

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)857/15-16
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/PL/EA

Panel on Environmental Affairs

Minutes of meeting
held on Monday, 22 February 2016, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

- Members present** : Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP (Chairman)
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Hon Dennis KWOK
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
- Members absent** : Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

**Public Officers
attending**

: For item IV

Ms Christine LOH, JP
Under Secretary for the Environment

Mr TANG Kin-fai, JP
Assistant Director (Environmental Assessment)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr Maurice YEUNG
Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Assessment
and Noise)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr Sam WONG
Deputy Project Manager/Major Works 2
Highways Department

For item V

Ms Christine LOH, JP
Under Secretary for the Environment

Mr Howard CHAN, JP
Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (2)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr Elvis AU, JP
Assistant Director (Nature Conservation & Infrastructure
Planning)
Environmental Protection Department

Dr SO Ping-man
Acting Director
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Mr Simon CHAN
Acting Assistant Director (Conservation)
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Clerk in attendance : Ms Angel SHEK
Chief Council Secretary (1)1

Staff in attendance : Ms Doris LO
Senior Council Secretary (1)1

Ms Mandy LI
Council Secretary (1)1

Miss Mandy POON
Legislative Assistant (1)1

Action

I. Confirmation of minutes

(LC Paper No. CB(1)495/15-16 — Minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2015)

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2015 were confirmed.

II. Information papers issued since last meeting

2. Members noted that the following papers had been issued since the last meeting -

(LC Paper No. CB(1)537/15-16(01) — Administration's response to Hon Kenneth LEUNG's letter regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499)

LC Paper No. CB(1)551/15-16(01) — Letter dated 5 February 2016 from Hon Steven HO Chun-yin on the environmental impacts on Hong Kong waters arising from alleged disposal of harmful chemicals into

Action

Dasha River by Mainland authority (Chinese version only))

III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(1)557/15-16(01) — List of follow-up actions

LC Paper No. CB(1)557/15-16(02) — List of outstanding items for discussion)

3. Members agreed to discuss the following items at the next regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 30 March 2016, at 2:30 pm –

- (a) Work plan of the review of Air Quality Objectives; and
- (b) Trial of hybrid buses by franchised bus companies – interim report.

4. The Chairman drew members' attention that the Administration had, after taking into account the briefing on the Chief Executive's 2016 Policy Address at the Panel's regular meeting held in January 2016, and the special meetings of the Finance Committee ("FC") scheduled for early April 2016 for members to examine the Estimates of Expenditure 2016-2017, proposed to remove the item on "Briefing on environmental initiatives in connection with the Budget Speech 2016" from the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion (LC Paper No. CB(1)557/15-16(02)) ("the List"). Members raised no objection.

5. Referring to the Administration's written response to Mr Kenneth LEUNG's letter regarding the review of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) (LC Paper No. CB(1)537/15-16(01)), the Chairman said that a relevant item had been included on the List as agreed at the regular meeting held on 27 November 2015.

6. In respect of Mr Steven HO's letter on the disposal of chemicals into Dasha River of Shenzhen Bay (LC Paper No. CB(1)551/15-16(01)) and further to the Administration's written response tabled at the meeting, members agreed to request the Administration to provide, when appropriate, a further written response on the progress of relevant follow-up measures arising from the incident, while including the item on the List.

Admin

Action

(*Post-meeting note:* The Administration's written response, which was tabled at the meeting, to Mr Steven HO's letter was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)589/15-16(01) on 22 February 2016.)

Admin

7. Mr CHAN Han-pan urged the Administration to arrange for early discussion of the item on "Regulation of roadside cargo compartments" which was currently on the List. In the meantime, the Administration was requested to provide for members' reference the following information:

- (a) progress report on the work of the Joint Working Group led by the Environment Bureau and Environmental Protection Department in connection with management of roadside skips; and
- (b) the Administration's recent written response(s) to the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") on related matters.

(*Post-meeting note:* The Administration's response was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(1)754/15-16(01) on 11 April 2016.)

