

NOTE FOR ESTABLISHMENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Creation of one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C Post
in the Tourism Commission for promoting cruise tourism in Hong Kong,
overseeing the operation of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal and overseeing
the operation and development of the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort**

INTRODUCTION

The Establishment Subcommittee (ESC) agreed at the meeting of 9 April 2018 to recommend to the Finance Committee (FC) the creation of a supernumerary Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (AOSGC) (D2) post (designated as Assistant Commissioner for Tourism (4) (AC(T)4)) in the Tourism Commission (TC), Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch) for a period of three years with immediate effect upon approval of FC for promoting cruise tourism in Hong Kong, overseeing the operation of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal (KTCT), and overseeing the operation and development of the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort (HKDL) (EC(2017-18)22). This paper sets out the Government's response to the views raised by ESC at the said meeting.

THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE

2. At the ESC meeting of 9 April 2018, members supported the creation of a supernumerary post designated as AC(T)4 post as proposed vide EC(2017-18)22. However, some members expressed that promoting cruise tourism in Hong Kong, overseeing the operation of KTCT, and overseeing the operation and development of HKDL were on-going duties of the Government, and requested the Government to consider creating a permanent AOSGC post, instead of a supernumerary post for three years as proposed.

3. After detailed consideration of the views of ESC, the Government agrees that creating a permanent post designated as AC(T)4 to handle the relevant duties would facilitate the designated directorate officer to promote cruise tourism in Hong Kong, oversee the operation of KTCT, and oversee the operation and

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development of HKDL on an on-going basis. The key considerations involved are as follows –

- (a) both KTCT and HKDL are important and on-going tourism infrastructures in Hong Kong, playing a crucial role in attracting tourists and high value-added visitors from all over the world and bringing considerable economic benefits and employment opportunities to Hong Kong. To promote cruise tourism in Hong Kong and drive our tourism industry and economic development with KTCT and HKDL, there is a need for the Government to create a permanent post designated as AC(T)4 to co-ordinate and follow up on the relevant policies and initiatives on an on-going basis;
- (b) KTCT was constructed with the Government's funding. Also, the Government is the major shareholder of HKDL. It is necessary to create a permanent post designated as AC(T)4 to oversee the operation of KTCT as well as the operation and development of HKDL, and monitor the Government's long-term interest in these two projects; and
- (c) after the creation of the supernumerary post designated as AC(T)4 in 2007 with FC's approval, the duration of this post had been extended twice in 2008 and 2014 respectively until 31 December 2017 as approved by FC. This reinforces the on-going need for retaining the post of AC(T)4 in the Government to perform duties relating to the cruise tourism in Hong Kong, KTCT and HKDL.

4. Apart from changing the creation of a supernumerary AOSGC post as proposed in EC(2017-18)22 into a permanent post, other details of the proposal set out in that paper remain valid. We will submit the revised proposal, i.e. the proposed creation of a permanent AOSGC post, to FC for consideration and approval.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The proposed creation of the above permanent AOSGC (D2) post will bring about an additional notional annual salary cost at mid-point of \$2,094,600. The additional full annual average staff cost, including salaries and staff on-cost, is \$2,916,000. We will include the necessary provision to meet the cost of this proposal in the Estimates for 2018-19 and subsequent years.

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CIVIL SERVICE BUREAU COMMENTS

6. The Civil Service Bureau supports the creation of the above proposed permanent AOSGC post in TC. The grading and ranking of the proposed post are considered appropriate having regard to the level and scope of responsibilities required.

ADVICE OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DIRECTORATE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

7. The Standing Committee on Directorate Salaries and Conditions of Service has advised that the grading proposed for the permanent AOSGC post mentioned above is appropriate.

Commerce and Economic Development Bureau
June 2018