

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)211/13-14  
(These minutes have been  
cleared with the Chairman)

Ref : CB2/PL/FE

**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

**Minutes of meeting**  
**held on Thursday, 10 October 2013, at 10:00 am**  
**in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan (Chairman)  
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP  
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH  
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN  
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan  
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
- Member attending** : Hon James TO Kun-sun
- Members absent** : Hon WONG Kwok-kin, BBS  
Hon WONG Yuk-man  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Han-pan

**Clerk in attendance** : Ms Alice LEUNG  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 2

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

Mr Jove CHAN  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 2

Miss Josephine SO  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 6

Ms Alice CHEUNG  
Senior Legislative Assistant (1) 1

Miss Queenie LAM  
Senior Legislative Assistant (1) 2

Miss Emma CHEUNG  
Legislative Assistant (2) 2

Ms Camy YOONG  
Clerical Assistant (2) 2

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Action

**I. Election of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman for the 2013-2014 session**

Election of Chairman

Mr Alan LEONG, the incumbent Chairman, called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session. Dr Helena WONG was nominated by Mr WU Chi-wai and the nomination was seconded by Prof Joseph LEE. Dr Helena WONG accepted the nomination.

2. As there was no other nomination, Mr Alan LEONG declared Dr Helena WONG elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session. Dr Helena WONG then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

3. The Chairman called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel. Mr Steven HO was nominated by Dr Priscilla LEUNG and the nomination was seconded by Mr Christopher CHUNG. Mr Steven HO accepted the nomination.

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4. As there was no other nomination, the Chairman declared Mr Steven HO elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session.

Application for late membership

5. Members noted that a letter dated 8 October 2013 from Mr WONG Kwok-kin applying for late membership had been received and agreed that Mr WONG's application be accepted in accordance with Rule 23(c) of the House Rules.

**II. Schedule of meetings for the 2013-2014 session**

6. Members agreed that future regular meetings of the Panel would be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30 pm.

*(Post-meeting note: The schedule of the regular meetings of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)37/13-14 on 11 October 2013.)*

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

Regular meeting in November 2013

7. Members noted that the Administration had proposed the following two items for discussion at the regular meeting to be held on 12 November 2013 -

- (a) Fire safety requirements on food premises; and
- (b) Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund.

8. Noting that the Administration intended to roll forward submission of the new Private Columbaria Bill which sought to regulate private columbaria to the Legislative Council from the fourth quarter of 2013 to the second quarter of 2014, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Prof Joseph LEE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Dr Kenneth CHAN and Dr KWOK Ka-ki expressed concern about the Administration's delay in introducing the Bill which had been long awaited. They requested that the subject be discussed by the Panel as early as possible in November 2013. The Chairman suggested that in the light of the public concern about the insufficient provision of public columbarium niches, the Panel should also continue to follow up on the subject.

Action

*(Post-meeting note: A special meeting was subsequently scheduled for 19 November 2013 at 2:30 pm to receive public views on "Issues relating to regulation of private columbaria and supply of public niches". Members were informed of the meeting arrangements on 24 October 2013 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)142/13-14.)*

9. As regards the items for discussion at the next regular meeting in November, the Chairman said that she would convey members' views to the Administration and discuss with the Secretary for Food and Health ("SFH") at the forthcoming informal meeting between the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Panel and SFH to discuss the work plan for the 2013-2014 session ("the informal meeting"). Members raised no objection.

