立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. FC48/15-16 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref : FC/1/1(1)

Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 60th meeting held at Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Friday, 10 July 2015, at 4:43 pm

Members present:

Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan

Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP

Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, 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 Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP

Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP

Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS

Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP

Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Hon WONG Yuk-man

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP

Hon WU Chi-wai, MH

Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS

Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai

Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP

Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Hon KWOK Wai-keung

Hon Dennis KWOK

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP

Hon IP Kin-yuen

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP

Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP

Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan

Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Members absent:

Dr Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau Hon Claudia MO
Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Public officers attending:

Ms Elizabeth TSE Man-yee, JP Permanent Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) Secretary Financial Ms Esther LEUNG, JP Deputy for Services and the Treasury (Treasury)1 Principal Executive Officer (General), Mr Alfred ZHI Jian-hong Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (The Treasury Branch) Professor Sophia CHAN, JP Under Secretary for Food and Health Principal Assistant Secretary for Food Miss Diane WONG and Health (Food) 2 Mr CHIU Yu-chow Assistant Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Grade Management and Development) Director of Architectural Services Mr LEUNG Koon-kee. JP Mrs Alice YU NG Ka-chun Project Director (3), Architectural Services Department Mr David LAM District Planning Officer (Tuen Mun and Yuen Long West), Planning Department Acting Chief Traffic Engineer (New Mr HO Wai-kee **Territories** West). **Transport** Department Project Manager, Home Affairs Bureau Mrs Sorais LEE, JP Mr Norman HEUNG Yuk-sai, JP Project Manager (Kowloon), Civil Engineering Development and Department Ms Alice PANG Deputy Project Manager (Kowloon),

Civil Engineering and Development

Department

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Anita SIT Assistant Secretary General 1

Staff in attendance:

Mr Derek LO Chief Council Secretary (1)5 Mr Daniel SIN Senior Council Secretary (1)7

Mr Raymond SZETO Council Secretary (1)5

Mr Frankie WOO Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3

Ms Michelle NIEN
Legislative Assistant (1)5
Miss Yannes HO
Legislative Assistant (1)6

<u>Action</u>

Item No. 1 – FCR(2015-16)29 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 16, 24 AND 30 JUNE 2015

PWSC(2015-16)19 HEAD 703 – BUILDINGS

Environmental Hygiene – Burial grounds, columbaria and crematoria 19NB – Provision of columbarium and garden of remembrance at Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun

The Committee continued with the deliberation on the item PWSC(2015-16)19 which was taken out from the recommendations of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") made on 16 June 2015 for separate voting.

Environmental implications

2. Noting that the areas to the south and west of the site for the proposed columbarium were reserved for development of the West New Territories Landfill ("WENT") Extension, and that the incineration residues generated from the proposed Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1 ("IWMF") in Soko Island would be collected and disposed of at the WENT, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung expressed concern whether there would be environmental impact on the visitors of the columbarium.

3. In response, <u>Under Secretary for Food and Health</u> ("USFH") said that it had been recommended in the Preliminary Environmental Review for the columbarium that mitigation measures would be adopted including the provision of buffer between the columbarium building and the area planned for WENT Extension to minimize the potential environmental impact of the latter on columbarium visitors. <u>Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Food) 2</u> ("PASFH(F)2") supplemented that the environmental impact assessment ("EIA") conducted in respect of the decommissioning of the Tsang Tsui site had taken account of the existence of the WENT Landfill and its impact, and the EIA process conducted in respect of the future WENT Landfill Extension would assess its impact on the facilities in its vicinity.

