立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)138/20-21

Ref : CB2/H/5/20

House Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 3rd meeting held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex at 2:30 pm on Friday, 30 October 2020

Members present:

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon MA Fung-kwok, GBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP

Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP

Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, 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 Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Hon Claudia MO

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP

Hon WU Chi-wai, MH

Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS

Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP

Hon Kenneth LEUNG

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP

Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Hon IP Kin-yuen

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, GBS, 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 Andrew WAN Siu-kin

Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP

Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Hon LAM Cheuk-ting

Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding

Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP

Hon SHIU Ka-chun

Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH

Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP

Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

Hon HUI Chi-fung

Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP

Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH

Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP

Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

Hon KWONG Chun-yu

Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho

Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP

Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS, JP

Members absent:

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP Dr Hon Pierre CHAN

Clerk in attendance:

Miss Flora TAI

Clerk to the House Committee

Staff in attendance:

Mr Kenneth CHEN, SBS Secretary General Ms Connie FUNG Legal Adviser

Miss Odelia LEUNG
Ms Anita SIT
Ms Dora WAI
Mr Matthew LOO
Mr Timothy TSO
Deputy Secretary General
Assistant Secretary General 1
Assistant Secretary General 3
Assistant Secretary General 4
Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Ms Clara TAM Acting Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 2

Mr Bonny LOO

Ms Alice LEUNG

Miss Joyce CHAN

Mr Cliff IP

Miss Connie AU

Mr Richard WONG

Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 3

Chief Council Secretary (2)6

Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Assistant Legal Adviser 8

Senior Council Secretary (2)6

Senior Council Secretary (2)8

Miss Michelle TANG Council Secretary (2)6

Ms Anna CHEUNG Senior Legislative Assistant (2)3

Mr Arthur KAN Legislative Assistant (2)7

Action

I. Confirmation of minutes of meeting

Minutes of 2nd meeting held on 23 October 2020

(LC Paper No. CB(2)86/20-21)

The minutes were confirmed.

II. Matters arising

Report by the Chairman on her meeting with the Chief Secretary for Administration

2. The Chairman said that Members' concerns on various issues expressed at the last meeting of the House Committee ("HC") held on 23 October 2020 had been relayed to the Chief Secretary for Administration ("CS"), including the Government Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities, the "Hong Kong Health Code" system, and the lay-off exercise conducted by Cathay Pacific Airways Limited ("Cathay Pacific"). She further said that CS had noted Members' concerns and pointed out that the Chief Executive ("CE") had given a detailed account of the Administration's latest position on various issues in the morning of 27 October 2020 before the Executive Council meeting was held.

3. The Chairman further said that the 18 Panels had gradually commenced their work in the 2020-2021 sessions. If the issues of concern to Members fell squarely within the purview of Panels, Members could further follow up such issue(s) through the relevant Panel(s). She added that she and the Deputy Chairman had also urged CS to ask Directors of Bureaux to update the relevant Panels on the latest position on various policy issues.

Follow-up on issues raised by Members at previous HC meetings

- 4. <u>Mr LAM Cheuk-ting</u> wondered whether CS had made any clarification on the term "dual engines" used by CE in referring to Hong Kong and Shenzhen. <u>The Chairman</u> said that CS had indicated that CE's intention was to illustrate that Hong Kong and Shenzhen had their own respective advantages and their common endeavour in the development of the Greater Bay Area could be mutually beneficial.
- 5. Mr HUI Chi-fung reiterated his request that the Administration should provide a written explanation on its delay in providing the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Brief(s) on subsidiary legislation made under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599). The Chairman advised that at her previous meeting with CS, she had already relayed to CS the above request of Mr HUI and CS indicated that he had urged the relevant policy bureau to issue the LegCo Brief(s) concerned before the meeting of the Subcommittee formed to study the subsidiary legislation concerned. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Legal Adviser ("LA") said that the Secretariat had received the LegCo Briefs on the subsidiary legislation concerned. Mr HUI, however, maintained that the Administration should have provided a written explanation on the delay. The Chairman added that no such written explanation had been received, and she would further follow up the matter.

