# 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)1070/13-14 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB1/PL/CI/1

# **Panel on Commerce and Industry**

# Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 21 January 2014, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

**Members present**: Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP (Chairman)

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP Hon Charles Peter MOK

Hon Dennis KWOK

Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, JP Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, BBS, MH, JP

Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan

**Member attending**: Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH

Public officers attending

: Agenda item V

Commerce and Economic Development Bureau

Mr Gregory SO, GBS, JP

Secretary for Commerce and Economic

Development

Mr Andrew H Y WONG, JP

Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism)

Miss Susie HO, JP

Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Technology)

Mr Godfrey LEUNG, JP

Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Ms Carol YUEN, JP

Deputy Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce and Industry) 1

Mr David WONG, JP

Deputy Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce and Industry) 2

Mrs Alice CHEUNG, JP

Deputy Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce and Industry) 3

Miss Janet WONG, JP

Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Mr Kenneth MAK, JP

Director-General of Trade and Industry

Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Mr Raymond TAM Chi-yuen, GBS, JP

Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Ms CHANG King-yiu, JP

Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP

Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Miss Charmaine LEE Pui-sze, JP Deputy Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (2)

Mr Daniel CHENG Chung-wai, JP

Deputy Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland

Affairs (3)

**Clerk in attendance:** Ms Annette LAM

Chief Council Secretary (1)3

**Staff in attendance**: Ms Connie HO

Senior Council Secretary (1)3

Miss Rita YUNG

Council Secretary (1)3

Mr Raymond CHOW Council Secretary (IS)2

Ms May LEUNG

Legislative Assistant (1)3

#### Action

# I. Confirmation of minutes of meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(1)747/13-14

-- Minutes of meeting held on 19 November 2013)

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2013 were confirmed.

# II. Information papers issued since last meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(1)578/13-14(01) -- Information on the financial

position of the Applied Research Fund for the period from 1 June to 31 August

2013

LC Paper No. CB(1)691/13-14(01) -- Administration's paper on

progress of negotiations under World Trade

Organization)

LC Paper No. CB(1)761/13-14(01) (Chinese version only)

Letter dated 17 January 2014 from Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan on the development of the beauty industry)

2. <u>Members</u> noted that the above papers had been issued since the last meeting. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the Administration had been requested to provide a written reply to the Deputy Chairman's letter dated 17 January 2014 requesting the Panel to discuss issues relating to the development of the beauty industry.

# III. Date of next meeting and items for discussion

(LC Paper No. CB(1)749/13-14(01) -- List of outstanding items for discussion

LC Paper No. CB(1)749/13-14(02) -- List of follow-up actions)

- 3. <u>Members</u> noted that the next regular Panel meeting would be held on 18 February 2014 at 2:30 pm to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration:
  - (a) Review of Hong Kong Textiles Control System; and
  - (b) Comprehensive review of the Innovation and Technology Fund ——proposed improvement measures.
- 4. The Deputy Chairman and Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan requested the Panel to discuss as soon as practicable the item on "Diversified development of industries in Hong Kong", including the development of the fashion industry, as set out under item 14 in the "List of outstanding items for discussion" (LC Paper No. CB(1)749/13-14(01)). The Chairman instructed the Secretariat to follow-up with the Administration.

(*Post-meeting note*: The Secretariat had written to the Administration on 22 January 2014 requesting the Administration to expedite the discussion of the item and advise the timing as soon as practicable.)

# IV. Matters arising

(LC Paper No. IN04/13-14

-- Paper on innovation and technology industry in South Korea, Israel and Belgium prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (information note))