IV. PWP Item No. 814TH – Retrofitting of noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section)

(LC Paper No. CB(1)557/15-16(03) —Administration's paper on "PWP Item No. 814TH – Retrofitting of noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section)")

Briefing by the Administration

8. The Under Secretary for the Environment ("USEN") briefed members on the Administration's proposal to upgrade the captioned works to Category A for retrofitting of noise barriers on the section of Tuen Mun Road between the footbridge to Light Rail Fung Tei Station and Lam Tei Raw Water Pumping Station (i.e. Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section)). She drew members' attention that in response to public requests, the scope of the proposed works was revised after the original proposal had been gazetted in early 2014.

Discussion

9. The Chairman reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A

Action

of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP") of LegCo, they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interests relating to the funding proposal under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the item. He also drew members' attention to Rule 84 of RoP on voting in case of direct pecuniary interest.

10. On the Chairman's enquiry, the Assistant Director (Environmental Assessment) ("AD(EA)") explained that the original proposal comprised two parts: the noise barriers along (a) Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section) and (b) Castle Peak Road – San Hui in front of the Brilliant Garden. After the road scheme for the proposed works was gazetted in January and February 2014, 141 public objections (mainly from residents of the Brilliant Garden) against part (b) were received. After discussion with the District Council and the objectors, and despite suggestions of adjustments to the proposal to address the objectors' concern, 131 objectors maintained their objection against construction of the proposed noise barriers in part (b). As such, the Administration amended the original proposal to exclude part (b). The Deputy Project Manager/Major Works 2, Highways Department ("DPM(MW2)/HyD") added that the amendment scheme of noise barriers was subsequently gazetted in September 2014 and no new objections were received.

11. Mr CHAN Han-pan enquired about the reasons for the objections, and whether the Administration had explored with the objectors and affected residents other means to address their concerns.

12. DPM(MW2)/HyD advised that the objectors were mainly concerned about the possible adverse effects the noise barriers would have on the Brilliant Garden in aspects such as visual impact, security issue, air quality and obstruction to natural lighting. The objectors also considered the traffic noise acceptable even without the proposed noise barriers in part (b). AD(EA) elaborated that at present, a total of about 219 dwellings in the Brilliant Garden were exposed to traffic noise level that could reach 80 dB(A). With the proposed noise barriers in part (a) in place, the noise exposure of most of these dwellings would reduce to below 70 dB(A) but some 70 dwellings would remain exposed to traffic noise level over 70 dB(A). The Administration had therefore included the proposed noise barriers in part (b) of the original proposal. He stressed that the Administration had suggested certain improvements in barrier designs to address the objectors' concerns but quite a number of them maintained their objections.

13. Mr Steven HO enquired about the planned schedule for submitting the proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") and FC, and commencing the proposed works. He expressed concern about the possible

Action

delay of the proposed works in view of the filibustering in PWSC and FC. AD(EA) advised that the Administration had planned to submit the proposal to PWSC in April 2016 and to FC in May 2016, with a view to commencing the proposed works in the second quarter of 2016. USEN added that it was the Administration's intention to commence the proposed works as soon as possible subject to the timing of funding approval.

Admin

14. Noting that the proposed works would involve felling of two trees, Mr Steven HO was concerned about any potential public objection against the tree-felling and urged the Administration to ensure due process was followed and transparency in making the decision. DPM(MW2)/HyD responded that the two trees in question were recommended to be felled because they could not be preserved or transplanted owing to health problems. The Chairman and Mr HO requested the Administration to include in its submission to PWSC on the species and health conditions of these two trees.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was included in the Administration's submission to PWSC issued vide PWSC173/15-16 on 13 April 2016.)

Conclusion

15. Concluding the discussion, the Chairman said that members had no objection to the Administration's submission of the proposal to PWSC for consideration.