Lay-off exercise conducted by Cathay Pacific

6. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting, Mr Jeremy TAM, Mr Andrew WAN, and Mr WU Chi-wai expressed grave concern about the situation facing those employees of Cathay Pacific who had not been laid off but were asked to sign new employment contracts on or before 4 November 2020. In their view, that was a matter of great urgency, and it was incumbent upon the relevant Directors of Bureaux, such as the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, to provide assistance to those employees. They hoped that the

Administration could facilitate the meeting between Cathay Pacific and the employees concerned to discuss the extension of the relevant deadline and future work arrangements, so as to allow more time for those employees to consider. Mr LAM, Mr TAM and Mr WAN also pointed out that they had written to the relevant Panels requesting to hold special meeting(s) to discuss the matter, but no such meeting had been scheduled. Mr WU expressed dissatisfaction that the Administration had failed to provide any assistance to the employees of Cathay Pacific on this matter.

7. The Chairman said that CS had indicated that the Labour Department would hold a job fair for those employees of Cathay Pacific who had been laid off, and also set up a telephone hotline to provide employment information and support. She further said that Members of various political parties and groupings were very concerned about the currently massive layoffs in Hong Kong, and she would ask the Administration to expeditiously deal with the matter in a proper manner.

Other issues

- 8. Mr HUI Chi-fung expressed concern about recent media reports that mainland lawyers had been told not to represent the 12 Hong Kong people who had been arrested by the Mainland authorities. Mr HUI urged CS to follow up the requests of the family members concerned, and to facilitate the meeting between the 12 Hong Kong people and the lawyers who had been engaged by their family members.
- 9. Mr KWONG Chun-yu said that the subsidy period of the Employment Support Scheme would expire in November 2020, but the Administration had not yet put forward any concrete relief measures for members of the public hard hit by the epidemic. He suggested that the Administration should provide cash pay-out for members of the public, and also establish funds to support small and medium-sized enterprises as well as individuals. Mr KWONG added that he would set out his suggestions in writing and requested the Chairman to convey for CS's consideration.
- 10. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> noted that CHAN Tong-kai, suspect of a Taiwan homicide case, had been released from prison for about a year but had not yet surrendered himself to the Taiwan authorities. <u>Dr KWOK</u> requested CS to attend a special HC meeting to explain to Members why the Administration had not liaised with the Taiwan authorities for making the relevant arrangements, and the difficulty encountered by the Administration.

11. The Chairman said that Members' views and concerns expressed at this meeting would be relayed to CS. She would also relay to CS Members' views in writing if she had received such requests from Members. She added that should Members wish to give their views to CE, they could write directly to CE.

III. Business arising from previous Council meetings

Legal Service Division report on subsidiary legislation gazetted on 23 October 2020

(LC Paper No. LS5/20-21)

- 12. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>LA</u> briefed Members on the report prepared by the Legal Service Division on two items of subsidiary legislation (i.e. L.N. 210 and L.N. 211) which were gazetted on 23 October 2020 and tabled in Council on 28 October 2020.
- 13. Mr Kenneth LEUNG considered it necessary to form a subcommittee to study the Inland Revenue (Double Taxation Relief with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital and Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance) (Republic of Serbia) Order (L.N. 210) and the Inland Revenue (Double Taxation Relief with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital and Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance) (Georgia) Order (L.N. 211) in detail. Members agreed. Mr James TO and Mr Kenneth LEUNG agreed to join the proposed subcommittee.
- 14. <u>The Chairman</u> reminded Members that the deadline for amending the above two Orders would be the Council meeting of 25 November 2020, or that of 16 December 2020 if extended by a resolution of the Council.

IV. Further business for the Council meeting of 4 November 2020

Government Bill - First Reading and Second Reading (debate to be adjourned)

15. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the Supplementary Appropriation (2019-2020) Bill would be introduced into the Council at the meeting and HC would consider the Bill at its meeting on 6 November 2020.

V. Business for the Council meeting of 11 November 2020

(a) **Questions**

- 16. <u>The Chairman</u> said that a list setting out the Members who had been allocated question slots for the meeting had already been issued to Members (LC Paper No. CB(3)73/20-21).
- (b) Government Bill First Reading and Second Reading (debate to be adjourned)
- 17. The Chairman said that no notice had been received yet.
- (c) Government Bills Resumption of Second Reading debate under Rule 64(2) of the Rules of Procedure for the purpose of making an announcement of the withdrawal of the Bills
 - (i) Franchised Taxi Services Bill
 - (ii) Rating (Amendment) Bill 2019
- 18. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the announcement of the withdrawal of the above two Bills would be made at the meeting.
- (d) Government Bill Second Reading (debate to resume), consideration by committee of the whole Council and Third Reading
- 19. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the Second Reading debate on the Road Traffic Legislation (Parking Spaces) (Amendment) Bill 2019 would be resumed at the meeting.
- (e) Government Motion
- 20. The Chairman said that no notice had been received yet.
- (f) <u>Members' Motions</u>
- 21. <u>The Chairman</u> said that Members' motions which had stood over from previous Council meetings would be dealt with at the meeting.