Traffic impact and transportation arrangements

- 4. Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether the Administration would consider implementing administrative measures of designating different worship periods for different storeys of the columbarium, so as to alleviate the traffic impact on the nearby road links during peak grave sweeping periods. <u>USFH</u> and <u>Acting</u> Chief Traffic Engineer (New Territories West), Transport Department ("Ag CTE(NTW)/TD") responded that according to the results of the traffic impact assessment ("TIA") study, it was estimated that there would be a maximum of 16 000 columbarium visitors per hour during peak grave sweeping periods. The TIA study concluded that the additional vehicular traffic arising from the columbarium would not adversely affect the performance of the key roads in the vicinity of the project site with the implementation of appropriate traffic improvement measures, and special traffic and crowd control arrangements during the peak periods. The Administration would continue to explore the feasibility of the administrative measures of designating different worship periods, and consider implementing the relevant measures at other columbarium facilities in future if appropriate.
- 5. In view of the remote location of the columbarium, Mr WONG Yuk-man enquired about the transportation arrangements for the visitors. USFH responded that the Administration did not plan to impose restriction on the types of vehicles gaining access to the proposed columbarium during normal days. In other words, visitors could reach the columbarium by taxis, private cars or coaches outside the grave sweeping periods. During the grave sweeping periods, private cars would not be allowed to access the proposed columbarium, so as to better manage the vehicular and pedestrian flows entering the facility. Feeder bus services would be provided between the proposed columbarium and the Tuen Mun West Rail Station, the MTR Tsing Yi Station and the Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange. In response to Mr WONG Yuk-man's further enquiry about the feeder bus services, Ag CTE(NTW)/TD

advised that the Administration would invite the franchised bus companies to tender for the operation of the services.

- 6. Referring to the Administration's exclusion of visitors to the garden of remembrance ("GoR") in its estimate of the maximum number of columbarium visitors during peak grave sweeping periods, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen called on the Administration to take into account the number of potential visitors to GoR as a considerable number of members of the public did prefer visiting the GoR to pay respect to the deceased. Pointing out the high demand for the services of scattering of ashes and mounting of plaques at the GoR at Diamond Hill, he called on the Administration to review the need for addition of plaques at the proposed GoR where necessary.
- 7. <u>PASFH(F)2</u> responded that while the TIA study covered the traffic data for the proposed columbarium at Tsang Tsui, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") and the Transport Department had separate discussion, drawing reference from the number of visitors to other GoRs, and accepted the estimation of maximum number of visitors to the proposed GoR at Tsang Tsui.
- Mr WONG Yuk-man, Mr Albert HO and Mr Albert CHAN expressed 8. concern about the capacity of the associated road network in Tuen Mun West as a result of the cumulative increase in traffic flow induced by the columbarium and other planned developments nearby. They urged the Administration to consider expanding Lung Kwu Tan Road and Lung Mun Road. Mr Albert HO said that he was a TMDC member, and pointed out that while acknowledging the need to develop more columbarium facilities to meet the demand for public niches and raising no objection to the columbarium project, TMDC and Tuen Mun residents urged the Administration to consider the need to improve traffic infrastructure serving the region in the long run. Mr Albert CHAN was concerned that the traffic to Lung Kwu Tan Village, which was in the vicinity of the proposed columbarium, would be affected during peak grave sweeping periods. He called on the Administration to construct a new road connecting Nim Wan Road to Lau Fau Shan in Yuen Long so as to alleviate the traffic load of Tsang Tsui and the adjacent road network.
- 9. In response, <u>USFH</u> advised that the 160 000 niches of the columbarium would be allocated in batches of 20 000 a year. Upon completion of the project, the Administration would review the situation in the light of the actual operation on the ground and make adjustments to the traffic arrangements when necessary. The Administration noted the concerns of TMDC on the traffic infrastructure in Tuen Mun West, and would update and seek the views of TMDC on the transport related projects in the region at appropriate junctures.

<u>USFH</u> further advised that the Administration had commissioned consultancy studies for the WENT Extension project, which included a feasibility study on connecting Nim Wan Road with Ha Pak Nai. The Administration would inform TMDC and the Yuen Long District Council of the contents and progress of the consultancy studies in due course.

Measures to increase the supply of niches

- 10. <u>Mr James TO</u> and <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> sought clarification on the arrangement of placing additional urns into public niches. <u>USFH</u> and <u>PASFH(F)2</u> responded that in order to optimize the use of existing public columbaria, FEHD had, with effect from January 2014, relaxed the arrangement for placing additional urns in public niches, including relaxing the definition of "close relative" and allowing the public to place more than two urns in a standard niche and more than four urns in a large niche.
- 11. Referring to the recommendations on improving FEHD's arrangements in allocating columbarium niches by the Office of The Ombudsman in its report released in October 2014, Mr WONG Yuk-man urged the Administration to speed up the allocation of niches in future. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung suggested that the Administration should consider implementing time-limited use of new niches, so as to generate re-use of niches and help address the shortage of niches.
- 12. <u>USFH</u> took note of Mr WONG Yuk-man's and Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung's views, and explained the background to the existing method of allocation by ballot. The Administration was committed to optimizing the use of existing public columbaria and promoting green burial, in order to address the shortage of niches.