# Consideration of an overseas duty visit

- 5. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>Council Secretary (IS)2</u> briefed members on the development of the innovation and technology industry in South Korea, Israel and Belgium, as set out in the information note prepared by the Research Office of the Secretariat (LC Paper No. IN04/13-14).
- Mr SIN Chung-kai recalled that the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting had paid a duty visit to South Korea in 2002 to obtain first-hand information on the development of its information technology and He opined that it would be worthwhile to study the related sectors. experience of Israel in the development of innovation and technology on this Members noted that Israel was a small country with a population size comparable to that of Hong Kong and yet it had developed into a world-recognized high-tech and innovation hub. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok said that Mr Charles MOK and he had attended a meeting with a Professor of the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology last week, and noted Israel's vigorous investment in research and development (R&D) and technology, including promoting the commercialization of R&D results. The Deputy Chairman pointed out that Israel had enacted a specific legislation, the "Encouragement of Industrial Research and Development Law" that aimed to support and encourage industrial R&D. Referring to the Chief Executive's announcement in the 2014 Policy Address of the Government's plan to re-initiate the setting up of an Innovation and Technology Bureau, the Deputy Chairman, Mr SIN Chung-kai and Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok considered it an opportune time to pay a duty visit to Israel to study its innovation and technology development. Ms Emily LAU highlighted the views expressed by some members in various discussions that the development of a sound intellectual property (IP) protection regime and promotion of IP trading would complement the development of innovation and technology. LAU suggested that more information on the policies and initiatives, and Israel's experience in the development of IP as well as innovation and technology in Israel should be collected for members' reference.

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The Chairman advised that he had spoken with the Consul General of 7. Israel in Hong Kong who welcomed the idea of a Panel visit to Israel. Chairman requested the Research Office to prepare a more in-depth paper providing further information on Israel's innovation and technology and IP industries, including the proposed timing and itinerary of a duty visit for members' consideration. The Chairman further advised that in accordance with Rules 22(v) and 29A(a) of the House Rules should any Panel considered it necessary to undertake any activities outside Hong Kong under the name of the Panel of the Council, the prior endorsement of the House Committee should be sought.

#### V. Briefing on relevant policy initiatives featuring in the Chief **Executive's 2014 Policy Address**

(LC Paper No. CB(1)749/13-14(03)

-- Administration's paper on 2014 Policy Address -**Initiatives** Policy of Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch and Innovation and Technology Commission, Commerce and **Economic** Development Bureau

LC Paper No. CB(1)749/13-14(04)

-- Administration's paper on 2014 Policy Address — **Initiatives** Policy of Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in relation to Mainland and Taiwan co-operation)

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- LC Paper No. CB(1)769/13-14(01) (Chinese version only, tabled at the meeting and subsequently issued on 22 *January* 2014)
- LC Paper No. CB(1)769/13-14(02) -- Speaking note (Chinese version only, tabled at the Secretary for Constitutional meeting and subsequently issued on 22 and Mainland Affairs) January 2014)
- -- Speaking Secretary and Development

# Relevant papers

- (a) Address by the Chief Executive at the Legislative Council meeting on 15 January 2014 -- "Support the Needy, Let Youth Flourish, Unleash Hong Kong's Potential" (issued on 15 January 2014); and
- (b) The 2014 Policy Address "Policy Agenda" (issued on 15 January 2014).

# Presentation by the Administration

- 8. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development</u> (SCED) briefed members on the policy initiatives of the Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch and Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) featured in the 2014 Policy Address. Details of the policy initiatives were set out in the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(1)749/13-14(03)) and SCED's speaking note (LC Paper No. CB(1)769/13-14(01)).
- 9. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs</u> (SCMA) briefed members on the policy initiatives of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) in relation to Mainland and Taiwan co-operation featured in the 2014 Policy Address. Details of the policy initiatives were set out in the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(1)749/13-14(04) and SCMA's speaking note (LC Paper No. CB(1)769/13-14(02)).

#### **Discussion**

#### *Intellectual property*

10. Mr WONG Kwok-hing welcomed the Administration's decision to introduce an "original grant" patent (OGP) system. He enquired about the timetable for introducing the relevant legislative proposals to tie in with the tentative launching of the OGP system in 2016-2017. In response, SCED advised that the Administration had started the necessary preparatory work for the implementation the OGP system, including mapping out the legal and administrative framework for revamping the existing patent system, conducting a consultancy study to assist in formulating the legal framework for the OGP system, preparing appropriate legislative amendments, etc. The Administration would consult the Panel as appropriate before introducing the legislative proposals into the Legislative Council.