V. Update on the protection of endangered species and biodiversity in Hong Kong

(LC Paper No. CB(1)557/15-16(04) — Administration's paper on "Update on the protection of endangered species and biodiversity in Hong Kong"

LC Paper No. CB(1)557/15-16(05) — Background brief on "Protection of endangered species and biodiversity in Hong Kong" prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat)

Action

Relevant papers

- (LC Paper No. CB(1)176/14-15(01) — Referral memorandum dated 31 October 2014 from the Public Complaints Office of the Legislative Council Secretariat on the protection of incense trees in Hong Kong (Chinese version only) (Restricted to Members)
- LC Paper No. CB(1)190/14-15(01) — Letter dated 3 November 2014 from Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT on issues relating to illegal ivory trade in Hong Kong (English version only)
- LC Paper No. CB(1)616/14-15(01) — Letter dated 4 March 2015 from Hon Claudia MO on illegal trading of endangered species in Hong Kong (Chinese version only)
- LC Paper No. CB(1)965/14-15(01) — Submission dated 29 May 2015 from Greenpeace on the smuggling of totoaba fish bladders (Chinese version only)
- LC Paper No. CB(1)39/15-16(01) — Referral memorandum dated 19 October 2015 from the Public Complaints Office of the Legislative Council Secretariat on legislating against the sale of and strengthening protection of wild incense trees (Chinese version only) (Restricted to Members)

Action

LC Paper No. CB(1)433/15-16(01) — Joint submission dated 12 January 2016 from 大澳環境及發展關注協會、土沉香生態及文化保育協會、"救救土沉香，瀕危滅絕中"網上群組、一群新界區關注土沉香的居民、一群大嶼山關注土沉香的居民、一群南丫島關注土沉香的居民、一群西貢關注土沉香的居民 and 一群元朗關注土沉香的居民 on legislating against the sale of and strengthening protection of wild incense trees (Chinese version only))

Briefing by the Administration

16. With the aid of a power-point presentation, the Acting Assistant Director (Conservation), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("Atg AD(C)/AFCD") briefed members on (a) the protection of endangered species, including ivory, totoaba and incense trees, and (b) formulation of the first Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan ("BSAP") for Hong Kong. He informed members that the consultation document in relation to BSAP was released on 8 January 2016. The Administration would consider thoroughly the views collected through the public consultation with a view to finalizing the BSAP for implementation in the coming five years.

(Post-meeting note: A set of the power-point presentation materials was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)591/15-16(01) on 22 February 2016.)

Discussion

Protection of endangered species

Ivory

17. Dr Elizabeth QUAT sought clarification on the means of stocktaking and registering ivory, including whether the technology of radiocarbon dating

Action

would be employed. Atg AD(C)/AFCD replied that AFCD had in 2015 inspected 233 licensed keeping premises of "pre-ban ivory" (i.e. ivory legally imported before the ban on international trade in elephant ivory under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ("CITES") and allowed to be traded locally under a Licence to Possess) to check the quantity of stock and serial numbers of ivory kept at such premises against AFCD's records, so as to prevent potential laundering of ivory from illegal sources. So far, the ivory stock inspected matched AFCD's records. He explained that radiocarbon dating was mainly employed to assist in enforcement by revealing the age of ivory and determining its legality. In reply to Dr QUAT, the Acting Director, AFCD ("Atg D/AFCD") advised that there were currently nine quarantine detector dogs to help detecting smuggled animal products including ivory at boundary control points.

18. Dr Elizabeth QUAT enquired about the specific timetables for legislating for the ban on the import and export of elephant hunting trophies and pre-Convention ivory (i.e. ivory acquired before the CITES provisions started to apply to ivory, its international trade was allowed when it was accompanied by a pre-Convention certificate), as well as phasing out the local ivory trade. Atg AD(C)/AFCD replied that the Administration was currently working on the proposed legislation for the import and export ban on elephant hunting trophies, and expected to submit the legislative proposal to LegCo within 2016. Regarding the legislative amendments for banning the import and export of pre-Convention ivory and phasing out the local ivory trade, USEN said that it was premature to set out any concrete timetables at this stage given the time required for sorting out the legal issues involved, and consulting the trade and other stakeholders. She undertook to update the Panel on the progress when submitting the legislative proposal regarding the import and export ban on elephant hunting trophies later in 2016.

