

Bills Committee on Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill 2017

**List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion
at the meeting on 15 May 2017**

The Administration was requested to reconsider members' suggestions that:

- (a) to assist Hong Kong Permanent Resident ("HKPR")-buyers who were to acquire a residential property to replace their only other residential property in Hong Kong in easing their financial burden under the New Residential Stamp Duty ("NRSD") regime, the Inland Revenue Department would accept bank guarantee submitted by the concerned HKPR-buyers for the amount equivalent to the difference between the new flat rate of 15% of ad valorem stamp duty ("AVD") and the lower AVD rate set out at Scale 2 in the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117), to the effect that HKPR-buyers seeking property replacement were not required to make payment of NRSD upfront; and
- (b) the six-month specified period provided for under the existing AVD refund mechanism of the doubled AVD regime be extended to, say nine or 12 months, so as to allow more time for HKPR-buyers to proceed with property replacement;

and to consider addressing these two suggestions in the context of another bill which would seek to amend the Stamp Duty Ordinance to implement the tightened exemption arrangement under the NRSD regime as announced by the Administration on 11 April 2017 in respect of acquisition of multiple residential properties under a single instrument to be introduced to the Legislative Council for scrutiny in due course.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
16 May 2017