- 11. Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan enquired about the Administration's overall strategy for promoting Hong Kong as a premier intellectual property (IP) trading hub, and whether any targeted sectors or industries would be selected for focused support in the initial stage. The Deputy Chairman also enquired about the economic benefits to be brought about by the development of IP trading in Hong Kong.
- 12. SCED responded that in accordance with the strategic framework for the development of IP trading promulgated by the Working Group on IP Trading chaired by him in November 2013, the Working Group was working to explore specific policies and other support measures for each of the four strategic areas identified for promoting Hong Kong as a regional IP trading There were potentials in the areas of branding, applied R&D, patent, and creative industries including films, design and broadcasting. He added that the development of IP trading would enhance the local R&D capacity and facilitate technology transfer, which would in turn provide the underpinnings for Hong Kong to become an innovation and technology hub. The development of IP trading would also help drive the development of creative industries by maximizing the commercial value of their creative output. IP trading in relation to branding and brand management, such as licensing, royalty and franchising, would help facilitate marketing and business growth of Hong Kong enterprises.

# Economic development and development of industries

- 13. The Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, Mr Martin LIAO and Ms Emily LAU noted with concern that while various new measures would be introduced under the 2014 Policy Address to support the needy and improve people's livelihood, not much was put forward to promote economic growth and development in Hong Kong. These members considered that Hong Kong needed sustained economic growth to address livelihood issues such as poverty, housing, and an ageing population. They were of the view that the Administration should promote sustainable economic growth through diversification of industries so as to generate the wealth that was needed for improving the livelihood of the community. In this connection, Mr Martin LIAO enquired about the progress of the work of the Economic Development Commission (EDC).
- 14. <u>SCED</u> responded that the EDC's focus was on the overall strategy and policy to broaden Hong Kong's economic base and enhance long-term development. It would identify industries that would present opportunities for Hong Kong's further economic growth, and recommend possible policy and other support for these industries. The four working groups under the

EDC had formulated their respective work plans and drawn up initial possible directions or recommendations, and were conducting detailed studies to ascertain the feasibility and implementation of the initial directions or recommendations. The Administration would continue to support the work of the EDC and its working groups and looked forward to the EDC's early submission of specific recommendations for the Government's consideration and implementation.

- 15. Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Dr LAM Tai-fai expressed disappointment that although the 2014 Policy Address had included initiatives in relation to the development of the primary and tertiary industries, namely the agriculture and fisheries industry, as well as the financial services and professional services industries, the development of the secondary industry, i.e. the manufacturing industry was not covered. The Chairman, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Mr Jeffrey LAM called on the Administration to introduce concrete measures and support policies to encourage and support the industrial sector in relocating the high value-added industries back to Hong Kong so as to capitalize on the brand effect of "Made in Hong Kong" and capture the vast opportunities in the Mainland and overseas markets for Hong Kong products. These members were particularly concerned about the future supply of industrial land and buildings, as well as the support measures to promote applied R&D and technology transfer to the local industry to facilitate upgrading in manufacturing industry.
- In response, SCED advised that industrial activities in Hong Kong 16. had evolved from focusing on the manufacturing process in the past into diversified pre- and post-production activities including design, R&D, marketing and brand management, etc. The Administration welcomed Hong Kong enterprises to relocate their high-value added manufacturing processes back to Hong Kong. The Working Group on Manufacturing Industries, Innovative Technology, and Cultural and Creative Industries under the EDC would, taking into account industries' views and suggestions, recommend possible policy and other support measures for the relevant industries. SCED and Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Technology) further advised that to ensure the effective use of land in the Industrial Estates, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) would continue to revitalize the existing three estates in Yuen Long, Tai Po and Tseung Kwan O by encouraging land grantees that were not fully utilizing their sites to take up new projects, surrender the sites or assign them to new users. Since 2007, HKSTPC had approved 28 assignment cases involving about 29 hectares of To provide more land for the longer-term development of the high-tech industry, HKSTPC had commissioned a technical assessment consultancy study to explore the feasibility of expanding the Yuen Long

Industrial Estate by about 16 hectares. In addition, the Planning Department was conducting a new round of Area Assessments of Industrial Land in the Territory, focusing on the industrial and commercial sectors' demand for land and space.

Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA)

- 17. Mr MA Fung-kwok called on the Administration to strive for further trade liberalization and effective CEPA implementation to improve Mainland market access for Hong Kong's movie and publishing industries. In particular, Mr MA called for the facilitation of synchronized distribution of Cantonese versions of Hong Kong films in Hong Kong and the Guangdong market, as well as further liberalization measures to allow Hong Kong publishers to publish books and magazines in the Mainland directly on a quota basis.
- 18. <u>SCED</u> and <u>Director-General of Trade and Industry</u> (DGTI) responded that the Administration had taken note of the trade's call for further liberalization measures under CEPA. The Administration would continue to communicate with the Mainland authorities to reflect views of the trade, and to further the liberalization in various service sectors under CEPA, so as to accomplish the target promulgated by the Central People's Government to achieve basically, through CEPA, liberalization of trade in services between the Mainland and Hong Kong before the end of the National 12th Five-Year Plan period. The Supplement X to CEPA signed in August 2013 had marked a further step towards this goal.

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs)

19. Mr Jeffrey LAM called on the Administration to consider setting up more ETOs both in overseas countries and in the Mainland to assist Hong Kong enterprises in exploring and tapping more new markets. SCED responded that the Administration would consider increasing the number of overseas ETOs in the Asia region and strengthen Hong Kong's trade ties with the emerging markets. In response to Mr Martin LIAO's enquiry about the evaluation of the work of the ETOs, SCED advised that various performance indicators were set and reported in the Estimates every year, including the number of calls on senior government officials/organizations, public relations functions/events held, media interviews/briefings given, etc. The Heads of the ETOs would report progress of their respective work to the Panel annually. Bi-monthly reports were also issued by the ETOs and forwarded to Members of the Legislative Council for reference.

- SCMA further advised that the Administration was working towards 20. establishing the Wuhan ETO around the second quarter of 2014. the network of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government's Offices in the Mainland would be more comprehensive. As the next step to strengthen the network of the Mainland Offices, the HKSAR Government would focus on establishing liaison units for Beijing Office and Shanghai ETO which did not have any. The Administration would first set up a liaison unit in the Northern Region, to be followed by a liaison unit in the Eastern Region, in support of the work of the Beijing Office and Shanghai ETO respectively. Preparation would also be made to set up a liaison unit in the Central Region after the establishment of the Wuhan ETO. The location of the new liaison units would be determined taking into account a host of factors, including the developmental situation, potential, geographical location and transportation network of the relevant provinces and municipalities, and the potential business opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises, etc.
- 21. <u>Mr WONG Ting-kwong</u> welcomed the Administration's new initiatives of setting up a liaison unit each in the Northern Region and Eastern Region of the Mainland. He called on the Administration to consider setting up more Immigration Divisions in various ETOs in the Mainland to better support Hong Kong residents and enterprises. In response, <u>SCMA</u> advised that the HKSAR Government had set up Immigration Divisions in the Beijing Office, Guangzhou ETO and Chengdu ETO, and would keep in view the operation of other ETOs in the Mainland to determine whether more new Immigration Divisions were necessary.
- Mr MA Fung-kwok considered that the ETOs should play a more 22. active role in promoting cultural exchanges and co-operation between Hong Kong and the regions under their coverage. While work in this respect had not been specified in the official functions of the ETOs, Mr MA urged the Administration to attach greater importance to the role of the ETOs in cultural promotion. Referring to the naming of the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO), Mr MA requested the Administration to seriously consider retitling the ETOs to better reflect their role and functions in enhancing cultural co-operation and exchanges. Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs took note of Mr MA Fung-kwok's suggestions. She said that although the title of the ETOs did not bear out their role on the cultural front, the promotion of cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and regions under their respective coverage had all along been one of the main functions of the ETOs. She added that the naming of the HKETCO was a special arrangement under the principle of reciprocity between Hong Kong and Taiwan.

