立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1851/17-18 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB2/PL/SE

Panel on Security

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 5 June 2018, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members : Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP (Chairman)
present Hon James TO Kun-sun (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP

Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Hon Claudia MO

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP

Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP Hon Kenneth LEUNG

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP

Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan

Hon Alvin YEUNG Hon CHU Hoi-dick

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

Hon LAM Cheuk-ting

Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding

Hon SHIU Ka-chun Hon YUNG Hoi-yan Hon CHAN Chun-ying

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

Hon HUI Chi-fung

Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH

Hon AU Nok-hin

Member attending

: Hon SHIU Ka-fai

Members absent

: Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

Public Officers attending

: Items IV and V

Mr John LEE Ka-chiu, SBS, PDSM, PMSM, JP

Secretary for Security

Mr Billy WOO Tak-ying

Principal Assistant Secretary for Security (Review)

Mr Man Tat-shing

Chief Superintendent (Organized Crime & Triad Bureau)

Hong Kong Police Force

Mr Simon KWAN King-pan

Superintendent (A Division) (Organized Crime &

Triad Bureau)

Hong Kong Police Force

Mr William FUNG Pak-ho

Assistant Director (Enforcement)

Immigration Department

Ms Queenie WONG Ting-chi

Assistant Commissioner (Policy Support)

Labour Department

Item VI

Mr Sonny AU, PDSM, PMSM, JP Under Secretary for Security

Mr George LEE Kiu-ki Government Security Officer Security Bureau

Mr Edwin LAI Sau-tak Assistant Director of the Hong Kong Observatory (Development, Research and Administration)

Mr Ricky WONG Chi-pan
Deputy Head of Civil Engineering Office (Port and Land)
Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr Philip CHUNG Wai-keung
Deputy Head of Geotechnical Engineering Office
(Planning & Standards)
Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr LAU Shing-cheong Chief Engineer / Land Drainage Drainage Services Department

Mr LEE Kam-kwong Principal Assistant Secretary (School Development) Education Bureau

Mr Henry KWOK Kin-man Assistant Secretary (Emergency Support Unit) 2 Security Bureau

Attendance by invitation

: <u>Item V</u>

Mr Azan Aziz MARWAH

Ms Patricia HO

Clerk in : attendance

: Miss Betty MA

Chief Council Secretary (2) 1

Staff in attendance

: Mr Timothy TSO Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Mr Raymond LAM

Senior Council Secretary (2) 7

Miss Lulu YEUNG Clerical Assistant (2) 1

Action

I. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(2)1464/17-18)

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2018 were confirmed.

II. Information papers issued since the last meeting

(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1485/17-18(01) and CB(2)1514/17-18(01))

- 2. <u>Members</u> noted that the following papers had been issued since the last meeting:
 - (a) joint letter dated 24 May 2018 from Dr KWOK Ka-ki, Mr Dennis KWOK, Mr Alvin YEUNG, Ms Tanya CHAN and Mr Jeremy TAM; and
 - (b) letter dated 1 June 2018 from Mr MA Fung-kwok.

III. Date of next meeting and items for discussion

(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1480/17-18(01) and (02))

Regular meeting in July 2018

- 3. <u>Members</u> agreed that the following items would be discussed at the next regular meeting on 10 July 2018 at 2:30 pm:
 - (a) An update on the comprehensive review of the strategy of handling non-refoulement claims;
 - (b) Police's handling of explosive objects and matters requiring public attention; and

(c) Combating illegal prostitution activities.