Promotion of green burial

13. <u>Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung</u> noted that there were comments from members of the public that the application procedures for scattering ashes at sea were cumbersome, and expressed concern about the low usage of the service. In response, <u>USFH</u> advised that the Administration had been reviewing how best to promote and improve the green burial services. For example, the Administration had enhanced the free ferry service for scattering ashes at sea.

Voting on PWSC(2015-16)19

14. There being no further question or comment from members, the Chairman put the item PWSC(2015-16)19 to vote. As requested by

Action

members, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. The Chairman said that 51 members voted for and no member voted against the proposal. One member abstained from voting. The votes of individual members were as follows –

For:

Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Mr CHAN Kam-lam Mr TAM Yiu-chung

Mr Frederick FUNG Kin-kee

Mr WONG Kwok-hing

Mr Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung Mr WONG Ting-kwong

Mr CHAN Hak-kan

Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che

Mr IP Kwok-him

Mr Paul TSE Wai-chun Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Mr WONG Yuk-man Mr James TIEN Pei-chun Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming Mr Charles Peter MOK

Mr CHAN Han-pan Miss CHAN Yuen-han Miss Alice MAK Mei-kuen

Mr Dennis KWOK

Dr Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Mr IP Kin-yuen

Mr Martin LIAO Cheung-kong

Mr TANG Ka-piu Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok Mr Tony TSE Wai-chuen

(51 members)

Abstained:

Mr Albert HO Chun-yan

(1 member)

Mr James TO Kun-sun
Ms Emily LAU Wai-hing
Mr Abraham SHEK Lai-him

Mr Vincent FANG Kang

Prof Joseph LEE Kok-long

Mr Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen

Ms Starry LEE Wai-king Mr CHAN Kin-por

Mr WONG Kwok-kin

Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee Mr Alan LEONG Kah-kit Mr Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Mr Michael TIEN Puk-sun Mr Steven HO Chun-yin

Mr WU Chi-wai

Mr CHAN Chi-chuen

Dr Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok Mr LEUNG Che-cheung Mr KWOK Wai-keung

Mr Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung

Mr SIN Chung-kai Dr Elizabeth QUAT Mr POON Siu-ping Dr CHIANG Lai-wan Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan

15. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the Committee approved the item.

PWSC(2015-16)31
HEAD 707 – NEW TOWNS AND URBAN AREA DEVELOPMENT
Civil Engineering – Land Development
754CL – Infrastructure Works for West Kowloon Cultural Distr

754CL – Infrastructure Works for West Kowloon Cultural District, phase 1

PWSC(2015-16)30 HEAD 707 – NEW TOWNS AND URBAN AREA DEVELOPMENT Civil Engineering – Land Development 763CL – Integrated Basement for West Kowloon Cultural District

- 16. <u>The Chairman</u> said that PWSC(2015-16)31 and PWSC(2015-16)30 were both related to the developments in the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD"). He suggested that the discussions on the two proposals be combined but the proposals be voted on separately. <u>Members</u> agreed to the Chairman's suggestion.
- 17. The Chairman said that PWSC(2015-16)31 invited the Committee to approve the upgrading of part of 754CL, as 790CL, entitled "Infrastructure Works for West Kowloon Cultural District, phase 1 first construction package", to Category A at an estimated cost of \$840.5 million in money-of-the-day prices, and retaining the remainder of 754CL in Category B. PWSC(2015-16)30 invited the Committee to approve the upgrading of part of 763CL, as 791CL, entitled "Integrated Basement for West Kowloon Cultural District first and second stages of design, site investigation and construction works", to Category A at an estimated cost of \$2,919.5 million in money-of-the-day prices, and retaining the remainder of 763CL in Category B.

Construction of public infrastructure works

- 18. Referring to the construction of an at-grade dual two-lane carriageway connecting the Park and the Artist Square Development Area to Austin Road West and Nga Cheung Road, and two lay-bys at Austin Road West, Mr Gary FAN expressed concern whether there would be any road diversion or traffic control arrangements during the construction period, which might lead to traffic congestion on the roads nearby.
- 19. <u>Project Manager, Home Affairs Bureau</u> ("PM/HAB") and <u>Project Manager (Kowloon)</u>, <u>Civil Engineering and Development Department</u> ("PM(K)/CEDD") responded that the construction works of the WKCD project were mainly carried out within the site of the WKCD. There might be some temporary traffic arrangements at Austin Road West during the construction of

the above-mentioned carriageway and lay-bys, but there would not be significant adverse impact on the traffic in the area.

