

**Panel on Financial Affairs**

**List of outstanding items for discussion**  
(as at 6 October 2014)

**Proposed timing  
for discussion at  
Panel meeting**

**1. Briefing on the work of Hong Kong Monetary Authority ("HKMA")**

The Chief Executive of HKMA briefs the Panel on the work of HKMA on a regular basis. Such briefings are normally held in February, May and November each year. HKMA will hold the next briefing at the meeting in November 2014.

November 2014  
February 2015  
May 2015

**2. Automatic exchange of information for tax purposes**

In July 2014, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development released a Common Reporting Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information in Tax Matters, calling on governments to obtain detailed account information from their financial institutions and exchange such information automatically with jurisdictions of residence of account holders on an annual basis. The Administration indicated in mid-September 2014 to the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes Hong Kong's support to implement the new global standard.

November 2014

The Administration will draw up detailed legislative proposals and seek the Legislative Council ("LegCo")'s approval of the legislation required to implement the new global standard. The Administration will brief the Panel on the latest international development and its preliminary thinking on how to implement automatic exchange of information in Hong Kong. The Administration plans to introduce the relevant legislative proposals into LegCo in January 2016.

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**3. Treasury Building in Cheung Sha Wan**

The Administration proposes to construct a joint-user government office building in Cheung Sha Wan, namely the Treasury Building, mainly to

November 2014

- (a) re-provision some of the government departments currently accommodated at Wan Chai Government Offices Compound and in leased private premises; and
- (b) set up a Community Health Centre operated by the Hospital Authority.

The Administration intends to submit the proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee in December 2014/January 2015 and to the Finance Committee in January/February 2015.

**4. Briefing by the Financial Secretary ("FS") on Hong Kong's latest overall economic situation**

The Panel has invited FS to brief the Panel and all other LegCo Members on macro economic issues on a regular basis since mid-1999. Such briefings are normally held in June and December each year.

December 2014  
June 2015

**5. 2015-2016 Budget consultation**

FS will consult LegCo on the 2015-2016 Budget.

December 2014

**6. Budget of Securities and Futures Commission ("SFC") for the financial year of 2015-2016**

In line with the usual practice, SFC will brief the Panel on its budget for the coming financial year in February or March.

1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2015

**Proposed timing  
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Panel meeting**

**7. Annual briefing on the work of the Financial Reporting Council ("FRC")**

In line with the usual practice, FRC will brief the Panel on the work of FRC in the past year and the work plan for the year ahead.

2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2015

**8. Duration of lunch break under the extended trading hours of Hong Kong securities market**

Since 7 March 2011, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited ("HKEx") has implemented a two-phase extension of the trading hours of its securities and derivatives market by 1.5 hour to increase the overlap of the trading hours with the Mainland's and to strengthen the competitiveness of HKEx with its regional competitors. Under the extended trading hours, the morning trading session was advanced by 30 minutes. The lunch break was shortened from two to 1.5 hours with effect from 7 March 2011 and further shortened to one hour from 5 March 2012.

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 16 October 2012, Hon Christopher CHEUNG expressed concern on the impact of the shortened lunch break on market practitioners and suggested that the Panel should discuss the issue in due course. The Administration has been invited to provide an information paper on the matter.

At the meeting on 4 November 2013, Hon WONG Kwok-hing reiterated the concern of practitioners of the securities industry about the impact of extended trading hours on their operation and suggested scheduling a discussion on the subject at a meeting.

The Administration has provided an information paper prepared by HKEx on extension of trading hours in the securities market, which was circulated to members on 20 November 2013 (LC Paper No. CB(1)356/13-14(01)).

**Proposed timing  
for discussion at  
Panel meeting**

**9. Briefing on the work of the Financial Dispute Resolution Centre**

The Financial Dispute Resolution Centre Limited was set up in November 2011 as a non-profit making company limited by guarantee acting as an independent organization to assist financial institutions and their individual customers in resolving monetary disputes through mediation and arbitration. Its set-up costs and operating costs in the first three years commencing from January 2012 were provided by the Administration, HKMA and SFC. The Financial Dispute Resolution Centre ("FDRC") formally commenced operation in June 2012.

To be confirmed

At the work plan meeting of the Panel held on 30 October 2013, the Chairman suggested that the Administration should report to the Panel the work of FDRC. Hon Christopher CHEUNG expressed concerns about the future funding arrangement of FDRC and possible cost burden on the financial industry, as well as the present arrangement for FDRC to report even successfully resolved cases to SFC/HKMA, on which the regulators might take disciplinary actions against issues of non-compliance by the financial institutions concerned. According to the Administration, it is reviewing the future mode of funding for FDRC. The Administration is requested to brief the Panel on the work of FDRC and its funding arrangement when appropriate.