Management succession in the Independent Commission Against Corruption

- 4. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting said that the post of Head of Operations in the Independent Commission Against Corruption ("ICAC") would have been consecutively filled by an officer on acting appointment for three years by July 2018. The subject of management succession in ICAC, which had been proposed by him about two years ago, should be discussed at the next meeting. Mr Dennis KWOK and Mr Kenneth LEUNG shared the view that the subject should be discussed at the next meeting. Mr LEUNG expressed concern about succession of senior management in ICAC and said that the post concerned was a very senior one.
- 5. Mr WONG Kwok-kin and Mr YIU Si-wing said that it was inappropriate for the Panel to interfere into the personnel management of ICAC. Mr Jeffrey LAM said that it was inappropriate for the Panel to discuss matters relating to appointment or acting arrangements of individual personnel. The Panel should focus its work on policy matters.
- 6. The Chairman said that a letter from ICAC regarding acting arrangements for senior management had been issued to members in the last month. He noted that Mr LAM Cheuk-ting had also followed up the subject through other channels, such as raising Questions at Council meetings and raising the issues concerned at the Chief Executive's Question and Answer Session as well as when discussing the item on "Briefing by the Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption on the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address" at a Panel meeting. He asked the Clerk to convey the concerns expressed by members to ICAC and request the latter to provide the Panel with an update when there was new development in relation to the issues concerned.

Security arrangements for carry-on baggage at the Hong Kong International Airport

7. Regarding the letter referred to in paragraph 2(a) above, Mr Dennis KWOK said that the issues raised in the letter should be discussed by the Panel.

- 8. Mr Steven HO declared that he was a member of the Airport Authority Hong Kong ("AA"). He said that it was the established practice of Panels to discuss policy matters but not individual cases. Mr MA Fung-kwok had already provided explanations on the matter concerned in his letter to the Panel. Mr WONG Kwok-kin and Mr YIU Si-wing shared the view of Mr HO and pointed out that Mr MA Fung-kwok had already apologized in the matter.
- 9. The Chairman said that it was the established practice of Panels to discuss policy matters but not individual cases. The subject had already been thoroughly discussed at the House Committee meeting in the last week in the context of discussions on a proposed adjournment debate. As the majority of members did not consider it necessary to follow up the subject concerned, the subject would not be discussed by the Panel. However, AA would be requested to provide a written response to members' concerns regarding security arrangements for carry-on baggage at the Hong Kong International Airport.

(*Post-meeting note*: The written response from AA was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1681/17-18(01) on 25 June 2018.)

- IV. Action plan to tackle trafficking in persons and to enhance protection of foreign domestic helpers in Hong Kong (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1480/17-18(03) to (04) and CB(2)1515/17-18(01))
- V. Proposed Members' Bill entitled "Modern Slavery Bill" to criminalize all forms of human trafficking in Hong Kong (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)765/17-18(01), CB(2)1480/17-18(05) to (06) and CB(2)1515/17-18(01))
- 10. <u>The Chairman</u> said that as the two agenda items involved common issues of concern, the discussion on the two items would be combined. <u>Members</u> raised no objection.
- 11. <u>Secretary for Security</u> ("S for S") briefed Members on the Administration's efforts in combating trafficking in persons ("TIP"), the Steering Committee to Tackle Trafficking in Persons and to Enhance Protection of Foreign Domestic Helpers in Hong Kong ("the Steering Committee") and the Action Plan to Tackle Trafficking in Persons and to

Enhance Protection of Foreign Domestic Helpers ("FDHs") in Hong Kong ("the Action Plan").

- 12. <u>Mr Dennis KWOK</u> and <u>Mr Kenneth LEUNG</u> briefed Members on the background to and need for the proposed Members' Bill entitled "Modern Slavery Bill" ("the proposed Members' Bill"), which sought to criminalize all forms of TIP in Hong Kong, and highlighted the following points:
 - (a) offences relating to TIP were scattered among different legislation in Hong Kong and inadequate. A firm in Hong Kong would not be in breach of any local legislation for its TIP operations in other countries;
 - (b) Hong Kong was one of the few places in Asia without specific legislation against TIP. Advanced countries such as the Australia, United Kingdom and the United States of America had enacted specific legislation against TIP; and
 - (c) the proposed Members' Bill was supported by 27 social organizations.
- 13. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>Mr Azan MARWAH</u> briefed Members on the contents of the proposed Members' Bill.
- 14. <u>S for S</u> briefed Members on the existing legislative framework in Hong Kong to combat TIP. He said that the existing legislative framework was comprehensive and facilitated effective law enforcement against TIP-related crime. This multiple-legislation approach in Hong Kong provided law enforcement agencies ("LEAs") and prosecutors with adequate power and flexibility to investigate and prosecute TIP-related crime.
- 15. <u>Members</u> noted an information note entitled "Action plan to tackle trafficking in persons and to enhance protection of foreign domestic helpers in Hong Kong" prepared by the LegCo Secretariat.