- 20. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> enquired about the reason that the consultants' fee for the proposed works in PWSC(2015-16)31 was only 1.6% of the total cost when such fee in other public works projects was typically over 10% of the project cost.
- 21. <u>PM(K)/CEDD</u> explained that the construction sites and programme for the proposed works had critical interfacing issues such as overlapped works sites and major programming interdependence with those of the earlier batches of facilities of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA"), in particular the Park, Freespace, Xiqu Centre and M+. It would be necessary and cost-effective for the proposed works to be carried out in conjunction with the implementation of the WKCDA's facilities in a holistic manner. In view of the significant interfacing issues, the Administration planned to entrust the proposed works to WKCDA, thereby reducing the cost (including the consultants' fees) and time required for the design and construction of the proposed works.
- 22. Citing the serious delay and cost overrun problems of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link ("XRL") project, Mr Albert CHAN expressed grave concern about the potential lack of supervision by the Administration on the projects under entrustment. In response to Mr CHAN's enquiry about the entrustment arrangement, PM(K)/CEDD advised that for the first construction package of public infrastructure works under 790CL, WKCDA would be reimbursed for its actual in-house management cost incurred for the entrusted works capped at a sum of \$12 million.
- 23. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung enquired whether the commissioning of the Park would be affected if PWSC(2015-16)31 was approved while PWSC(2015-16)30 was negatived. PM/HAB responded that to facilitate the commissioning of the early batches of WKCDA's facilities especially the Park, Xiqu Centre, M+ and other parts of the Artist Square Development Area, it was necessary to carry out the proposed works under both items. Completion of these works in time was essential for the commissioning and operation of the Park, Xiqu Centre and M+. The implementation of the integrated basement would not affect the commissioning of the Park.

Implementation plan of the integrated basement

- 24. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the implementation plan of the integrated basement in Zones 2A to 2C of the integrated basement. Miss CHAN Yuen-han expressed concern about the total cost estimate and the timeline for funding applications of the integrated basement. In response, PM/HAB explained that the Administration planned to implement the integrated basement in phases. Zone 2A of the integrated basement would be developed by the Government after completion of the XRL project. Zone 2B of the integrated basement was planned to be developed by prospective developer(s) of the hotel, office and residential ("HOR") sites on the topside. While WKCDA currently had no funding and concrete programme for the implementation of Batch 3 facilities, the implementation of Zone 2C of the integrated basement, as well as the topside developments would be reviewed at a suitable juncture.
- that 25. PM/HAB further advised the funding sought under PWSC(2015-16)30 covered mainly the costs of the first and second stages of design, site investigation and construction works of the integrated basement, the completion of which was essential for the implementation of the topside facilities including M+, the Lyric Theatre Complex and the Artist Square Development Area in Zones 3A and 3B. It also covered the costs of carrying out design and site investigation for Zones 2A to 2C of the integrated basement, which would facilitate the Administration in drawing up more realistic cost estimates for the remaining portions of the integrated basement (i.e. Zones 2A and 2C) to be implemented at a later stage.
- 26. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed reservations in the funding proposals since there was not yet a full picture of the implementation of the whole integrated basement, with the uncertainty about the implementation timetable of Zones 2A and 2C. He enquired whether each zone of the integrated basement could be commissioned independently, and whether the funding sought for the proposed works of PWSC(2015-16)30 could be reduced, if the development of the Batch 3 facilities and the relevant portions of the integrated basement were shelved.
- 27. $\underline{PM(K)/CEDD}$ explained that phased implementation approach was commonly adopted in major public works projects. The Administration would give due regard to east-west connectivity during the detailed design and construction of the integrated basement, and seek to ensure that different zones of the basement would be interconnected upon full completion. $\underline{PM(K)/CEDD}$ stressed that even if the other zones of the integrated basement and the relevant

topside venues were not implemented, Zones 3A and 3B of the integrated basement could be put to use in a stand-alone manner and would not be wasted.