Report of HC on Consideration of Subsidiary Legislation

22. The Chairman invited Members to note the list tabled at the meeting (LC Paper No. CB(3)74/20-21), which contained 55 items of subsidiary legislation the period for amendment of which would expire at the Council meeting of 11 November 2020. She reminded Members to indicate their intention by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, 3 November 2020, should they wish to speak on any of those items of subsidiary legislation.

VI. Reports of Bills Committees and subcommittees

Report of the Subcommittee on Rating (Exemption) Order 2020 (Amendment) Order 2020

- 23. Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Chairman of the Subcommittee, made a verbal report on the deliberations of the Subcommittee. He said that the objective of the Rating (Exemption) Order 2020 (Amendment) Order 2020 ("the Amendment Order") was to amend the Rating (Exemption) Order 2020 to the effect that the ceiling of rates exemption for non-domestic tenements was adjusted from \$1,500 to \$5,000 per tenement for each of the third and fourth quarters of the 2020-2021 financial year, such that the exemption ceiling would align with that for the first two quarters of the 2020-2021 financial year.
- 24. Mr CHEUNG further said that the Subcommittee had held one meeting with the Administration to scrutinize the Amendment Order. Members of the Subcommittee generally had no objection to the provision of enhanced rates concession to non-domestic properties to support enterprises, especially the small and medium-sized enterprises, amidst the very challenging economic conditions brought about by the coronavirus disease 2019 epidemic. However, some members of the Subcommittee had expressed concern that tenants of non-domestic properties would not be able to benefit from the rates concession, and had expressed the view that the Administration should implement measures to ensure that property owners who rented out properties on a rates exclusive basis would rebate the rates concession to the tenants concerned in accordance with the provisions of the tenancy agreements. addition, some members of the Subcommittee had considered that the Administration should implement more measures to strengthen its support to the enterprises whose operation was severely affected as a result of the epidemic.

- Mr CHEUNG informed Members that the Administration had 25. noted the concerns expressed by members of the Subcommittee in relation to the implementation of the rates concession. However, the Administration considered that the suggestions concerned might not be practicable and might involve certain legal issues. The Administration had also pointed out that it had explored various possible options for modifying the existing rates concession mechanism. However, when the Administration consulted the relevant Panel, most Panel members had expressed reservation over the options proposed by the Administration. Having considered the views of various parties, the Administration had shelved the proposal to modify the rates concession mechanism. Nevertheless, the Administration would welcome Members' views on how to further enhance the mechanism.
- 26. <u>Members</u> noted that neither the Subcommittee nor the Administration would propose any amendments to the Amendment Order, and the Subcommittee would submit a written report in due course.
- 27. The Chairman reminded Members that the period for amending the Amendment Order would expire at the Council meeting of 11 November 2020, and the deadline for giving notice of amendments, if any, would be Wednesday, 4 November 2020.

VII. Position on Bills Committees and subcommittees

 $(LC \ Paper \ No. \ CB(2)87/20-21)$

- 28. <u>The Chairman</u> said that as at 29 October 2020, there were two Bills Committees, 22 subcommittees under HC, and one subcommittee on policy issues ("policy subcommittees") under a Panel in action. Two policy subcommittees were on the waiting list.
- 29. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting said that he recalled that at the HC meeting on 16 October 2020, the Secretariat had been requested to provide for Members' consideration a full list of proposed policy subcommittees as well as select committees and investigation committees pending He wondered whether such information had been included in activation. the above "Position Report on Bills Committees and subcommittees". He also enquired when HC would consider how the Secretariat's resources would be allocated servicing of to the these committees/subcommittees.

30. The Chairman said that the above report was meant to be a regular update on the position of Bills Committees and subcommittees formed under HC and Panels, and the requested list mentioned by Mr LAM Cheuk-ting would be included in a paper which was expected to be provided by the end of November 2020 for Members to consider how the Secretariat's resources should be allocated to the servicing of various types of committees.

