

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(1)785/20-21

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**Panel on Commerce and Industry**

**Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Stimulation of  
Hong Kong's Economy**

**Minutes of meeting  
on Friday, 29 January 2021, at 10:45 am  
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, GBS, JP  
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP  
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan  
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP  
Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP

**Member absent** : Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP

**Public officers  
attending** : Agenda item III

Commerce and Economic Development Bureau

Dr Bernard CHAN, JP  
Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic  
Development

Miss Wendy CHUNG  
Deputy Commissioner for Tourism

Food and Health Bureau

Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP  
Under Secretary for Food and Health

Innovation and Technology Bureau

Dr David CHUNG, JP  
Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology

Mr Tony WONG, JP  
Deputy Government Chief Information Officer

**Clerk in attendance :** Mr Boris LAM  
Chief Council Secretary (1)3

**Staff in attendance :** Ms Connie HO  
Senior Council Secretary (1)3

Mr Terence LAM  
Council Secretary (1)3

Miss Zoe YIP  
Clerical Assistant (1)3

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Action

- I. Application for late membership**  
(LC Paper No. CB(1)486/20-21(01) -- Letter dated 19 January 2021  
from Hon CHAN Chun-ying)

The Chairman invited members to consider the application for late membership submitted by Mr CHAN Chun-ying. He drew members' attention to rule 23(c) of the House Rules that it was for the relevant committee to decide whether to accept an application for late membership other than on the ground of absence from Hong Kong or indisposition during the time when membership was invited.

2. As no members present at the meeting indicated objection to Mr CHAN's application, the Chairman declared that the application was accepted by the Subcommittee.

## **II. Date of next meeting and item for discussion**

3. Members noted that the next meeting would be held on Friday, 26 February 2021 at 10:45 am to discuss the item on "Riding on the development opportunities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to actively take part in the 'domestic circulation' to promote the local economy" on the suggestion of the Administration.

## **III. Reviewing Government's anti-epidemic measures to facilitate the revival of the local economy, including application of technologies**

(LC Paper No. CB(1)489/20-21(01) -- Administration's paper on "Reviewing Government's anti-epidemic measures to facilitate the revival of the local economy, including application of technologies"

LC Paper No. CB(1)489/20-21(02) -- Paper on reviewing Government's anti-epidemic measures to facilitate the revival of the local economy, including application of technologies prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (information note)

### Relevant paper

RB01/20-21 -- Research Brief on "Challenges and economic impacts arising from Coronavirus Disease 2019" (Issue No. 1 in 2020-2021) prepared by the Research Office of the Legislative Council Secretariat)

4. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings in the **Appendix**).

*[At 12:22 pm, the Deputy Chairman took the chair in the absence of the Chairman.]*

### Follow-up actions by the Administration

5. The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the following proposals/requests put forth by members at the meeting –

- (a) given the availability of vaccines and the enhanced COVID-19 testing services, setting up an inter-departmental group within the Government to study the possibility of relaxing certain anti-epidemic measures based on prescribed conditions to help different industries resume businesses to stimulate local economic activities, and to revive the operation of some important industries (e.g. the aviation industry and the cross-boundary land transportation industry);
- (b) allocating \$100 billion of investment gain of the Exchange Fund managed by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority for (i) injecting into the Employment Support Scheme to help sustain the operation of businesses and establishment of an Unemployment Assistance Fund; and (ii) handing out consumption vouchers to the public to stimulate local consumption;
- (c) handing out consumption vouchers to members of the public by way of providing rebate to relevant businesses to boost the economy and help fuel the recovery of businesses;
- (d) further enhancing the SME Financing Guarantee Scheme ("SFGS") by (i) extending the provision of interest subsidy and principal moratorium for guaranteed loans beyond April 2021; and (ii) increasing the maximum loan amount of the new Special 100% Guarantee Product under SFGS from the total of employee wages and rents for 12 months to that for two years; and
- (e) taking immediate action to liaise with the catering industry to devise ways to help catering operators resume evening dine-in service before the Lunar New Year, the peak season of the industry, to help them tide over their financial difficulties.

