

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)229/17-18
(These minutes have been cleared
with the Chairman)

Ref : CB1/PL/EA

Panel on Environmental Affairs

Minutes of meeting
held on Thursday, 12 October 2017, at 2:00 pm
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Hon Tanya CHAN (Chairman)
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon SHIU Ka-fai

Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon LUK Chung-hung
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP

Members attending : Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Members absent : Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang

Clerk in attendance : Miss Cindy HO
Chief Council Secretary (1)1

Staff in attendance : Ms Anita SIT
Assistant Secretary General 1

Ms Anki NG
Senior Council Secretary (1)1

Mr Joey LO
Senior Council Secretary (1)8

Mr Jason KONG
Council Secretary (1)1

Miss Queenie LAM
Senior Legislative Assistant (1)2

Miss Mandy POON
Legislative Assistant (1)1

Ms Christy YAU
Legislative Assistant (1)7

Ms Haley CHEUNG
Legislative Assistant (1)9

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I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

Election of Chairman

Ms Tanya CHAN, Chairman in office, invited nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session.

2. Ms Tanya CHAN was nominated by Mr Kenneth LEUNG and the nomination was seconded by Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung. Ms Tanya CHAN accepted the nomination.

3. Dr Junius HO, Deputy Chairman of the Panel in office, took over the chair and invited further nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel.

4. There being no other nominations, Ms Tanya CHAN was declared Chairman of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session. Ms Tanya CHAN then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

5. The Chairman invited nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session.

6. Dr Junius HO was nominated by Mr MA Fung-kwok and the nomination was seconded by Dr Priscilla LEUNG. Dr Junius HO accepted the nomination.

7. There being no other nominations, Dr Junius HO was declared Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session.

II. Schedule of meetings for the 2017-2018 session

8. Members noted the proposed schedule of regular meetings of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session, which was tabled at the meeting.

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9. Members agreed that the regular meetings of the Panel would be held on the fourth Monday of each month at 2:30 pm, except for the following:

- (a) the meeting in October 2017 would be held on Monday, 30 October 2017, at 10:45 am;
- (b) the meeting in December 2017 would be held on Monday, 18 December 2017, at 8:30 am; and
- (c) the meeting in July 2018 would be held on Monday, 16 July 2018, at 8:30 am.

(Post-meeting note: The meeting schedule for the 2017-2018 session was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)31/17-18 on 12 October 2017.)

III. Items for discussion at next meeting

(Appendix V to LC Paper No. — List of follow-up actions
CB(1)4/17-18

LC Paper No. CB(1)9/17-18(01) — List of outstanding items for
discussion)

Items for discussion at the next regular meeting

10. The Chairman said that the Administration had proposed to discuss the following items at the policy briefing cum meeting to be held on Monday, 30 October 2017 from 10:45 am to 1:30 pm:

- (a) Briefing by the Secretary for the Environment on the Chief Executive ("CE")'s 2017 Policy Address; and
- (b) Implementation arrangements for municipal solid waste charging.

(Post-meeting note: The notice of meeting was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)14/17-18 on 17 October 2017.)

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Items for discussion at future meetings

11. Members gave the following suggestions with regard to the existing items on the Panel's list of outstanding items ("the List"):

- (a) *Improving the water quality in Hong Kong: Dr Priscilla LEUNG requested the Administration to provide details on the policies and measures to be implemented in the light of the findings of the consultancy study on further enhancing quality of coastal waters of Victoria Harbour commissioned by the Administration, and to explore how to reduce odour nuisance of the Victoria Harbour waters through joint efforts of the concerned districts. Mr CHU Hoi-dick requested to discuss the measures to be taken by the Administration in tackling oil spillage and pollution/marine incidents in Hong Kong waters under this item;*
- (b) *Implementation of Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 2: Regarding food waste management, Mr CHAN Hak-kan requested the Administration to explore what other feasible measures could be taken to reduce food waste in order to alleviate the pressure on landfills; and*
- (c) *Existing polices on bicycles and promoting bicycles as a mode of transport: Mr HUI Chi-fung and Dr Priscilla LEUNG suggested that the Administration should advise on the timing for reverting to the Panel on the subject.*

12. Members also proposed that the following additional items be included on the List –

- (a) *Measures to assist the recycling industry to meet the Mainland's tightened requirements for import recyclables: In connection with the Implementation Plan on Advancing Reform of the Administration System on Import of Solid Wastes through Prohibiting Import of Foreign Rubbish promulgated in July 2017 whereby the Mainland authorities would phase in more stringent requirements on the import of recyclables, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and the Deputy Chairman urged that the Administration should explore measures to assist the recycling industry as local recyclables might not have sufficient market outlets if other countries were also tightening up their national standards for imported waste in*