VIII. Election of a Member to fill the vacancy in the Public Accounts Committee

- 31. The Chairman said that Members had agreed at the last HC meeting on 23 October 2020 that the election of a Member to fill the vacancy in the Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") be held at this meeting in accordance with the nomination and election procedure set out in LC Paper No. PAC 2/20-21. She further said that HC's recommendation in regard to the member elected would then be submitted to the President for appointment. The Chairman then invited Members to make nominations to fill the vacancy in PAC.
- 32. Mr Alvin YEUNG was nominated by Mr WU Chi-wai and the nomination was seconded by Mr Kenneth LEUNG. Mr Alvin YEUNG accepted the nomination.
- 33. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan was nominated by Mrs Regina IP and the nomination was seconded by Mr Steven HO. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan accepted the nomination.
- 34. Mr Kenneth LEUNG said that PAC members were required to work very hard, and he considered it desirable to give each candidate three minutes to present election platforms and/or answer questions from Members. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting concurred with Mr LEUNG's suggestion, adding that he expected the vacancy in PAC to be filled by a Member with conscience and good judgement.
- 35. Mr Steven HO considered that the candidates' character and the way they did their work had been widely known, and there was no need for the candidates to present election platforms or answer questions from Members. He also had reservations about setting a precedent. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan queried why Mr LAM Cheuk-ting brought up the issue of "conscience" during the election. In her view, what should be put into

question was the conscience of those Members who had requested a total of more than 60 quorum calls during the past two Council meetings.

- 36. Mr Abraham SHEK and Mr Paul TSE said that they did not mind asking the candidates to present election platforms and/or answer questions from Members. However, Mr TSE said that he was a member of PAC, and there had not been such an arrangement during the election of PAC members held in the 2016-2017 session. He considered it necessary to be very careful about setting a precedent by making such an arrangement. Mr SHEK confirmed that from his experience as a PAC member for about 20 years, there had not been such an arrangement during any of the previous elections of PAC members.
- 37. The Chairman said that she noted the different views expressed by Members. She had also checked with the Clerk and it was confirmed that since the First LegCo, candidates for PAC membership had not been asked to present election platforms or answer questions from Members. Therefore, she did not want to set such a precedent. Besides, she believed that Members should be familiar with one another and with the work of PAC. The Chairman concluded that it was not necessary to have such an arrangement.
- 38. As the number of valid nominations exceeded that required for appointment to PAC, the Chairman ordered that a poll be taken by using the Electronic Voting System. The result of the vote was that 18 Members voted for Mr Alvin YEUNG and 34 Members voted for Ms YUNG Hoi-yan. The Chairman declared Ms YUNG Hoi-yan elected for appointment to PAC.

IX. Proposals from 19 Members for setting up three subcommittees under the House Committee to respectively study various epidemic-related issues

(LC Paper No. CB(2)96/20-21(01))

39. The Chairman said that at the HC meeting held on 16 October 2020, Members had different preferences on how the Secretariat's resources should be allocated to the servicing of policy subcommittees, select committees formed by a petition ("SCs") and investigation committees ("ICs"). Taking into account Members' views, she had instructed the Secretariat to prepare a paper for Members' further consideration on the matter at a later HC meeting.

- 40. The Chairman reminded Members that proposals for setting up subcommittees to study policy issues which fell squarely within the purview of Panels should be submitted to the relevant Panels for consideration. As regards policy issues concerning two or more Panels, consideration could be given to setting up joint subcommittees under the relevant Panels to study those issues. She further said that the following 11 proposals for setting up policy subcommittees to study various issues were awaiting consideration by the relevant Panels to date: (a) to monitor the implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project under the Panel on Development and the Panel on Home Affairs; (b) to study issues relating to transitional housing and subdivided units under the Panel on Housing; (c) to study labour exploitation, illicit activities by employment agencies, and human trafficking under the Panel on Security; (d) to study issues relating to the improvement of environmental hygiene and cityscape under the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene; (e) to study anti-epidemic policies relating to residential care homes and long-term care services under the Panel on Health Services and the Panel on Welfare Services; (f) to study the setting up of an unemployment assistance system in Hong Kong under the Panel on Manpower; (g) to follow up issues relating to typhoon shelters and sheltered anchorages under the Panel on Economic Development; (h) to follow up matters relating to railways under the Panel on Transport; (i) to study issues relating to parking spaces and Park-and-Ride Scheme in Hong Kong under the Panel on Transport; (j) to study the difficulties encountered by the transport sector in procuring insurance and related matters under the Panel on Transport; and (k) to study issues relating to the stimulation of Hong Kong's economy under the Panel on Commerce and Industry.
- 41. The Chairman further said that the aforesaid 11 proposals for setting up policy subcommittees were expected to be considered by the relevant Panels on or before 20 November 2020. Therefore, she expected that Members would be invited to further consider how the Secretariat's resources should be allocated to the servicing of policy subcommittees, SCs and ICs at a HC meeting by the end of November 2020. The Chairman pointed out that should the proposals from the 19 Members for setting up three policy subcommittees under HC be endorsed at this meeting, whether and when those three policy subcommittees could commence work would be subject to the decision to be made by HC by the end of November 2020.