*(Post-meeting note:*

- The response of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau in respect of item (d) was circulated to members on 17 February 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(1)578/20-21(02)).
- The response of the Labour and Welfare Bureau in respect of item (b)(i) was circulated to members on 18 February 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(1)580/20-21(01)).
- The responses of the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau in respect of items (b) and (c) were circulated to members on 1 and 3 March 2021 (LC Paper Nos. CB(1)585/20-21(01) and CB(1)641/20-21(01)).)

**IV. Any other business**

6. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:44 pm.

Council Business Division 1  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
13 April 2021

**Proceedings of the meeting of  
the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the  
Stimulation of Hong Kong's Economy  
on Friday, 29 January 2021, at 10:45 am  
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time Marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
<b>Agenda item I – Application for late membership</b>			
000345 – 000415	Chairman Mr CHAN Chun-ying	Discussion on Mr CHAN Chun-ying's application for late membership.	
<b>Agenda item II –Date of next meeting and item for discussion</b>			
000416 – 000444	Chairman	The Chairman informed members of the date of the next meeting and the item to be discussed at the meeting.	
<b>Agenda item III – Reviewing Government's anti-epidemic measures to facilitate the revival of the local economy, including application of technologies</b>			
000445 – 001715	Chairman Administration	Remarks by the Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development ("USCED"), Under Secretary for Food and Health ("USFH") and Under Secretary for Innovation and Technology ("USIT") on the work of the Government, including the application of technologies, in combating the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") and in engaging the relevant industries to prepare for re-opening of businesses.	
001716 – 002420	Chairman Mr Christopher CHEUNG Administration	<p>Mr Christopher CHEUNG considered that the revival of the local economy would premise on the successful containment of the COVID-19 epidemic. In this connection, Mr CHEUNG enquired about:</p> <p>(a) the implementation time frame of the COVID-19 vaccination programme ("the Programme"), and the priority groups to receive vaccinations;</p> <p>(b) referring to the results of a recent survey showing that a majority of members of the public were not willing to be among the first batch of persons to receive vaccinations, how the Administration would enhance the public's incentive for receiving inoculation; and</p> <p>(c) upon the implementation of the Programme, whether the Administration would consider</p> <p>(i) lifting certain restrictions under the social distancing measures, such as allowing re-opening of the scheduled premises under Cap. 599F; and</p> <p>(ii) liaising with the Mainland and overseas countries/places on the possibility of mutually</p>	

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		<p>waiving the compulsory quarantine arrangements for cross-border/boundary travellers who had received vaccinations. In carving out details of the Programme, Mr CHEUNG said that the Administration should not only take into consideration the advice of the expert advisors, but should also listen to and take heed of the public views and concerns.</p> <p>USFH replied that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the Government published the Prevention and Control of Disease (Use of Vaccines) Regulation (Cap. 599K) ("the Regulation") in the Gazette on 23 December 2020 to provide the legal framework under the present state of public health emergency to bring in COVID-19 vaccines which satisfied the criteria of safety, efficacy and quality for emergency use;</li> <li>(b) the Regulation empowered the Secretary for Food and Health ("SFH") to, among others, with reference to the expert advice of an independent advisory panel, authorize and allow the specified use of the relevant COVID-19 vaccines in Hong Kong under the emergency situation. The Government had set up the Advisory Panel on COVID-19 Vaccines, which provided expert advice on recommendation of authorization of the vaccines to the Government. On 25 January 2021, SFH authorized the COVID-19 vaccine (Comirnaty) by Fosun Pharma/BioNTech for emergency use in Hong Kong in accordance with the Regulation;</li> <li>(c) the priority groups to receive vaccination included (i) groups having higher risks of coming into contact with the COVID-19 virus (e.g. healthcare workers); (ii) groups having greater mortality rates upon contracting the disease (e.g. the elderly, chronic patients); and/or (iii) groups which might easily transmit the virus to the vulnerable or weak if infected (e.g. staff of residential care homes). The Administration was reviewing other target groups which might need to receive vaccination early due to their work nature or other needs;</li> <li>(d) members of the public would be vaccinated on a voluntary basis. The Administration was fully</li> </ul>	