Adequacy of existing legislation for tackling trafficking in persons

16. <u>Ms Patricia HO</u> said that TIP was not confined to the trafficking of persons into or from a place. In the past few years, she had handled more than 30 cases of TIP or forced labour in Hong Kong, among which

were cases in which young persons were induced by triad groups and forced to take up sex work for a few years. TIP was also involved in a majority of compensated dating activities. Many Vietnamese were victims of forced labour in local cannabis greenhouses cracked down by LEAs. Among these cases, prosecution was only instituted in one case in which a FDH from Sri Lanka was forced to take up different work without pay. Existing legislation in Hong Kong was scattered and the penalty levels could not reflect the seriousness of the TIP crime involved. Being the legal representative of many victims, she noted that many of the TIP-related cases could not be dealt with by frontline law enforcement officers under existing legislation. Many victims were reluctant to report their cases to LEAs because of the concern that they might also be prosecuted for breach of the laws of Hong Kong.

- 17. <u>Dr Elizabeth QUAT</u> asked whether existing legislation in Hong Kong was adequate for tackling different forms of TIP.
- 18. <u>Mr Alvin YEUNG</u> said that it might be difficult for a person to understand that the proposed Members' Bill, which was entitled "Modern Slavery Bill", was related to TIP. He sought information on the inadequacies of existing legislation in tackling TIP-related crime.
- 19. <u>Mr YIU Si-wing</u> said that there was no indication of the existence of slavery in Hong Kong and it was unnecessary to enact legislation against modern slavery.
- 20. The Deputy Chairman said that the combating of TIP required international cooperation. If there were allegations that existing legislation in Hong Kong was inadequate, the Administration should look into the issues concerned and examine whether the crime involved could be dealt with under existing legislation. He disagreed with the view that Hong Kong was a destination of human trafficking or forced labour. He referred to recent judicial reviews ("JRs") relating to the live-in requirement on FDHs and pointed out that many members of the public were offended by the view that the live-in requirement of FDHs had resulted in long working hours of FDHs and hence forced labour. Mr Dennis KWOK said that the Bill was unrelated to JRs relating to live-in requirement on FDHs.
- 21. Mr AU Nok-hin asked whether the requirements in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children supplementing the United Nations Convention against

Transnational Organised Crimes ("Palermo Protocol") could be fulfilled with existing legislation. He also asked whether the cases referred to by Ms Patricia HO could be dealt with under existing legislation.

- 22. <u>Mr Holden CHOW</u> said that although no one would dispute about the need to combat TIPs, the decision to enact specific legislation should not be taken lightly. It was also important to examine whether any proposed legislation might be open to abuse.
- 23. Mr Dennis KWOK said that the scope of modern slavery was much broader than that of slavery in the past. About 40.3 million people in the world were victims of human trafficking and other forms of slavery. TIP activities were not confined to the territory of Hong Kong. Existing legislation was inadequate in that a firm in Hong Kong involved TIP activities outside the territory of Hong Kong would not be in breach of any local legislation. The need for enactment of specific legislation against TIP had also been mentioned in the reports of relevant committees of the United Nations. He said that an alternative to enactment of the Members' Bill was to incorporate the elements of the Members' Bill into existing legislation.
- 24. Mr Kenneth LEUNG said that even if the Administration was notified by another country that certain funds were proceeds from TIP activities outside Hong Kong, it was not possible under existing legislation to freeze the funds. The Steering Committee should examine such inadequacies of existing legislation in tackling TIP-related crime. He pointed out that the Macao Special Administrative Region had already enacted legislation in 1997 and 2008 to combat TIP-related crime.
- 25. <u>S for S</u> said that the existing legislative framework in Hong Kong had provided adequate and solid legal framework for combating TIP-related crime. It provided LEAs with the necessary flexibility in combating TIP-related crime. He pointed out that:
 - (a) existing legislation had dealt with the three elements of TIP under the Palermo Protocol, even though it did not apply to Hong Kong. There was adequate legislation against prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, removal of organs and employment offences. Recent legislative amendments to the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) had increased the maximum penalties for the offences of overcharging of commission from job-seekers, including