- At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr WU Chi-wai, on behalf of 42. the 19 Members, briefed Members on the proposals for setting up three policy subcommittees under HC to respectively study the following epidemic-related issues: (a) anti-epidemic matters; (b) issues relating to unemployment assistance; and (c) issues relating to supporting micro. small and medium-sized enterprises, the details of which were set out in He said that against the background of the Hong Kong economy hard hit by the epidemic, the issues to be studied by the three proposed policy subcommittees should be of common interest to Members of various political parties and groupings. Mr WU added that he was aware that the Chairman had previously asked the 19 Members to consider submitting the proposals to the relevant Panels for consideration. However, they had taken the view that the issues to be studied by the three proposed policy subcommittees would straddle a number of policy areas. More importantly, those issues were related to livelihood issues and were of an urgent nature, and therefore, they would like to seek HC's endorsement for the proposals so that the three policy subcommittees could commence work as soon as possible.
- 43. Mr CHAN Hak-kan said that while he did not oppose the proposals from the 19 Members, he noticed that some Members of the pro-establishment camp had previously submitted proposals for setting up policy subcommittees under Panels to study issues which were similar to those proposed by the 19 Members. Mr CHAN considered it unfair if the three policy subcommittees proposed by the 19 Members could be given priority to commence work once endorsed by HC at this meeting. Instead, he considered it more appropriate for HC to wait until the relevant Panels to decide on the other proposals for setting up policy subcommittees, and then to decide on the order of activation of such subcommittees under the prevailing resource constraints.
- 44. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> expressed support for setting up the three proposed subcommittees under HC. He also considered it desirable for HC to accord priority for those three policy subcommittees to commence work. He recalled that at the HC meeting on 16 October 2020, Members had been invited to accord priority for the Joint Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways and the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project to commence work. He wondered whether priority could be accorded to those three proposed subcommittees at this meeting.

- 45. <u>Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok</u> said that while the proposal of setting up the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project had been endorsed by the Panel on Development, the Panel on Home Affairs had not yet endorsed the proposal. However, it was his understanding that even if both Panels agreed to set up the said Joint Subcommittee, whether and when it could commence work was subject to HC's decision on the allocation of resources to the servicing of various committees at a later meeting.
- 46. The Chairman clarified that having regard to Members' diverse views expressed at the HC meeting on 16 October 2020, no policy subcommittees had been given priority for commencing work. She reiterated that Members would be invited to further consider how the Secretariat's resources should be allocated to the servicing of policy subcommittees, ICs and SCs at a HC meeting expected to be held by the end of November 2020. In other words, even if the proposals from the 19 Members were endorsed by HC at this meeting, whether and when those three policy subcommittees could commence work would be subject to HCs' decision on the aforesaid matters to be made by the end of November 2020.
- 47. <u>Dr CHENG Chung-tai</u> considered it reasonable for the HC Chairman to make the aforesaid arrangements for the activation of policy subcommittees. In his view, the end of November would be a good timing not just because the relevant Panels would have made their decisions on the proposals for setting up policy subcommittees. More importantly, Members would have a better idea about the policy initiatives to be introduced in CE's Policy Address which was expected to be presented by that time.
- 48. Mr WU Chi-wai and Dr Fernando CHEUNG considered it acceptable for the HC Chairman to make the aforesaid arrangements for the activation of policy subcommittees. Nevertheless, they took the view that the proposals from the 19 Members should not be referred to Panels for consideration as the issues to be studied by the three proposed policy subcommittees were cross-bureaux in nature and issues of concern to all Members. Mr WU and Dr CHEUNG reiterated that HC should endorse the proposals at this meeting.

49. The Chairman concluded that as no Members had raised objection, HC's endorsement would be given to the proposals for setting up three policy subcommittees under HC to respectively follow up/study the following issues (a) anti-epidemic matters; (b) issues relating to unemployment assistance; and (c) issues relating to supporting micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. The Chairman reiterated that whether and if so, when the above three policy subcommittees could commence work was subject to HC's decision on resources allocation among various types of committees, which was expected to be made by the end of November 2020.

X. Any other business

50. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 3:25 pm.

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
5 November 2020