*(Post-meeting note: Members were advised vide LC Paper No. CB(2)88/13-14 on 18 October 2013 that the Panel would discuss at the meeting scheduled for 12 November 2013 the items of "Proposed creation of one permanent post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade B (D3) in the Food Branch of the Food and Health Bureau" and "Tackling the problem of proliferation of flies in the Tuen Mun district and Ha Pak Nai", in addition to the two items set out in paragraph 7(a) and (b) above. Subsequently, at the request of Mr Tommy CHEUNG (letter dated 21 October 2013), the Chairman decided to defer the discussion of the item of "Proposed measures for compliance with fire safety requirements by food premises" to the next regular meeting in December 2013 in order to allow sufficient time for discussion of the item and to invite deputations to present views on the subject. Members were informed of the revised agenda vide LC Paper No. CB(2)133/13-14 on 23 October 2013.)*

Proposed items for discussion at future meetings

10. Referring to item 10 of the list of outstanding items for discussion ("the outstanding items list"), Mr WONG Kwok-hing was concerned about the progress of the opening up of the live cattle market and urged the Administration to revert to the Panel as early as possible. He also expressed a hope that the item could be discussed in 2013.

11. Regarding the implementation of the Import and Export (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2013, Dr Kenneth CHAN, Ms Cyd HO and Dr Priscilla LEUNG expressed similar concern about the stress tests on the supply chain of powdered formula conducted by the Administration during the National Day Golden Week period. They suggested that the Administration should report to the Panel on the results of the stress tests as early as possible before the end of 2013.

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12. Dr KWOK Ka-ki expressed concern about the management of stray animals, including dogs and cats in urban areas and cattle in rural areas. Noting that there was an item of "Progress report of the Trap-Neuter-Release trial scheme" for stray dogs on the outstanding items list (i.e. item 12), he hoped that the scope of the item could be expanded to cover the subject of the management of stray animals. Ms Cyd HO also raised concern about the media reports on the recent cases of cruelty to animals and considered that the Administration should consider a review of the penalty for relevant offences. Sharing the view of Ms HO, the Chairman said that the Administration should consider the suggestion of Animal Police Squad to combat the relevant crimes. Members agreed that the Panel should discuss the above issues relating to animal welfare and management of stray dogs and animals at a Panel meeting.

13. Echoing members' views, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen suggested that the subject of the safety of food for pet animals be discussed at a future Panel meeting.

14. As regards item 16 of the outstanding items list, the Deputy Chairman and Mr WU Chi-wai shared similar concern about the development of local agriculture in view of the Administration's development proposals of the Planning and Development Studies on North East New Territories. They requested the Panel to discuss the Government's agricultural policy at a future Panel meeting.

15. Dr KWOK Ka-ki said that the Nutrition Labelling Scheme, which covered nutrition labelling and nutrition claims (which included nutrient content claim, nutrient comparative claim and nutrient function claim) had been implemented for some time and was concerned about the compliance with the requirements by the trade. He suggested that the subject be discussed at a future Panel meeting.

16. Dr Kenneth CHAN suggested discussing the Government's hawker policy at a future meeting so that members could follow up on the Government's initiatives of the development of hawking trade.

17. Dr Priscilla LEUNG expressed concern about the Liquor Licensing Board's procedures for assessing liquor licence applications from upstairs bars and suggested the Panel to continue to follow up the subject at a Panel meeting. Noting that the Administration proposed to brief the Panel in the second quarter of 2014 on the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's efforts in mosquito prevention and control, Dr LEUNG suggested the Panel to also discuss the Administration's disinfestations efforts in districts where flea problem was serious.

Action

18. Concluding the discussion, the Chairman said that the outstanding items list would be updated to reflect members' suggestions. She would convey members' views and suggestions on the items to be discussed by the Panel to the Administration during the forthcoming informal meeting.

Other issue

19. The Chairman informed members that she had proposed at the first meeting of Panel on Health Service ("the HS Panel") held earlier on the same day that issues relating to the regulation of pesticide residues in Chinese herbal medicines be discussed at a meeting of the HS Panel in future. The Chairman of the HS Panel had asked the Clerk of the HS Panel to consult the Administration whether the HS Panel would be the appropriate forum for deliberation of the matter.

*(Post-meeting note: After consulting the Administration, the outstanding items list of the HS Panel had subsequently updated and included an item on "Regulation of pesticide residues in Chinese herbal medicines" (LC Paper No. CB(2)112/13-14(01)).)*

**IV. Any other business**

20. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:21 am.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
5 November 2013