# 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)580/16-17 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB1/PL/DEV

### **Panel on Development**

## Minutes of special meeting held on Friday, 6 January 2017, at 2:00 pm in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

**Members present**: Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, MH, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP

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

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS

Hon WU Chi-wai, MH Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki Hon KWOK Wai-keung

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

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

Hon Alvin YEUNG Hon HO Kai-ming Hon LAM Cheuk-ting

Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding

Hon SHIU Ka-chun

Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH

Hon CHAN Chun-ying Hon Tanya CHAN

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

Hon LUK Chung-hung Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH Hon KWONG Chun-yu Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim Dr Hon LAU Siu-lai

#### **Members absent**

: Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP

Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP

Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP Hon Kenneth LEUNG

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin

Hon CHU Hoi-dick

Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Hon HUI Chi-fung

Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung

# Public officers attending

### : Agenda item I

Mr Vincent MAK Shing-cheung, JP

Deputy Secretary for Development (Works)2

Mr CHAU Sai-wai

Assistant Director/Development Water Supplies Department

**Clerk in attendance**: Ms Sharon CHUNG

Chief Council Secretary (1)2

**Staff in attendance**: Miss Rita YUNG

Senior Council Secretary (1)2

Mr Raymond CHOW

Senior Council Secretary (1)6

Ms Mandy LI

Council Secretary (1)2

Ms Christina SHIU

Legislative Assistant (1)2

Action

### I Proposal on conducting a duty visit to the Dongjiang River Basin from 19 to 20 February 2017

(LC Paper No. CB(1)384/16-17(01) — Paper on proposal on conducting a duty visit to the Dongjiang River Basin from 19 to 20 February 2017 prepared by the Legislative Council

Secretariat

LC Paper No. CB(1)359/16-17(01) — Reply dated 20 December

2016 from the Administration on the Panel's suggestion on conducting a visit to the Dongjiang River Basin)

Donghang River Basin)

The Chairman advised that, since he had a sore throat, the Deputy Chairman would preside at the meeting.

2. The Deputy Chairman advised that having regard to the Panel's request and in consultation with the Guangdong ("GD") Provincial authorities, the Administration had suggested that a duty visit of the Panel to the Dongjiang ("DJ") River Basin could take place on 19 and 20 February 2017 (Sunday and Monday). Members noted the paper prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (LC Paper No. CB(1)384/16-17(01)) setting out, among others, the objectives of the proposed duty visit, the proposed timing, a tentative visit programme, a budget and funding arrangements for the visit.

- 3. At the invitation of the Deputy Chairman, <u>Deputy Secretary for Development (Works)2</u> ("DS/DEV(W)2") briefed members on the proposed visit programme of the duty visit. Details of the visit programme were given in the Administration's letter to the Clerk issued on 22 December 2016 (LC Paper No. CB(1)359/16-17(01)).
- 4. Mr LAU Kwok-fan and Mr Steven HO expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Administration and the assistance rendered by the GD Provincial authorities in arranging the proposed duty visit to the DJ River Basin. Noting from the tentative visit programme that visits to various points of the Dongjiang-Shenzhen Water Supply System would be arranged to facilitate members' understanding of the operation of the system and the measures taken to protect DJ water from pollution, they called on members to join the visit.
- 5. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Dr KWOK Ka-ki expressed concern that the proposed timing of the duty visit would clash with four committee meetings scheduled for 20 February 2017. Mr CHAN asked how the proposed timing had been worked out. He further asked whether any activities or meetings, other than those related to DJ water, such as meetings with officials from Beijing, would be added to the visit programme. Dr KWOK said that members had grave concern about the problem of pollution to DJ water. He suggested that the Panel should visit possible sources of pollution, such as the dyeing factories and electronics factories along DJ, to observe the treatment of industrial sewage before it was discharged into DJ. He also proposed that the Secretariat should make arrangement for a chemist to join the delegation to take water samples from DJ for testing in Hong Kong.
- 6. <u>Dr YIU Chung-yim</u> expressed concern about the problem of wastage of water. He said it had been reported that certain amount of DJ water in excess of Hong Kong's water demand had been discharged into the sea. He called on the Administration to review the current "package deal lump sum" approach adopted for importing DJ water to ensure a more economic use of DJ water. The Administration should also tackle the water main leakage problem and explore how to increase reservoir storage, with a view to reducing both wastage of water and the demand for DJ water.

# 7. $\underline{DS/DEV(W)2}$ responded that:

(a) the proposed timing and itinerary of the duty visit had been worked out in consultation with the GD Provincial authorities

- and having regard to the suggestion of the Panel on the facilities to be visited;
- (b) according to the GD Provincial authorities, the period before or after the wet season was a better timing for conducting the visit;
- (c) in response to members' concern on the measures taken by the GD Provincial authorities in safeguarding the quality of DJ water supplied to Hong Kong, including the progress of the Comprehensive Remediation Project for the Water Environment of the Shawan River Basin, visits to the relevant work site, the Wastewater Interception Schemes for Shawan River, and the Bio-nitrification Plant at the Shenzhen Reservoir would be arranged;
- (d) there would be no other activities or meetings during the visit apart from those related to DJ water; and
- (e) officials from the Development Bureau and the Water Supplies Department, including a waterworks chemist, would accompany members during the visit to offer technical advice and assist in logistical arrangements; the Administration would relay Dr KWOK Ka-ki's suggestion on taking water samples from DJ for testing in Hong Kong to the GD Provincial authorities.
- 8. <u>Members</u> agreed that the Panel should conduct a duty visit to the DJ River Basin as proposed from 19 to 20 February 2017, and the visit should be open to non-Panel Members. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> advised that the Clerk would prepare a paper for the Chairman to seek the House Committee's permission for the Panel to undertake the visit. The Clerk would also issue a circular to invite Members to indicate whether they would take part in the proposed duty visit.

(*Post-meeting note*: The circular was issued to Members on 6 January 2017 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)410/16-17. In response, 19 Members had indicated interest in taking part in the duty visit. The House Committee approved at its meeting on 13 January 2017 the Panel's proposal on conducting a duty visit to the DJ River Basin. On 27 January 2017, the Administration wrote to the Clerk advising that the original schedule could not be met and proposing that the duty visit be deferred to 14-15 April

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2017. The letter (LC Paper No. CB(1)517/16-17(01)) (Chinese version only) was issued on 1 February 2017 to all Panel members. Members were informed on the same day vide LC Paper No. CB(1)517/16-17 that the rescheduling would be discussed at the meeting of the Panel to be held on 28 February 2017.)

9. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:19 pm.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
24 February 2017