# Innovation and technology

- Mr WONG Kwok-hing appreciated the role of Hong Kong Science 23. Park (HKSP) in providing facilities, services and a dynamic environment that enabled technology companies to nurture ideas, innovate and develop. enquired whether the Administration would reserve the site adjacent to Phase 3 of HKSP for the development of Phase 4 in the future. In response. Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (CIT) advised construction of HKSP Phase 3 was progressing on schedule and would be completed in phases by 2016. Hence demand in the near future could be satisfied. The Administration had recently been reviewing various land uses and rezoning sites as appropriate, so as to allocate the land available for the uses that met the more pressing needs of the community. Administration was also jointly reviewing with HKSTPC the current use and future development directions of HKSP and the Industrial Estates.
- 24. Ms Emily LAU expressed concern about the slow progress of development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong. CIT responded that there were about 450 innovation and technology companies in Phases 1 and 2 of HKSP, providing over 9 000 jobs. When fully completed by 2016, HKSP Phase 3 would accommodate another 150 innovation and technology companies, offering a further 4 000 jobs. <u>CIT</u> said that Hong Kong's gross expenditure on R&D as a ratio to Gross Domestic Product was low compared to other developed economies mainly due to the unique economic structure of Hong Kong that was dominated by the service industry and the lack of national defence expenditure and large-scale manufacturing industries. Nevertheless, expenditure on R&D had been increasing in the past few years. The R&D Centres set up under the Innovation and Technology Fund had also their efforts and made progress in realization commercialization of R&D results and technology transfer to the industry. CIT said that enhancing R&D and innovation capability was a long-term mission and the Administration would continue to promote the development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong.
- 25. <u>Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok</u>, <u>Mr Jeffrey LAM</u> and <u>Mr MA Fung-kwok</u> expressed support for the Administration's decision to re-initiate the setting up of a new Innovation and Technology Bureau to work with various sectors to formulate the objectives and policies for the development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong. <u>Ir Dr LO</u> enquired about the timetable for the establishment of the new Bureau. <u>Mr LAM</u> considered that in addition to the technology sector, the new Bureau should also take into account the views of the commerce and industry sectors when formulating relevant policies. <u>Dr LAM Tai-fai</u> pointed out that implementing universal suffrage for the selection of the Chief Executive in 2017 was a major task of the

current term of the Government. He questioned whether it was an opportune time for setting up a new Bureau while the Innovation and Technology Commission had all along been dedicated to the formulation and co-ordination of innovation and technology policies.

26. SCED agreed that innovation and technology would be conducive to the upgrading and development of the industrial sector. The Working Group on Manufacturing Industries, Innovative Technology, and Cultural and Creative Industries under the EDC was actively studying different topics regarding the future development of the relevant industries in Hong Kong, and would maintain a close dialogue with the trade to understand their SCED advised that the Administration's preliminary ideas were to put the Innovation and Technology Commission and the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer under the new Innovation and Technology Bureau to champion the development of innovation and technology and information technology in Hong Kong. The Administration would consult the relevant Panels once the detailed proposals were finalized, and strive to introduce the relevant proposals into the Legislative Council in the current legislative session.

#### **Tourism**

- 27. Mr WONG Ting-kwong pointed out that with the commissioning of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, Lantau would become the confluence of Hong Kong, Macao and western Pearl River Delta, and would take on great value as a "bridgehead economy" with great development potential and economic value. He urged the Government to explore the feasibility of developing major shopping, dining and other facilities in Lantau. In response, SCED advised that CEDB had all along been collaborating with the Development Bureau in the development of tourism infrastructure in Lantau. To prepare the economic and social development strategy for Lantau Island, the Administration would set up a Lantau Development Advisory Committee. The Secretary for Development, in collaboration with relevant bureaux, would solicit views and proposals from relevant stakeholders through the Committee on the sustainable development of Lantau in various aspects, including tourism.
- 28. The Deputy Chairman and Mr WONG Ting-kwong called on the Administration to expeditiously study the feasibility of setting up of a business and shopping centre in Lok Ma Chau to cater for the needs of the large number of Mainland visitors, and to relieve the over-concentration of visitors in traditional tourist hot spots. In response, SCED advised that the Development Bureau would conduct a feasibility study on the development potential of and necessary supporting infrastructure for the Northern New

Territories, which covered the Lok Ma Chau area. Regarding the proposed development of a business and shopping centre at a Lok Ma Chau site, as most of the concerned land lots in the area were privately owned, it would take a long process if the Administration were to be involved in resuming the land for such development. The Administration believed that it would be more efficient for the market forces to drive the development of the Lok Ma Chau area according to its commercial potential. Mr WONG Ting-kwong urged the Administration to provide appropriate support to facilitate these private developments.

