Bills Committee on Travel Industry Bill

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 2 March 2018

At the meeting on 2 March 2018, the Administration was requested to provide the following information –

- (a) the justification for requiring a licensed travel agent who carried on Mainland inbound tour group business to pay a registration fee for each Mainland inbound tour group under clause 33 and whether such requirement would constitute a case of discrimination against inbound tour groups from the Mainland;
- (b) to facilitate subsequent changes to the scope of applicability of clause 33, whether consideration would be given to setting out the type of business of a licensed travel agent which would fall within the ambit of the provision in a separate schedule amendable by way of subsidiary legislation instead of in the primary legislation;
- (c) to review the drafting of clauses 34 and 35 to the effect that the provisions i) would only catch the licensed travel agent who had intentionally changed the ownership or control of its business without seeking the Travel Industry Authority's prior approval; and ii) would not apply to the circumstances where a licensed travel agent might have a genuine need for a temporary or short-term change of ownership or control of its business;
- (d) whether a licensed travel agent who carried on travel agent business at a local business premises which only occasionally used for receiving customers would be required to display its travel agent licence at the premises under clause 36;
- (e) clause 37 requires a licensed travel agent to display prescribed information on a vehicle arranged by the travel agent for transporting a tour group. The Administration was requested to address members' concern that without specifying the size of a tour group, it would be difficult for licensed travel agents to comply with the requirement; and
- (f) to review the drafting of the Chinese text of clause 43(2)(a)(iv) to enhance clarity and achieve consistency with the English text.

Council Business Division 4
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
14 March 2018