FDHs, and unlicensed operation by employment agencies ("EAs") and extended the criminal liability of the overcharging offence from only the licensee of EAs to the management and employees of EAs with a view to increasing the deterrent effect;

- (b) existing legislation was also adequate in terms of the level of penalty. Some of the offences referred to in the Administration's paper were liable on conviction to a maximum sentence of life imprisonment;
- (c) proceeds from a number of TIP related offences could be confiscated under the Organized and Serious Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 455);
- (d) it was not the Administration's policy to allow a person claiming to be a TIP victim to be given permanent stay in Hong Kong, as this would be open to abuse, exposing Hong Kong to security risks and causing various social problems such as what Hong Kong was experiencing with non-refoulement claimants, who could make claims easily to stay in Hong Kong for a long time whilst there were less than 1% of such claims found substantiated; and
- (e) there was sufficient protection and support for TIP victims. Immunity from prosecution to TIP victims would be granted for crimes committed as a result of being trafficked or exploited when situation warrants. In 2017, two victims were granted immunity from prosecutions for acting as witnesses in the cases concerned.

Measures taken by the Administration to combat trafficking in persons and relevant statistics

26. Mr YIU Si-wing asked whether there were statistics on TIP-related crime in Hong Kong. S for S responded that most TIP-related cases in Hong Kong involved sexual exploitation, which could be dealt with under existing legislation. In 2017, there were two cases of TIP to or from Hong Kong for the purpose of prostitution, four cases of control over other persons for the purpose of prostitution and 30 cases of living on earnings of prostitution of others. Among these, prosecution was instituted in one case for causing prostitution and the offender concerned

was convicted. There were also 13 cases of prosecution against living on earnings of prostitution of others, among which the offenders were convicted in 11 of the cases.

27. Mr YIU Si-wing asked whether actions were taken to combat the trafficking into Hong Kong persons who were exploited or abused outside Hong Kong. S for S responded that LEAs conducted joint investigations and exchanged intelligence with their overseas counterparts to combat such crime. In 2017, in a case whereby an FDH was deployed by an employment agent and an employer to work in Shenzhen, both the employment agent and the employer were convicted of "conspiracy to defraud" after trial and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

<u>Trafficking in Persons Report published by the State Department of the United States of America</u>

- 28. Mr Jeffrey LAM said that Hong Kong was one of the safest cities in the world with sound legislation and professional LEAs. There was no indication that TIP was prevalent in Hong Kong. Noting that Hong Kong had been placed on the Tier 2 Watch List in the 2017 Trafficking in Persons Report published by the State Department of the United States of America ("the US Report"), he asked whether there were countries on the Tier One Watch List which had not enacted specific legislation on TIP.
- 29. Mr SHIU Ka-chun asked whether there were countries on the Tier Two Watch List of the US Report which had enacted specific legislation on TIP. While expressing support for the Administration's work in combating TIP and enhancing protection of FDHs, he said that instead of establishing the Steering Committee, an independent statutory body on TIP should be established. The meaning of exploitation and abuse of FDHs should also be clearly defined.
- 30. <u>S for S</u> responded that both specific legislation approach and multiple-legislation approach were adopted by countries ranked Tier 1 and Tier 2 in the US Report. He reiterated that the question of whether there was a need for establishing a statutory body on TIP should be considered having regard to the actual circumstances in Hong Kong. He pointed out that the existing TIP victim screening mechanism was effective. In 2017, initial screening had been conducted on 4 710 vulnerable persons. Among these, 23 victims were identified in the initial screening and nine victims identified in the full debriefing, which represented a low percentage of about 0.2% of the persons screened. The figures reflected that TIP crimes were not prevalent in Hong Kong.

