph 37A of the FC Procedure. The meeting had dealt with 176 motions submitted by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Dr Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung; all the motions were voted down by a majority of members. Following the meeting, Dr Fernando CHEUNG had withdrawn motion numbers 311-320. <u>The Chairman</u> announced that the meeting would continue to process the remaining 133 motions.
- Mr WONG Kwok-hing raised a point of order. He said that he 3. intended to move a motion seeking the Committee's agreement to hold a FC meeting with no end time before the end of November. This would allow the Committee to complete handling of all members' motions on FCR(2012-13)54 moved under paragraph 37A of the FC Procedure. Mr WONG explained that some members had been trying to delay the voting of the OALA funding proposal by continuing to move frivolous and meaningless motions. warned that if FC could not approve the funding application before 1 December 2012, eligible elderly people would loss another month of OALA payment. Mr WONG Kwok-hing suggested that, in the event that FC could manage to approve the funding application at such a meeting which might straddle over certain time after 1 December 2012, the Administration should still treat the decision as having been made by FC within the month of November, so that the OALA scheme could take effect on 1 November 2012.
- 4. <u>Mr Michael TIEN Puk-sun</u> raised a point of order. He asked if the FC Chairman could have the same power of the Legislative Council (LegCo) President under Rule 92 of the LegCo Rules of Procedure that he might exercise to stop members from moving endless number of motions of a similar theme.
- 5. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> said that the Administration held the authority to make and change policies on OALA and members should not give in to the Administration's pressure on FC to approve the funding for OALA. He added that members should press the Administration to date back the OALA

scheme to 1 October 2012 rather than the first day of November. <u>Mr LEUNG</u> said in stalling the funding approval, he also left open the negotiation channel with the Administration.

- 6. The Chairman said that Mr WONG Kwok-hing's proposal would not be dealt with at the meeting, and so he would not allow further debate on the subject. He commented that Mr WONG Kwok-hing's proposal of holding a FC meeting with no end time would deviate from the existing convention that the duration of a FC meeting was two hours. The Chairman added that the part of Mr WONG's motion seeking co-operation from the Administration to vary the OALA effective date was a matter for the Administration to decide, and was not a procedural issue for the Committee to decide on. The Chairman undertook to consult members and the Secretariat on Mr WONG Kwok-hing's proposal before responding to him after the meeting.
- 7. As regards Mr Michael TIEN Puk-sun's query, <u>the Chairman</u> advised that the power of the LegCo President under RoP 92 did not apply to FC Chairman.
- 8. The meeting resumed handling of members' motions on FCR(2012-13)54 under paragraph 37A of the FC Procedure.
- 9. The Chairman took turns to put to vote the questions that motions numbered 0178 to 0243 by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung be proceeded forthwith. As requested by members, the division bell was rung for one minute before members voted on individual questions. All questions were voted down by a majority of members.
- 10. At 7:30 pm, the Chairman ordered that the meeting be adjourned.
- 11. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 28 February 2013