

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

Ref : CB2/PL/FE

LC Paper No. CB(2)142/12-13  
(These minutes have been  
cleared with the Chairman)

**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

**Minutes of meeting**  
**held on Tuesday, 16 October 2012, at 9:40 am**  
**in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC (Chairman)  
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon James TO Kun-sun  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP  
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH  
Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
- Member absent** : Hon WONG Yuk-man
- Member attending** : Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
- Clerk in attendance** : Ms Elyssa WONG  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 5

**Staff in attendance** : Miss Flora TAI  
Assistant Secretary General 2

Ms Maisie LAM  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 5

Mr Jove CHAN  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 6

Ms Priscilla LAU  
Council Secretary (2) 5

Ms Alice CHEUNG  
Senior Legislative Assistant (1) 1

Miss Queenie LAM  
Senior Legislative Assistant (1) 2

Ms Michelle LEE  
Legislative Assistant (2) 5

Miss Liza LAM  
Clerical Assistant (2) 5

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Action

**I. Election of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman for the 2012-2013 session**

Election of Chairman

Mr James TO, the member present who had the highest precedence, presided over the election of the Chairman of the Panel. Mr TO called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2012-2013 session. Mr Alan LEONG was nominated by Dr LEUNG Ka-lau and the nomination was seconded by Dr Kenneth CHAN. Mr LEONG accepted the nomination.

2. As there was no other nomination, Mr James TO declared Mr Alan LEONG elected as Chairman of the Panel for the 2012-2013 session. Mr Alan LEONG then took the chair.

Action

Election of Deputy Chairman

3. The Chairman called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2012-2013 session. Mr Steven HO Chun-yin was nominated by Mr Vincent FANG and the nomination was seconded by Mr Christopher CHUNG. Mr HO accepted the nomination.
4. As there was no other nomination, the Chairman declared Mr Steven HO elected as Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2012-2013 session.

**II. Schedule of meetings for the 2012-2013 session**

5. Members agreed to hold regular meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30 pm. As the second Tuesday of February 2013 fell on a public holiday and the special meetings of the Finance Committee would be held from 8 to 12 April 2013, members agreed that the regular meeting in February and April 2013 would be rescheduled for 5 February 2013 at 4:30 pm and 16 April 2013 at 4:30 pm respectively.

*(Post-meeting note: The schedule of the regular meetings of the Panel for the 2012-2013 session was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)41/12-13 on 16 October 2012.)*

**III. Items for discussion at the next meeting**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)33/12-13(01) and (02)]

6. Members noted the "List of issues suggested to be considered" and the "List of follow-up actions" which were tabled at the meeting.

Meetings scheduled for November 2012

7. Members noted that the Administration had proposed to discuss the following items at the November regular meeting –
  - (a) Legislative proposals relating to formula products and foods for infants and young children;
  - (b) Public consultation on proposals to better regulate pet trading; and
  - (c) Public consultation on "Proposals to Amend the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Ordinance (Cap. 529)".

Action

8. Mr Vincent FANG suggested receiving views from the trade on the regulation of formula products and foods for infants and young children at the meeting. Dr Helena WONG expressed concern about the hegemony of formula products traders. She proposed to invite deputations advocating breast-feeding to give views. Members noted that the Panel on Health Services ("the HS Panel") had previously discussed the matter. With the consent of Dr LEUNG Ka-lau, Chairman of the HS Panel, members agreed to schedule a joint panel meeting for November 2012 with the HS Panel to discuss the matter.

*(Post-meeting note: The joint panel meeting has subsequently been scheduled for 20 November 2012 at 10:45 am.)*

9. Dr Kenneth CHAN suggested receiving views from deputations on the Administration's proposals to better regulate pet trading and proposals to amend Cap. 529. Ms Claudia MO echoed Mr CHAN's suggestion. She hoped that the Administration would extend the scope of regulation to the breeding and trading of cats.

10. The Chairman said that the rental freeze of public markets was going to expire at the end of 2012. He suggested discussing public market stalls rental at the regular meeting in November. Mr Tommy CHEUNG supported the Chairman's suggestion. Mr CHEUNG further proposed to include in the discussion the alignment of the fees and charges of the Food and Environment Hygiene Department ("FEHD").

11. To allow sufficient time for members to receive views of deputations, the Chairman suggested and members agreed that the regular meeting on 13 November 2012 should be extended from two hours to three hours. The duration of the meeting might be further extended, subject to the number of deputations attending the meeting.

Items for discussion at future meetings

12. Dr Kenneth CHAN was concerned about the protection of consumer interest against illegal private columbaria. He proposed to discuss the regulation of private columbaria and the supply of niches in public columbaria at a future meeting.

13. Mr Vincent FANG and Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested discussing hawker policy and the management of fixed pitch hawker areas at a future meeting.

Action

The  
Secretariat

14. Dr Helena WONG expressed concern about the air-conditioning charges of public markets. She suggested including the subject in the discussion of alignment of FEHD's fees and charges at the regular meeting in November 2012. The Chairman opined that it would be more appropriate to treat the air-conditioning charges as an independent item for more focused discussion. Mr Tommy CHEUNG expressed support for the Chairman's view. He said that there was a consensus among the different political parties in the Panel about the setting of air-conditioning charges of public markets. He asked the Secretariat to prepare a background brief summarizing the past deliberations of the Panel on the subject to facilitate members' discussion. The Chairman added that public market tenants should be invited to give views to the Panel. Members agreed to discuss the item at a future meeting.

15. Dr Helena WONG was concerned about the safety of the consumption of genetically modified food. She proposed to discuss the matter at a future meeting.

16. Concluding the discussion, the Chairman said that the issues raised by members would be included in the list of outstanding items for discussion by the Panel. He would also convey members' concerns to the Secretary for Food and Health at the informal meeting to discuss the work plan of the Panel for the 2012-2013 session.

**IV. Any other business**

17. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:08 am.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
31 October 2012