Impact of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link project

- 28. Noting that the site of Zones 2A to 2C of the integrated basement were now being used as works area of the XRL project, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Mr Gary FAN expressed concern about the impact of the delay of the XRL project on the implementation of the integrated basement, in particular Zone 2A. In this connection, Mr Albert CHAN questioned the justification for seeking funding approval for the integrated basement at this stage.
- 29. <u>PM(K)/CEDD</u> responded that according to the MTR Corporation Limited ("MTRCL"), the works area above Zones 2A to 2C of the integrated basement was expected to be handed over to the Administration/WKCDA in phases between 2017 and 2018. The Administration and WKCDA would continue to liaise closely with MTRCL on the schedule of handover of the works area. <u>PM(K)/CEDD</u> reiterated that the funding sought in relation to Zones 2A to 2C of the integrated basement covered only the costs of carrying out design and site investigation. The Administration aimed to finalize the design of Zone 2A of the integrated basement within the coming two to three years, and proceed with tendering for the construction works as soon as MTRCL handed over the relevant works area.

Cost shared by private developers

30. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung questioned the justification for the funding for the preliminary design and site investigation for Zone 2B of the integrated basement, in view that the topside facilities of Zone 2B were mainly HOR developments to be developed by private developers. PM/HAB and PM(K)/CEDD responded that the basement under Zone 2B would be developed by the prospective developer(s) of HOR sites on the topside. It was necessary to carry out the proposed preliminary design and site investigation for Zone 2B of the integrated basement for control and cost estimate purposes. The apportionment of the integrated basement cost between the Government and private developers would correspond approximately to the ratio of WKCDA and Government's facilities (including infrastructure works) to HOR developments in terms of floor areas.

Study on traffic impact

- 31. Mr Gary FAN enquired whether the Administration had assessed the breakdown of traffic flow of the underground road in Zone 3B of the integrated basement by source (namely the Lyric Theatre Complex and the HOR developments respectively). He was concerned whether public coffers would be used to subsidize private developments if a substantial volume of the traffic flow was originated from the HOR developments in Zone 3B.
- 32. <u>PM/HAB</u> replied that WKCDA had engaged a consultant to develop a comprehensive Traffic Operation Plan to manage the future pedestrian and vehicular traffic and formulate transport strategies for the WKCD. The consultancy study covered, inter alia, traffic control and management, and public transport planning and operation. The Administration planned to update the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the WKCD Project on the initial findings of the consultancy study in end-2015.

Environmental implications

33. Mr Gary FAN noted that a large amount of construction waste would be generated in the construction of the integrated basement for WKCD construction works, among which inert construction waste would be reused on other construction sites. He requested the Administration to provide information on construction sites to which the construction waste would be delivered and the public works projects for which it would be reused.

[*Post meeting note*: The Administration's supplementary information was issued to members vide LC Paper No. FC233/14-15(01) on 4 August 2015.]

Cost of the West Kowloon Cultural District project

34. Noting that WKCDA had committed that it would not seek further injection to the upfront endowment prior to the completion of the Batch 1 facilities, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed concern about the adequacy of the upfront endowment for the implementation of the WKCDA's facilities. In response, PM/HAB said that the upfront endowment would be sufficient to cover the design and construction costs of Batch 1 and Batch 2 facilities, while the funding and the implementation programme for Batch 3 facilities would be reviewed in due course.

- Mr WONG Yuk-man said that he did not support both proposals. 35. criticized that there was serious cost overrun of the WKCD project and that the extent of the cost overrun problem, as well as the completion date of the whole project, were yet to be confirmed. PM/HAB responded that the provision of an integrated basement was not included in the original scope of the WKCD project as per the recommendations of the Consultative Committee on the Core Arts and Cultural Facilities of WKCD in 2007. Following the approval of the upfront endowment in July 2008, WKCDA conducted a three-stage public engagement exercise from 2009 to 2011 to prepare a development plan for The design by Foster + Partners with an integrated basement was then selected. Acknowledging that the integrated basement was not envisaged when the upfront endowment was granted to WKCDA in 2008, the Administration announced in June 2013 that it would fully fund the capital works of the main integrated basement as general enabling works to facilitate the development of the WKCD project, subject to the funding approval of the Finance Committee.
- 36. <u>The Chairman</u> announced that the meeting be adjourned and deliberation on the agenda items would continue at the next meeting after a break.
- 37. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 pm.

<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 14 December 2015