

Ref : CB2/PL/CA

LC Paper No. CB(2)133/18-19 (These minutes have been cleared with the Chairman)

Panel on Constitutional Affairs

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 11 October 2018, at 12:45 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present	:	Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP (Deputy Chairman) Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
		Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP
		Hon Claudia MO
		Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
		Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
		Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
		Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
		Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP
		Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
		Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
		Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang
		Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
		Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
		Hon IP Kin-yuen
		Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP
		Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH
		Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, SBS, JP
		Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
		Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
		Hon Alvin YEUNG
		Hon CHU Hoi-dick
		Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP

		Hon LAM Cheuk-ting Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP Hon Tanya CHAN Hon HUI Chi-fung Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai Hon AU Nok-hin
Members absent	:	Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Clerk in attendance		Ms Joanne MAK Chief Council Secretary (2) 3
Staff in attendance		Miss Flora TAI Assistant Secretary General 2
		Miss Cindy HO Senior Council Secretary (2) 3
		Mr Dennis HO Council Secretary (2) 3
		Mrs Fonny TSANG Legislative Assistant (2) 3

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I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

Election of Chairman

As Mr Martin LIAO, the incumbent Chairman, was absent at this juncture, <u>Mr Holden CHOW</u>, the incumbent Deputy Chairman, presided over the election and called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2018-2019 session. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan was nominated by <u>Mr WONG Kwok-kin</u> and the nomination was seconded by <u>Ms Starry LEE</u>. <u>Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan</u> accepted the nomination.

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2. As there was no other nomination, Mr Holden CHOW declared Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2018-2019 session. <u>Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan</u> then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

3. <u>The Chairman</u> called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2018-2019 session. Mr LUK Chung-hung was nominated by <u>Ms Alice MAK</u> and the nomination was seconded by <u>Mr Steven HO</u>. <u>Mr LUK Chung-hung</u> accepted the nomination.

4. As there was no other nomination, <u>the Chairman</u> declared Mr LUK Chung-hung elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2018-2019 session.

II. Schedule of meetings for the 2018-2019 session

5. <u>Members</u> agreed that the Panel would continue to hold its regular meetings on the third Monday of each month from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. <u>Members</u> agreed to adopt the proposed meeting schedule which was tabled at the meeting.

III. Items for discussion at the next meeting [Appendices II and III to LC Paper No. CB(2)5/18-19]

Regular meeting to be held on 15 October 2018

6. <u>Members</u> agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 15 October 2018 at 2:30 pm:

- (a) briefing on the Chief Executive's 2018 Policy Address; and
- (b) practical arrangements for the 2018 Legislative Council ("LegCo") Kowloon West Geographical Constituency By-election.

Referring to the item in paragraph (b) above, <u>Mr AU Nok-hin</u> opined that the Administration was late in proposing the item for discussion on

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15 October 2018, given that the nomination period of the by-election was coming to an end. <u>The Chairman</u> said that it was the earliest possible date for discussion of the item.

Other issues raised by members

Amending the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap. 201)

7. <u>Mr LAM Cheuk-ting</u> proposed to discuss as early as possible the progress of work in amending the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance to extend the scope of sections 3 and 8 to cover the office of the Chief Executive ("CE"). He said that the subject had been included on the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion for a long time.

Press freedom

8. <u>Mr IP Kin-yuen</u> expressed concern about the Foreign Correspondents' Club incident and the fall of Hong Kong's press freedom ranking to the 70th in 2018. He proposed to discuss the measures taken by the Administration to safeguard the press freedom in Hong Kong.

Human rights education and human rights reports

9. <u>Mr IP Kin-yuen</u> proposed to discuss the promotion of human rights education. <u>Mr AU Nok-hin</u> requested the Administration to provide the human rights reports submitted by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the concluding observations of the relevant United Nations committees for discussion by the Panel at an opportune time.

Political reform

10. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> said that the Panel should revisit the issue of political reform in the current legislative session and discuss how to take forward the selection of CE and the formation of LegCo by universal suffrage in accordance with Articles 45 and 68 of the Basic Law respectively.

Nomination matters in Legislative Council elections

11. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> said that the above issue had also been included on the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion for some time. She

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considered it necessary to discuss as early as possible the relevant issues, such as the criteria adopted by the Returning Officers in determining the validity of a candidate's nomination. She also expressed concern whether a person who was disqualified from being nominated as a candidate would be barred from running in all future public elections. <u>Mr AU Nok-hin</u> proposed to discuss the appointment system of the Nominations Advisory Committees.

Strengthening the functions of District Councils

12. <u>Ms Starry Lee</u> proposed to discuss enhancing the functions of the new term District Councils ("DCs") commencing from 2020. She considered that there was room to enhance their functions. For example, in district environmental hygiene matters, a mechanism could be put in place for DCs to participate in the evaluation of the performance of relevant outsourced contractors. <u>The Chairman</u> said that he would consider whether this Panel or the Panel on Home Affairs would be the appropriate forum to follow up on the subject.

IV. Any other business

13. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:58 pm.

Council Business Division 2 Legislative Council Secretariat 23 October 2018