29. Referring to the Assessment Report on Hong Kong's Capacity to Receive Tourists released recently by the Administration, Mr SIN Chung-kai enquired whether there would be concrete measures to ensure that Hong Kong people's livelihood would not be unduly impacted by the growth in visitor arrivals. SCED responded that the Administration would brief the Panel on Economic Development on 27 January 2014 on the policy initiatives in respect of tourism and other relevant issues. SCED highlighted that while attaching importance to the healthy development of tourism in the long run, the Administration spared no efforts in ensuring that the livelihood of the community would not be unduly affected by the continuous growth in visitor arrivals.

# Professional services

- 30. Referring to the speech of the President of The Law Society of Hong Kong delivered at the Ceremonial Opening of Legal Year 2014 on 13 January 2014, Mr Dennis KWOK urged CMAB to liaise with the Taiwan authorities to seek recognition of Hong Kong legal qualifications that would enable Hong Kong legal practitioners to practise in Taiwan. SCMA responded that the Department of Justice (DoJ) had noted the industry's concern in this regard and had been relaying the industry's views to and liaising with relevant Taiwan authorities through the communication platform of the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council.
- 31. Mr Dennis KWOK called on the Administration to enhance the funding support for the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) and similar institutions in promoting Hong Kong as an arbitration centre to overseas countries. In response, SCED advised that the DoJ had been joining hands with HKIAC in promoting Hong Kong as an arbitration centre in the Mainland and other countries. HKIAC could obtain support under various Government funding schemes for individual promotion projects. DGTI supplemented that the Organization Support Programme of the Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales administered by

the Trade and Industry Department had recently approved funding of about \$2 million for a project to promote Hong Kong's mediation services in the Mainland.

Motion moved by the Deputy Chairman

32. The Deputy Chairman said that the beauty industry was one of the key service industries in Hong Kong, and had grown significantly in recent years, engaging about 50 000 practitioners in a wide variety of work. She opined that the implementation of the Qualifications Framework of beauty industry would help enhance the professional competency and status of industry practitioners. In the long run, the beauty industry should work towards professionalization as well as improving the skills level of practitioners, so as to enhance the overall quality of beauty services in Hong Kong. Calling on the Administration to explore the overall strategy of the development of the beauty industry, she proposed the following motion:

"本委員會促請特區政府成立'美容產業發展委員會',推動美容業產業化發展。"

# (Translation)

"That this Panel urges the HKSAR Government to establish a 'Beauty Industry Development Council' to promote the industrialization of the beauty industry."

[To allow sufficient time for discussion, the Chairman directed the meeting be extended for 15 minutes.]

33. <u>The Chairman</u> put the motion to vote. Of the members present, three voted for and no member voted against the motion. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the motion was passed. At Deputy Chairman's request, <u>members</u> agreed to include the item "Promoting the industrialization of the beauty industry in Hong Kong" in the Panel's List of outstanding items for discussion.

(*Post-meeting note*: The wording of the motion was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)775/13-14(01) on 22 January 2014.)

34. Highlighting the importance of diversified development of industries, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan and Ms Emily LAU said that Hong Kong should not focus on the development of the financial services industry only. In this connection, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan said the fashion industry in Hong Kong had great development potential and urged the Government to provide

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concrete support measures to further grow the industry. Pointing out that people in the Mainland generally had confidence in proprietary Chinese medicine (pCm) manufactured in Hong Kong, the Chairman said that the Government should consider formulating specific policies and support measures, such as revitalizing vacant industrial buildings or setting up a science and technology park dedicated to traditional Chinese medicine and the development of pCm industry in Hong Kong.

# VI. Any other business

35. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:35 pm.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
12 March 2014