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future. Dr CHIANG requested the Administration to also look at whether a mechanism for central collection of waste papers could be put in place. The Deputy Chairman suggested that the Administration should make use of modern technology to explore feasible measures to assist the industry, such that recyclables recovered from the community could be consumed locally;

- (b) *Recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment:* Dr CHIANG Lai-wan expressed concern about the lack of measures to support the operation of the recycling industries in the processes of recovery and recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment (e.g. providing space in the local districts for temporary storage of used electrical appliances for recycling in order to reduce wastage);

(Post-meeting note: On the advice of the Administration and with the concurrence of the Chairman, relevant issues would be followed up at the case conference arranged by the Public Complaints Office on 21 November 2017 on matters relating to street obstruction caused by recyclers in Sham Shui Po.)

- (c) *Development of renewable energy ("RE"):* Mr HUI Chi-fung, Mr CHAN Hak-kan and the Deputy Chairman proposed to discuss details of the implementation of the Feed-in Tariff ("FiT") scheme to be introduced in the next regulatory period of the Scheme of Control Agreements, including the setting of FiT rate(s) and measures to encourage the private sector and the community to consider investing in distributed RE. The Deputy Chairman and Mr CHU Hoi-dick suggested that relevant issues should be discussed before end of 2017. Mr CHAN Hak-kan also enquired about the way forward of implementing floating photovoltaic systems on a larger scale at impounding reservoirs in Hong Kong in the light of the results of the pilot schemes at selected reservoirs;
- (d) *Enhanced work plan on combating climate change:* Referring to relevant initiatives for combating climate change as announced in the CE's 2017 Policy Address, Mr CHU Hoi-dick suggested that the topic be revisited by the Panel on an annual basis so as to monitor the progress of the Administration's work in light of global trends in this area;

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- (e) *Use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong* – Mr HUI Chi-fung, Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr CHAN Hak-kan and Mr Frankie YICK proposed to discuss policies and measures in this regard, including the provision of battery charging facilities for electric vehicles, and whether there were plans to phase out conventional vehicles in the long run in view of the development overseas. Mr HUI suggested that relevant issues should be discussed before the budget announcement in February 2018. Mr YICK added that the Administration should also look at the handling of waste car batteries and waste tyres, and explore whether a recycling levy should be collected for such disposal;
- (f) *Review of the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) ("the Ordinance")*: Concerning the protection of endangered species, Mr HUI Chi-fung expressed concern that the areas designated for protecting endangered species under the Ordinance were outdated and suggested that the Administration might need to conduct a review of the Ordinance in the light of the present circumstances. Dr Elizabeth QUAT proposed discussion on the measures to enhance enforcement against trading in the fins of sharks which were protected under the Ordinance. Mr CHAN Hak-kan expressed concern about the prevalence of illegal felling of incense trees in Hong Kong and requested the Administration to consider legislative control to enhance protection of incense trees;
- (g) *Efforts to reduce people's use of tissue paper for wiping hands*: Mr Kenneth LEUNG called on the Administration to step up efforts to reduce people's use of tissue paper for wiping hands and consider taking legislative measures to regulate the free supply of such paper in public toilets where necessary;
- (h) *Promotion of used clothes recycling*: Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan suggested that the Panel should discuss the policy and measures regarding used clothes recycling; and

(Post-meeting note: On the advice of the Administration and with the concurrence of the Chairman, Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan was subsequently informed that it would be more appropriate for the subject matter to be followed up under the Home Affairs Department's "Community Used Clothes Recycling Bank Scheme".)

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- (i) *Explosion risks caused by idling vehicles within petrol filling stations: Mr Frankie YICK expressed concern that some drivers were found not turning off their vehicle engines during refuelling at petrol stations and requested that the subject matter be followed up by the Panel.*

(Post-meeting note: On the advice of the Administration and with the concurrence of the Chairman, Mr Frankie YICK was subsequently informed that as the issue was about safety, it would be more appropriate for the matter to be followed up by the relevant bureaux/departments (i.e. Fire Services Department and/or Electrical and Mechanical Services Department).)

13. The Chairman said that in line with past practice, she and the Deputy Chairman would meet with the Secretary for the Environment to discuss the work plan of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session. She would convey members' suggestions to the Administration during the work plan meeting. Upon consideration by the Administration, relevant items for discussion in the 2017-2018 session would be included in the List for members' reference.

IV. Any other business

14. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:24 pm.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
20 November 2017