19. Dr Elizabeth QUAT urged the Administration to press ahead the relevant work and, in the meantime, step up education and publicity efforts to raise public awareness on the poaching of elephants and smuggling of ivory. She also stressed the importance to raise public awareness of shark finning and encourage the public to stop consuming shark fins. The Administration took note of her views.

Incense trees

20. Members in general strongly requested the Administration to step up efforts in protecting incense trees and introduce more effective measures to combat illegal felling and smuggling of this precious native species. Mr CHAN Han-pan opined that the Administration's existing measures,

Action

including enforcement against illegal tree-felling by the Police and applying anti-fungal paint on the wounds of damaged incense trees, did not have strong preventive effect. Instead of merely exchanging intelligence with mainland authorities, Mr CHAN considered that the Administration should establish high level collaborations with the relevant mainland authorities, including joint enforcement actions and regular bilateral meetings, to target at the illegal markets of incense trees on the Mainland. Sharing similar views, the Deputy Chairman observed that most of the stolen agarwood was smuggled to Maoming, a city in southwest Guangdong which had become a major market for agarwood and its products. He requested the Administration to enhance liaison with the relevant mainland authorities on targeted measures and concrete actions, such as strengthening customs checks, with a view to tackling the problem at source. Mr Steven HO urged the Administration to study the feasibility of relevant measures to be submitted by the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong during the National People's Congress and Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference scheduled for March 2016. Mr Charles Peter MOK suggested the Administration consider imposing a trade ban on agarwood or its products in Hong Kong.

21. Atg D/AFCD said that there was no illegal trading of locally harvested agarwood or its products in the local market, and most of the people engaged in illegal tree-felling activities in Hong Kong came from the Mainland. He explained that all species of *Aquilaria*, including the local species of incense trees, were listed in Appendix II under CITES, which underpinned cooperation between the place of origin (i.e. Hong Kong as in the case of incense trees) and consumer countries (e.g. the Mainland) on protecting the species. Under this framework, the Administration had all along been liaising with the mainland authorities on the protection of incense trees, with focus on combating smuggling of agarwood from Hong Kong to the Mainland.

22. Mr Steven HO asked whether the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department ("C&ED") had intercepted any case of smuggling of agarwood from Hong Kong to the Mainland in the past. Atg D/AFCD replied that AFCD and C&ED had been working closely to combat smuggling of endangered species including incense trees. Between 2011 and 2014, 21 cases involving smuggling of agarwood were detected by C&ED at various control points. On Mr Albert CHAN's enquiry, Atg D/AFCD advised that around 8 000 to 10 000 seedlings of incense tree had been produced and planted each year since 2009, with a view to re-stocking incense trees in the countryside.

Action

23. Mr CHAN Han-pan queried that the current penalty on cases involving illegal felling of incense trees was too lenient and lacking deterrent effect. Atg D/AFCD advised that under the Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96), any person who vandalized or damaged a tree, including felling a tree illegally, was liable to a maximum penalty of \$25,000 and imprisonment for one year. Depending on the circumstances of individual cases, the Police might initiate prosecutions under the Theft Ordinance (Cap. 210), which imposed a heavier penalty (i.e. any person arrested and charged with theft was liable to a maximum penalty of a fine of \$100,000 and imprisonment for 10 years). At present, offenders suspected of involving in illegal felling of incense trees were mainly prosecuted for criminal offences under Cap. 210. The Administration took the view that the penalty could achieve a deterrent effect.

24. Mr Kenneth LEUNG asked about the number of prosecutions instituted against cases of illegal felling of incense trees under Cap. 210 in the past five years and the penalties imposed. Atg D/AFCD replied that in the past few years, the Police handled about a hundred cases each year involving incense trees. In 2015, there were about 120 incense tree cases recovering over 100 kilograms of agarwood. The maximum penalty imposed on such cases was 55 months' imprisonment.