- 31. Mr Dennis KWOK said that although some people might disagree with the observations in the US Report on Hong Kong, there were justifications in the US Report. It was undesirable for Hong Kong to be put on a watchlist in the US Report with African countries.
- 32. <u>S for S</u> said that existing legislation had provided adequate and solid legal framework for combating TIP-related crime. While the Administration would pay attention to reports of other countries on Hong Kong, the question of whether there was a need for enactment of legislation in Hong Kong should be considered on the basis of the circumstances in Hong Kong. He said that some contents of the US Report did not reflect the facts in Hong Kong.

Training and public education

- 33. Mr Jimmy NG said that according to a survey conducted by students of the Department of Social Work and Social Administration of the University of Hong Kong, there was inadequate knowledge among tertiary students about TIP. He asked whether the Administration would strengthen the knowledge of law enforcement officers and the public in relation to TIP.
- 34. S for S responded that measures to raise the awareness of law enforcement officers and members of the public on TIP were set out in Parts D and E of the Action Plan. The Administration had been providing relevant training to officers of LEAs, the Labour Department ("LD"), Social Welfare Department ("SWD") and prosecutors of the Department of Justice over the years. Around 1800 government officials had received local or overseas TIP-related training in 2017. set out in the Action Plan, training would be provided to staff of government departments or organizations which would come across TIP victims or exploited FDHs, including the Hospital Authority, SWD and Overseas Economic and Trade Offices. Efforts were made by LD to raise FDH's awareness of their legal rights and channels to seek assistance when needed, including a dedicated hotline with interpretation services to be set up to provide one-stop support services to FDHs. also exchanged views with Administration non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") to facilitate the identification of areas which required strengthening. The Administration would continue to maintain close liaison with relevant consulates in Hong Kong and the governments of major FDH source countries and participate in international events and workshops to identify the best practice to combat TIP.

[To allow sufficient time for discussion, members agreed that the meeting would be extended by 15 minutes.]

- VI. Government's preparedness for the approach of typhoon season and related natural disasters and emergency response (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1480/17-18(07) and (08))
- 35. <u>Under Secretary for Security</u> ("US for S") briefed Members on the key developments in the Administration's preparation and emergency response as Hong Kong approached the typhoon seasons. With the aid of powerpoint presentation, <u>Government Security Officer</u> briefed Members on the Administration's Contingency Plan in the event of natural disasters and typhoons.
- 36. <u>Members</u> noted an information note entitled "Government's preparedness for the approach of typhoon season and related natural disasters and emergency response" prepared by the LegCo Secretariat.

New information technology platform for dissemination of natural disaster and typhoon-related information

- 37. Referring to paragraph 9 of the Administration's paper, Mr CHAN Chun-ying asked how the dissemination of inaccurate information would be prevented under the new electronic platform Common Operational Picture ("COP"). He also sought information on the division of work among different government departments in relation to the dissemination of information under COP.
- 38. <u>Dr Elizabeth QUAT</u> sought information on the progress of development of COP for consolidated dissemination of disaster-related information by the Administration and when COP would be launched.
- 39. Deputy Head of Geotechnical Engineering Office (Planning & Standards), Civil Engineering and Development Department responded that COP was a new electronic platform with Geographic Information System functions for sharing real-time emergency information on landslides, flooding and major road incidents handled by various government departments. COP sought to complement and enhance the sharing of emergency information among policy bureaux and government departments. It would not replace the dissemination of emergency information by individual government departments. A trial version

participated by eight government departments had been launched for testing for more than a year and a full version would be put on trial for about one year. COP would be launched by stages. The first stage, during which eleven government departments had agreed to share information, would be launched in early 2019 and fully implemented a year later. COP would be extended to more government departments in the second or third stage.

40. Mr Steven HO expressed concern about an error in the dissemination of typhoon signal issuance message by HKO in the morning of 5 June 2018. He asked how HKO would prevent the recurrence of similar errors in future. On behalf of HKO, Assistant Director of the Hong Kong Observatory (Development, Research and Administration) ("AD(DRA)/HKO") apologized for the inadvertent error in the message dissemination process and said that the error mainly arose from careless manual handling of the message dissemination systems which had certain adjustments introduced after the annual review exercise. He stressed that steps had been taken to ensure such errors would not recur in the future.

