

LC Paper No. CMI/15/14-15

Ref : CB3/C/2(12-16)

Committee on Members' Interests Paper for the meeting on 9 December 2014

Outcome of consultation with Members on proposals in relation to the disclosure of pecuniary interests under Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure

Purpose

This paper reports on the outcome of consultation with Members on proposals in relation to the disclosure of pecuniary interests under Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP").

Background

2. At its meetings held on 30 April 2013 and 29 April 2014, the Committee on Members' Interests ("CMI") deliberated on the following issues about Members' disclosure of pecuniary interests under Rule 83A of the RoP, which were raised by the Bills Committee on the Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill 2012 during its scrutiny of the Bill:

- (a) whether a Member is required to disclose a pecuniary interest which is in common with the rest or a sector of the population of Hong Kong ("common pecuniary interest"); and
- (b) whether a Member is required to disclose the same pecuniary interest in a matter each time he speaks on the matter in the same committee ("repeated disclosures").

3. After deliberation, CMI puts forward the following two proposals for consultation with all Members:

(a) to exclude common pecuniary interests from the requirement of Rule 83A on disclosure of pecuniary interests by Members in the Council or any committee or subcommittee (Proposal 1); and (b) to require members of a committee/subcommittee on legislative proposals to disclose pecuniary interests when they first speak on a matter in the committee/subcommittee and repeated disclosures of the same interests at subsequent meetings of the same committee/subcommittee are not necessary (Proposal 2).

4. CMI has also decided that as Rule 83A has to be amended if the two proposals are to be implemented, Members should be consulted on the proposed amendments to Rule 83A in **Appendix I** (with amendments shown in marked-up form). Proposed new subrules (3) and (2) of Rule 83A seek to implement Proposals 1 and 2 respectively.

5. Pursuant to CMI's decisions, all Members were consulted on the two proposals and the proposed revised Rule 83A by way of a questionnaire (LC Paper No. CMI/32/13-14).

Outcome of consultation with Members

6. All Members except the President responded to the questionnaire. The consultation outcome is set out in **Appendix II** and summarized as follows:

Proposal 1

- (a) 58 Members (84%) agree to Proposal 1 and the proposed new Rule 83A(3);
- (b) 9 Members (13%) disagree with Proposal 1;
- (c) 2 Members (3%) have no view on Proposal 1 and the proposed new Rule 83A(3);

Proposal 2

- (a) 60 Members (87%) agree to Proposal 2 and the proposed new Rule 83A(2);
- (b) 7 Members (10%) disagree with Proposal 2; and
- (c) 2 Members (3%) have no view on Proposal 2 and the proposed new Rule 83A(2).

Advice sought

7. Members are invited to note the outcome of consultation and advise on the way forward. If CMI decides to take forward the proposals, the Committee on Rules of Procedure ("CRoP") will be consulted on the proposed amendments to Rule 83A. Subject to CRoP's views, CMI will seek the views of the House Committee. Should the House Committee agree to the proposed amendments to Rule 83A, the Chairman of CMI will move a motion to amend that rule at a Council meeting.

Council Business Division 3 Legislative Council Secretariat 13 November 2014

Appendix I

Proposed revised Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure

83A. Personal Pecuniary Interest to be Disclosed

In-(1) Subject to subrules (2) and (3), a Member shall not in the Council or in any committee or subcommittee, a Member shall not _____

- (*a*) move any motion or amendment relating to a matter in which he has a pecuniary interest, whether direct or indirect, or
- (b) speak on any such matter,

except where he discloses the nature of that interest.

<u>(2)</u> In—

(a) any Bills Committee; or

(b) any subcommittee appointed pursuant to Rule 75(12) for the purpose of assisting the House Committee in the performance of its functions under Rule 75(10),

a Member, who has disclosed as required under subrule (1) his pecuniary interest in relation to a matter at a meeting of the relevant committee or subcommittee, shall not be required to declare the same interest in subsequent meetings of the same committee or subcommittee before the Member speaks on the same matter.

(3) Subrule (1) shall not apply where the Member's interest in a matter is in common with the rest of the population of Hong Kong or a sector thereof.

Legend:

- Texts proposed to be deleted are shown with deletion lines.
- Texts proposed to be added are shown in italic and underlined.

Consultation on proposals in relation to the disclosure of pecuniary interests under Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure

Detailed outcome of Members' responses

Q.1: Proposal to exclude common pecuniary interests from the requirement of Rule 83A

Agree: 58	Disagree: 9	No view : 2	
Agree CHAN Kam-lam TAM Yiu-chung WONG Ting-kwong Starry LEE CHAN Hak-kan IP Kwok-him Steven HO CHAN Han-pan LEUNG Che-cheung Elizabeth QUAT CHIANG Lai-wan Christopher CHUNG (DAB) (12 members) LAU Wong-fat Abraham SHEK Jeffrey LAM Andrew LEUNG Priscilla LEUNG Christopher CHEUNG LO Wai-kwok (BPA) (7 members)	Albert HO James TO Emily LAU WU Chi-wai SIN Chung-kai Helena WONG (DP) (6 members) WONG Kwok-hing WONG Kwok-kin CHAN Yuen-han Alice MAK KWOK Wai-keung TANG Ka-piu (FTU) (6 members) Ronny TONG Claudia MO Kenneth CHAN (CP) (3 members)	Tommy CHEUNG Vincent FANG James TIEN Frankie YICK CHUNG Kwok-pan (LP) (5 members) LEE Cheuk-yan Cyd HO CHEUNG Kwok-che Fernando CHEUNG (LaP) (4 members) Regina IP Michael TIEN (NPP) (2 members) Charles Peter MOK (PC) (1 member) Frederick FUNG (ADPL) (1 member)	MA Fung-kwok (NCF) (1 member) POON Siu-ping (FLU) (1 member) Joseph LEE CHAN Kin-por LEUNG Ka-lau Paul TSE NG Leung-sing YIU Si-wing IP Kin-yuen Martin LIAO Tony TSE (U/I) (9 members)
Disagree Alan LEONG	Kenneth LEUNG	No View LAM Tai-fai	
KWOK Ka-ki Dennis KWOK (CP) (3 members)	(PC) (1 member) LEUNG Yiu-chung (NWSC) (1 member)	WONG Yuk-man (U/I) (2 members)	
Albert CHAN CHAN Chi-chuen (PP) (2 members)	LEUNG Kwok-hung (<i>LSD</i>) (1 member) Gary FAN		