25. Given the wide distribution of incense trees in the territory, Mr Charles Peter MOK expressed concern over the limitations of patrolling against tree-felling activities. The Deputy Chairman urged the Administration to review AFCD's manpower resources to ensure there was sufficient provision for patrolling the countryside and black spots of illegal tree-felling activities, and to seek additional resources if necessary. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok considered it important to enhance publicity and education to leverage community support towards combating illegal tree-felling activities. Atg D/AFCD said that the public could make use of the 1823 hotline to report the location of incense trees being cut down for follow-up by AFCD to treat the wounds of the damaged trees, or dial 999 to report suspected cases of illegal tree-felling to the Police.

26. Members put forward further suggestions to step up protection of incense trees, including:

- (a) setting up a database or publishing an official reference regarding the population, distribution and habitats of incense trees in Hong Kong;

Action

- (b) enacting dedicated legislation to provide for the regulation against illegal felling of incense trees and the penalties for contravention;
- (c) installing infrared cameras or other electronic monitoring systems in areas planted with incense trees;
- (d) setting up a special duty squad with self-defence training and gear to step up patrolling and enforcement efforts; and
- (e) leveraging public participation in the protection of incense trees (e.g. mobilizing the public and green groups to assist in treating the wounds of affected trees with anti-fungal paint).

27. In response, USEN said that the Administration had considered various measures to enhance protection of incense trees, including some of those suggested by members above. However, some of the measures were not adopted due to their limitations. Atg D/AFCD advised that as incense trees were widely distributed in the countryside, patrolling by a special duty squad might not be as cost effective as regular patrolling by AFCD staff. As regards setting up a database or drawing up a map of the distribution of incense trees in Hong Kong, it would involve significant manpower and resources.

Admin

28. Arising from the discussion, USEN undertook to provide, within two months after the Panel meeting, a written response on its considerations of any further measures (other than those set out in the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(1)557/15-16(04)), including those proposed by members as set out in paragraph 26 above, to enhance protection of incense trees in Hong Kong.

BSAP

29. Mr Charles Peter MOK opined that as the term "biodiversity" might not be readily comprehensible to the general public, the Administration should make clear to the public the core concept behind the term, which was to protect all species of plants, animals and micro-organisms from threats of human activities. The Administration took note of his view.

30. Mr Kenneth LEUNG asked whether the Administration had maintained a register of local species, and rare and new species of plants and animals in particular. Atg D/AFCD advised that the Administration had

Action

established the Hong Kong Herbarium, which was one of the first public herbariums in China, and published a variety of publications including "Flora of Hong Kong", "Check List of Hong Kong Plants" and "Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong".

31. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok opined that opening a new permanent exhibition gallery on biodiversity in the Hong Kong Science Museum ("HKSM") as proposed in the BSAP consultation document would not reap sufficient publicity and educational effect. He suggested developing a large-scale designated natural history museum with multi-media facilities for the community to explore and understand the nature and appreciate the importance of biodiversity. Another quick option was to launch an online natural history museum. USEN replied that the Administration had considered launching exhibitions of different scales, and taking into account various factors including the scope and type of exhibits, planning time and operation mode, the proposal of a permanent exhibition gallery in HKSM was considered more manageable with the current resources.

32. Stating that the Professional Commons would discuss with AFCD the remedial measures to save the coral in Hoi Ha Wan, Mr Charles Peter MOK enquired about the updates on the Administration's relevant follow-up actions. Atg D/AFCD replied that AFCD had been monitoring the situation of coral communities in Hoi Ha Wan and found signs of partial mortality and bio-erosion of corals at the beginning of 2015. AFCD had been monitoring the affected corals including labelling them for tracking their health status and no further signs of partial mortality and bio-erosion were detected in the tagged corals. The monitoring showed that an increase in sea urchins which preyed on algae on corals might have resulted in the bio-erosion issue thus causing deterioration in the health status of the corals.

