

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)429/20-21

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**Paper for the House Committee meeting
on 4 December 2020**

Vacancy in the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee

Purpose

This paper invites the House Committee ("HC") to endorse the recommendation that a Member be elected to fill a vacancy in the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee.

Background

2. The Disaster Relief Fund was established on 1 December 1993 by resolution of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") under the Public Finance Ordinance (Cap. 2) to provide a mechanism to enable the Government to act quickly to provide aid in relief of disasters that occur outside Hong Kong. The resolution provides, inter alia, for the appointment of the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee to advise the Financial Secretary on disbursements from the Fund. The terms of reference of the Advisory Committee are in **Appendix I**.

3. The Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee is chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration and comprises, among others, the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, the Secretary for Labour and Welfare, two Members of the Executive Council and two LegCo Members. The term of office of the LegCo Members nominated to serve on the Advisory Committee corresponds with that of the LegCo term. The Advisory Committee meets as and when required.

4. At its meeting on 14 October 2016, HC endorsed the procedure for the nomination and election of Members to serve on five advisory/governing bodies including the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee, the details of which are set out in **Appendix II**. Dr Hon Helena WONG and Hon Kenneth LAU were elected to serve on the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee at the HC meeting on 28 October 2016.

5. Pursuant to section 15(1)(a) of the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542), Helena WONG ceased to hold office as a member of LegCo upon her resignation on 1 December 2020. As a result, there is a need to elect a Member to fill the vacancy in the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee.

Recommendation

6. It is recommended that the election be conducted at the HC meeting to be held on 11 December 2020. In accordance with the procedure for the nomination and election agreed by HC on 14 October 2016, the election to fill the vacancy is by way of nominations made orally at the meeting of HC. If there is more than one nomination, an election by a poll will be conducted by way of using the Electronic Voting System.

Decision sought

7. Members are invited to endorse the recommendation in paragraph 6 above.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
2 December 2020

Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee

Terms of reference

1. To advise on the policy and practices regarding the disbursements from the Disaster Relief Fund for disaster relief outside the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.
2. To advise on the awards of grants of specified amounts from the Disaster Relief Fund to specified recipients.
3. To monitor the use of grants by the recipients of the disbursements from the Disaster Relief Fund.

**Procedure for the nomination and election of Members of the
Legislative Council to advisory/governing bodies
endorsed by the House Committee on 14 October 2016**

- (a) the nomination and election of Members for appointment to the five advisory/governing bodies¹ shall be conducted at a meeting of the House Committee ("HC"), the date of which shall be appointed by HC;
- (b) a valid nomination shall be made orally by a Member, seconded by at least one other Member who should not be the Member being nominated, and accepted by the Member being nominated. A Member who nominates a Member who is absent from the meeting when the nomination is made may only do so if the former states that the absent Member's acceptance of the nomination has been secured;
- (c) if the number of nominations exceeds that required for appointment, a poll shall be taken at the HC meeting at which the election is conducted; and Members shall cast their votes by using the Electronic Voting System. A Member may vote for as many nominees as, but not more than, the number required for appointment. If a Member has voted for the number of nominees which exceeds the number required for appointment, all the vote(s) which the Member has cast will not be counted. The nominees who get the highest numbers of votes will be declared elected;
- (d) in cases where a nominee would have been elected but for there being one or more other nominees having been given the same number of votes, a separate poll shall be taken in respect of that nominee and such other nominee(s) in accordance with the manner of election provided in paragraph (c) above; and
- (e) if, after a separate poll is held under paragraph (d) above, there is still a nominee who would have been elected but for there being one or more other nominees having been given the same number of votes, lots shall be drawn by the Chairman of HC among such nominees to determine which of them will take up the remaining place/places.

¹ The five advisory/governing bodies are as follows: (a) Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee; (b) Po Leung Kuk Advisory Board; (c) Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Advisory Board; (d) Council of The Chinese University of Hong Kong; and (e) Court of the University of Hong Kong.