# 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)939/12-13 (These minutes have been

cleared with the Chairman)

Ref: CB4/SS/8/12

Subcommittee on Solicitors (General) Costs (Amendment) Rules 2013

Minutes of the first meeting held on Friday, 19 July 2013, at 9:45 am in Conference Room 2A of the Legislative Council Complex

**Members** : Hon Dennis KWOK (Chairman)

**present** Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

**Member**: Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP

absent

**Clerk in** : Miss Mary SO

attendance Chief Council Secretary (4)2

Staff in : Mr Kelvin LEE

**attendance** Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Ms Rebecca LEE

Council Secretary (4)2

Ms Mandy WAN

Administrative Assistant (4)1

#### I. Election of Chairman

Mr James TO, the Member who had the highest precedence in the Council among those who were present at the meeting, presided over the election of the Chairman.

2. <u>Mr James TO</u> invited nominations for the chairmanship of the Subcommittee. Mr Dennis KWOK was nominated by Mr Ronny TONG and the nomination was seconded by Mr TAM Yiu-chung. <u>Mr KWOK</u> accepted the nomination. As there was no other nomination, <u>Mr James TO</u> declared that Mr Dennis KWOK was elected Chairman of the Subcommittee.

#### II. Any other business

LC Paper No. CB(4)915/12-13(01) -- Letter from The Law Society of Hong Kong dated 9 July 2013 to the Clerk to the House Committee (English version only)

LC Paper No. CB(4)915/12-13(02) -- Letter from the Legal Adviser of the Legislative Council dated 9 July 2013 to the Secretary for Justice

LC Paper No. CB(4)915/12-13(03) -- Letter from the Department of Justice dated 18 July 2013 (English version only)

- 3. <u>The Subcommittee</u> deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).
- 4. As the Solicitors (General) Costs (Amendment) Rules 2013 were not made by the Costs Committee as provided for under section 74 of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance (Cap. 159), members agreed that the only proper way to deal with the matter was for the Secretary for Justice ("SJ") to move a motion to repeal the Rules. Members further agreed to hold another meeting should SJ decline to move a motion to repeal the Rules.
- 5. To avoid similar incident from recurring, the Chairman suggested and members agreed to refer the matter to the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services for follow-up.

#### Action

6. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9:55 am.

Council Business Division 4
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
31 July 2013

### Subcommittee on Solicitors (General) Costs (Amendment) Rules 2013

## Proceedings of the first meeting on Friday, 19 July 2013, at 9:45 am in Conference Room 2A of the Legislative Council Complex

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
000220 - 000299	Mr James TO Mr Ronny TONG Mr Dennis KWOK	Election of Chairman	
000300 - 001235	Chairman Assistant Legal Adviser 1 Mr Ronny TONG Mr James TO Mr TAM Yiu-chung Clerk	As the Solicitors (General) Costs (Amendment) Rules 2013 were not made by the Costs Committee as provided for under section 74 of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance (Cap. 159), members agreed that the only proper way to deal with the matter was for the Secretary for Justice ("SJ") to move a motion to repeal the Rules. Members further agreed to hold another meeting should SJ decline to do so.  To avoid similar incident from recurring, members agreed to refer the matter to the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services	Clerk

Council Business Division 4
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31 July 2013