

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)115/19-20
(These minutes have been
cleared with the Chairman)

Ref : CB4/PL/EDEV

Panel on Economic Development

Minutes of meeting
held on Thursday, 18 October 2019, at 10:00 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan (Chairman)
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
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 WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, GBS, JP
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP
Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP
Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS
Hon CHAN Hoi-yan

Members attending : Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Hon AU Nok-hin
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP

Members absent : Hon Claudia MO
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, SBS, JP

Clerk in attendance : Ms Shirley CHAN
Chief Council Secretary (4)5

Staff in attendance : Mr Matthew LOO
Assistant Secretary General 4

Mr Bonny LOO
Assistant Legal Adviser 4

Ms Shirley TAM
Senior Council Secretary (4)5

Ms Lauren LI
Council Secretary (4)5

Miss Winnie CHENG
Senior Legislative Assistant (4)1

Ms Carmen HO
Senior Legislative Assistant (4)2

Miss Emma CHEUNG
Senior Legislative Assistant (4)3

Ms Zoe TONG
Legislative Assistant (4)5

Miss Mandy LUI
Clerical Assistant (4)5

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I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

Election of Chairman for the 2019-2020 session

Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan, incumbent Chairman of the Panel, presided over the election of Chairman for the 2019-2020 session.

2. Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan invited nominations for the chairmanship. Mr YIU Si-wing nominated Mr CHUNG and the nomination was seconded by Mr Jeffrey LAM. Mr CHUNG accepted the nomination.

3. As Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan was nominated for the chairmanship, Mr WU Chi-wai, incumbent Deputy Chairman of the Panel, took over from Mr CHUNG to preside over the election. Mr WU called for other nominations.

4. There being no other nomination, Mr WU Chi-wai declared Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2019-2020 session. Mr CHUNG then took over the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman for the 2019-2020 session

5. The Chairman invited nominations for the deputy chairmanship. Mr Kenneth LEUNG nominated Mr WU Chi-wai and the nomination was seconded by Mr Andrew WAN. Mr WU accepted the nomination. There being no other nomination, the Chairman declared Mr WU elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2019-2020 session.

II. Schedule of meetings for the 2019-2020 session

6. Members agreed that the Panel would continue to hold its regular meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 10:45 am except the meetings in November 2019, December 2019 and January 2020. Members noted the proposed meeting schedule which was tabled at the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The finalized meeting schedule for the 2019-2020 session was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)10/19-20 on 21 October 2019.)

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III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

(Appendix V to LC Paper No. — List of outstanding items for
CB(4)1/19-20 discussion

Appendix VI to LC Paper No. — List of follow-up actions)
CB(4)1/19-20

Meeting on 28 October 2019

7. Members agreed to receive briefings by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development and Secretary for Transport and Housing on relevant policy initiatives in the Chief Executive's 2019 Policy Address at the next regular meeting scheduled for Monday, 28 October 2019, at 10:45 am.

Meeting on 26 November 2019

8. Members agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the November meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 26 November 2019 –

- (a) Annual tariff reviews with the two power companies;
- (b) Sustainable development of Hong Kong's port and development of high value-added maritime services and the proposal of turning a supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade C in the Transport and Housing Bureau into a permanent post; and
- (c) Proposal to provide tax incentives for ship leasing.

Items for future meetings

9. Mr Abraham SHEK raised grave concern about the impact of recent social incidents arising from the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019 on Hong Kong's economy and business environment of various industries. Pointing out that waves of business closures might come ahead, he requested the Government to provide a comprehensive report on the situation and measures to revive the economy.

10. Ms Elizabeth QUAT said that as a result of recent social incidents,

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many small and medium enterprises ("SMEs") had faced a drastic decline in business. She urged the Government to brief the Panel on the measures to help the affected SMEs tide over the difficult situation so as to avoid the occurrence of large-scale business closures and massive layoffs.

11. Mr Christopher CHEUNG was of the view that the social incidents had tarnished Hong Kong's international image and affected the desire of overseas investors to inject fund into Hong Kong's financial market, undermining the sustainability of small and medium securities dealers. He requested the Government to advise members the relief measures to support the financial services industry.

12. Mrs Regina IP enquired about the Government's actions in response to the passage of the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act by the House of Representatives of the United States ("the US") Congress while the Act would be subsequently submitted into the Senate. She also raised concern about the impact of the proposed implementation of export controls by the US affecting Hong Kong's exports including high-tech products.

13. Sharing other members' concerns, Mr Holden CHOW suggested that the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury should be invited to attend the proposed meeting to provide information on related subjects.

14. As the related matters straddled different policy areas, the Chairman suggested that a joint meeting with the Panel on Commerce and Industry ("CI Panel") and other Panels might be arranged with the presence of various Bureau Directors. He would discuss with relevant Panel Chairmen on the detailed arrangements.

(Post-meeting note: A joint meeting of the CI Panel, Panel on Economic Development, Panel on Financial Affairs and Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting was being arranged to discuss "Impact of the recent social incidents and the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019 on Hong Kong's economy and the business environment of various industries".)

15. Mr SHIU Ka-fai said that in the midst of the current shrinking economy, the Government's proposal to introduce a statutory cooling-off period for beauty and fitness services consumer contracts, which was included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion, would bring devastating effect on relevant industries. He requested the Administration to reconsider this proposal. The Chairman shared the views.

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IV. Any other business

16. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:14 am.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
11 November 2019