33. Mr Steven HO relayed the complaints of some fish farmers that the fish cultured in their fish ponds often fell prey to wild birds, resulting in depletion of the fish stock and financial loss to the fish farmers. However, since these birds were protected under the law, they were not allowed to be trapped, killed or disturbed. Mr HO emphasized that while it was important to conserve biodiversity in Hong Kong, a proper balance should be maintained to minimize the adverse impact on the livelihood of fish farmers.

34. Atg D/AFCD advised that AFCD had recommended measures to assist fish farmers in preventing wild birds from preying on the fish they raised, with a view to building up a harmonious relationship between local fish farming and bird conservation. Funding was provided by the Environment and Conservation Fund to support Nature Conservation Management Agreement projects to encourage fish farmers to adopt traditional and

Action

ecologically sustainable operation regime to manage their fish ponds such as regular drain-down of fish ponds to the required water level, and maintenance of shallow pond habitats for bird feeding, so as to divert the birds from foraging in other fish ponds.

35. Mr Steven HO further conveyed that the banning of fishing activities in the four designated marine parks had adversely affected the fisherman. He considered it necessary for the Administration to review the Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476), including the feasibility to lift the full fishing ban in the "no-take" zones of marine parks, and replace it by other less restrictive measures like prescribing speed limits of fishing vessels in restricted zones at the marine parks. Declaring that he was a current member of the board of the Airport Authority Hong Kong, Mr HO quoted the example of the proposed marine park relating to the construction of the three-runway system of the Hong Kong International Airport, for which strategies of marine conservation and fisheries enhancement had been proposed back-to-back. Taking note of Mr HO's views, Atg D/AFCD pointed out that under the Fisheries Protection (Amendment) Ordinance 2012, the Secretary for Food and Health might designate Fisheries Protection Areas for introducing a series of fisheries management measures to enhance fisheries resources and promote sustainability of the local fisheries industry.

36. The Deputy Chairman expressed disappointment about the lack of commitment of the Administration in taking forward concrete measures in conserving biodiversity in Hong Kong, as reflected by the disclaimers stated in the BSAP consultation document. He also criticized the absence of any substantive proposal for meeting the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity by 2020, after extension of the Convention to Hong Kong in 2011. USEN responded that the BSAP consultation document aimed to set out the framework of four major areas of action (i.e. conservation, mainstreaming, knowledge, and community involvement) which represented the key directions for enhancing biodiversity conservation and supporting sustainable development in Hong Kong. Specific actions under each area would be developed for the BSAP taking into account the views and feedbacks collected from the public consultation.

37. Mr CHAN Han-pan expressed concern over the impact of white popinac (*Leucaena leucocephala*), an invasive alien species, on the biodiversity of Hong Kong. He said that in Taiwan, white popinac had caused serious destruction on the native species and the local natural environment in the Kenting National Park. However, the various government departments of Hong Kong did not seem to have taken seriously a similar problem of invasion of white popinac in the territory by taking united actions to deal with the problem. He urged the Administration to include an action in

Action

BSAP to focus efforts on dealing with invasive alien species. Atg D/AFCD replied that the Administration had put in place control measures to deal with invasive alien species, in particular those which posed greater threats to the local ecology, such as mikania (*Mikania micrantha*). It was observed that the impact of white popinac was relatively restricted given the existence of the plant mainly on roadside or disturbed sites at present. AFCD would continue to monitor the situation and take control measures as necessary.

38. The Chairman sought members' views on the Deputy Chairman's suggestion of holding a special meeting to receive deputations' views on BSAP. Members raised no objection. The Chairman said that he would work out the date of the special meeting with the Clerk and inform members accordingly.

(Post-meeting note: With the concurrence of the Chairman, the special meeting to receive deputations' views on BSAP was scheduled for Tuesday, 29 March 2016 from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm. The actual duration of the meeting would depend on the number of deputations attending. The notice of meeting was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)606/15-16 on 25 February 2016.)

VI. Any other business

39. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:28 pm.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
28 April 2016