Interdepartmental table-top exercise

41. Referring to paragraph 8 of the Administration's paper, Mr POON Siu-ping asked whether the inter-departmental table-top exercise held on 21 May 2018 had been participated by NGOs. Government Security Officer responded that the Hong Kong Red Cross, which provided disaster relief and psychological counselling services, and the Hong Kong St John Ambulance, which provided ambulance support at major events as requested, had participated as observers in the inter-departmental table-top exercise on 21 May 2018.

Flood prevention

42. Referring to paragraph 10 of the Administration's paper, Mr CHU Hoi-dick sought information on the actual extent to which the sea level had exceeded Chart Datum during the attack of super typhoon HATO in 2017. He expressed concern about the extent of sea flooding that would have occurred at the six vulnerable locations referred to in paragraph 11 of the Administration's paper, if HATO had taken a track closer to Hong Kong and caused the sea level to exceed 4.5 metres above Chart Datum. AD(DRA)/HKO responded that the sea level had reached 3.57 metres above Chart Datum at Quarry Bay and that at Tsim Bei Tsui

had reached 4.56 metres above Chart Datum during the passage of Super Typhoon HATO.

- 43. Noting that flood prevention works were being carried out at Tai O and Lei Yue Mun, Mr CHU Hoi-dick sought information on the details of the flood prevention works and measures in Tai O. He also asked whether flood prevention works would also be carried out at the four remaining locations referred to in paragraph 11 of the Administration's paper.
- 44. Chief Engineer/Land Drainage, Drainage Services Department responded that the Drainage Services Department ("DSD"), the Home Affairs Department and HKO had jointly established an early alert system to alleviate the impact of flooding on local residents in locations including Luen On San Tsuen, Kar Wo Lei, Sham Tseng San Tsuen, Lei Yue Mun Praya Road and Nam Wai. DSD's Emergency Control Centre would be activated when typhoon signal number 8 or above was issued. Actions to be taken included the deployment of contractors to handle blockage at drainage system and the provision of flood barriers and temporary pumping. A series of measures were also implemented to address the flooding problem in Tai O, including the completion of river walls by the Civil Engineering and Development Department. When it was predicted by HKO that the sea level would reach a certain level during typhoon, DSD would erect flood barriers at key locations.

Other issues

- 45. <u>Mr POON Siu-ping</u> said that relevant labour unions had expressed concern about inadequate manpower for removal of fallen trees after the attack of super typhoon HATO in 2017.
- 46. <u>US for S</u> responded that HATO was the strongest super typhoon since the 1960s, resulting in many roads being blocked by fallen trees. It was noted that the major problem was an insufficient number of crane trucks on the part of contractors for the removal of fallen trees.
- 47. <u>Mr Steven HO</u> expressed concern that there was an acute shortage of berths in typhoon shelters, especially those in Tuen Mun, Cheung Chau and Aberdeen especially in times of typhoon attack. <u>US for S</u> undertook to convey the concerns of Mr HO to the Marine Department. <u>The Chairman</u> requested the Administration to provide a written response to the issues raised by Mr HO.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration subsequently advised that the concern raised by Mr Steven HO had been under the due vigilant monitoring of the Marine Department ("MD"). Out of the three typhoon shelters mentioned by Mr HO, MD's records showed that Tuen Mun Typhoon Shelter, being one of the popular typhoon shelters used by fishing vessels, was the only one which had seen a 100% occupancy rate during typhoon passages in recent years. close liaison between MD With and local fishermen's representatives in Tuen Mun, however, MD understood that Tuen Mun based fishing vessels had always been able to return to the Tuen Mun Typhoon Shelter during the passages of typhoon in the past few years. MD would continue to liaise with local fishery associations on typhoon shelter arrangements during typhoon passages in order to ensure vessels' and fishermen's safety in inclement weather.)

48. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:45 pm.

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
17 July 2018