Q.2: Proposed subrule (3) of Rule 83A in Appendix I

(ND) (1 member)

Among the 58 Members who agree to Q.1:

Agree: 58	Disagree:	0
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Q.3: Proposal that members of a committee/subcommittee on legislative proposals are only required to disclose pecuniary interests when they first speak and repeated disclosures at subsequent meetings are not required

AgreeCHAN Kam-lamAlbert HOTommy CHEUNGMA Fung-kwokTAM Yiu-chungJames TOVincent FANG(NCF) (1 member)WONG Ting-kwongEmily LAUJames TIENPOON Siu-pingStarry LEEWU Chi-waiFrankie YICKPOON Siu-pingCHAN Hak-kanSIN Chung-kaiCHUNG Kwok-pan(FLU) (1 member)IP Kwok-himHelena WONG(LP) (5 members)Joseph LEESteven HO(DP) (6 members)LEE Cheuk-yanCHAN Kin-porLEUNG Che-cheungWONG Kwok-hingCyd HOPaul TSEElizabeth QUATCHAN Yuen-hanFernando CHEUNGYIU Si-wingChristopher CHUNGKWOK Wai-keungRegina IPMartin LIAOLAU Wong-fat(FTU) (6 members)Michael TIENTony TSEAbraham SHEKJeffrey LAMRonny TONGCharles Peter MOKAndrew LEUNGClandia MOCharles Peter MOKPaul TSE	Agree: 60	Disagree: 7	No view : 2	
Priscilla LEUNG Kannath CHAN	AgreeCHAN Kam-lamTAM Yiu-chungWONG Ting-kwongStarry LEECHAN Hak-kanIP Kwok-himSteven HOCHAN Han-panLEUNG Che-cheungElizabeth QUATCHIANG Lai-wanChristopher CHUNG(DAB) (12 members)LAU Wong-fatAbraham SHEKJeffrey LAMAndrew LEUNGPriscilla LEUNG	Albert HO James TO Emily LAU WU Chi-wai SIN Chung-kai Helena WONG (DP) (6 members) WONG Kwok-hing WONG Kwok-hing WONG Kwok-kin CHAN Yuen-han Alice MAK KWOK Wai-keung TANG Ka-piu (FTU) (6 members) Ronny TONG Alan LEONG Claudia MO	Tommy CHEUNG Vincent FANG James TIEN Frankie YICK CHUNG Kwok-pan (LP) (5 members) LEE Cheuk-yan Cyd HO CHEUNG Kwok-che Fernando CHEUNG (LaP) (4 members) Regina IP Michael TIEN (NPP) (2 members) Charles Peter MOK	(NCF) (1 member) POON Siu-ping (FLU) (1 member) Joseph LEE CHAN Kin-por LEUNG Ka-lau Paul TSE NG Leung-sing YIU Si-wing IP Kin-yuen Martin LIAO Tony TSE
Priscilla LEUNGChristopher CHEUNGKenneth CHANChristopher CHEUNGKWOK Ka-kiLO Wai-kwokDennis KWOK(BPA) (7 members)(CP) (6 members)	Andrew LEUNG Priscilla LEUNG Christopher CHEUNG LO Wai-kwok	Claudia MO Kenneth CHAN KWOK Ka-ki Dennis KWOK		

	No View
Frederick FUNG	LAM Tai-fai
(ADPL) (1 member)	WONG Yuk-man
LEUNG Kwok-hung	(<i>U/I</i>) (2 members)
(LSD) (1 member)	
C. FAN	
Gary FAN (ND) (1 member)	
	(ADPL) (1 member) LEUNG Kwok-hung (LSD) (1 member) Gary FAN

Q.4: Proposed subrule (2) of Rule 83A in Appendix I

Among the 60 Members who agree to Q.3:

<u>Abbrev</u> ADPL	Hong Kong Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood	FTU	The Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions	NPP NWSC	New People's Party Neighbourhood and
BPA	Business and Professionals Alliance for Hong Kong	LaP	Labour Party		Worker's Service Centre
CD	6 6	LP	League of Social Democrats	DC	
СР	Civic Party	LSD	Liberal Party	PC	The Professional
DAB	Democratic Alliance for the Betterment	NCF	New Century Forum	PP	Commons
	and Progress of Hong Kong	ND	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	U/I	People Power
DP	Democratic Party	ND	Neo Democrais		Political affiliation
FLU	The Federation of Hong Kong and Kowloon Labour Unions				undeclared/Independents

Agree: 60

Disagree: 0