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		<p>aware of the concerns of the public on the safety and efficacy of vaccines, and would provide first-hand and accurate information about the vaccines through various public channels to facilitate members of the public to make informed choices; and</p> <p>(e) the Administration would further discuss with the concerned trades on how to leverage on the benefits of the Programme, including the possibility of relaxing certain restrictions under the social distancing measures.</p>	
002421 – 003212	Chairman Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok Administration	<p>Given that the COVID-19 epidemic had lingered for more than a year, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok advised that the Administration should combat the epidemic and strive to resume economic activities in parallel. In this connection, Ir Dr LO urged the Administration to:</p> <p>(a) devise ways to proactively assist various industries that were hard-hit by the epidemic, including the beauty industry and the catering industry, to re-open and resume normal business operations as far as possible if the relevant operators agreed to implement more stringent anti-epidemic measures in their course of businesses; and</p> <p>(b) explore the possibility of resuming cross-boundary travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland as soon as possible to facilitate revival of business of various trades.</p> <p>USCED responded that:</p> <p>(a) there were signs of rebound of the local economy as reflected in the double-digit increase in the import and export statistics in December 2020; and</p> <p>(b) the Administration agreed that economic activities should gradually resume when the epidemic was brought under control with health risks in check.</p>	
003213 – 004224	Chairman Mr YIU Si-wing, Deputy Chairman Administration	<p>The Deputy Chairman criticized the Administration for being unable to effectively contain the COVID-19 epidemic after more than a year's time since its outbreak in early 2020. Mr YIU enquired about whether:</p>	



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		<p>(a) the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app could achieve its intend effectiveness in contact tracing;</p> <p>(b) the Administration could (i) devise any objective criteria for relaxing the social distancing measures; and (ii) consider allowing the tourism sector to resume local tourism activities if travel agents undertook to implement stringent anti-epidemic measures (e.g. requiring the relevant working staff and persons joining the tours to undergo a rapid COVID-19 viral test); and</p> <p>(c) personnel of important industries, such as pilots of the aviation industry and truck drivers of the cross-boundary transportation industry, would be accorded with priority to receive vaccinations; and whether these personnel could be exempted from compulsory quarantine arrangements if they had been vaccinated.</p> <p>The Administration advised that:</p> <p>(a) the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application was launched on 16 November 2020. Currently, its number of downloads had exceeded 450 000 and over 68 000 public and private venues had displayed the venue QR code for members of the public to scan and record their visits. The said mobile application could also be used directly in about 18 000 taxis across the territory. Meanwhile, enhancement to the application by using the Bluetooth Low Energy and artificial intelligence technology to facilitate the automatic recording of check-in data when an individual entered and left venues or vehicles without the need to scan QR codes was being studied. The Administration considered the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application an effective tool to facilitate the public to record their visit history in order to help combat the epidemic;</p> <p>(b) it encouraged various trades to strengthen anti-epidemic measures in their course of businesses, and agreed that economic activities should gradually resume on the premise that the epidemic situation was brought under control with health risks in check. The Administration would continue to listen to the views of the trades</p>	

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		<p>in this regard;</p> <p>(c) it would study the conditions for relaxing the restrictions imposed under various social distancing measures for different trades, having regard to the additional anti-epidemic measures that could be implemented by individual trades; and</p> <p>(d) on whether certain restrictions under the anti-epidemic measures could be relaxed, it would consider the matter in a holistic manner and not solely based on the factor of vaccination.</p>	
004225 – 005346	Chairman Mr CHAN Chun-ying Administration	<p>To pave way for the re-launch of the economy, Mr CHAN Chun-ying advised that the Administration should:</p> <p>(a) expeditiously review the scope of application of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) to ensure that relevant restrictions were genuinely necessary and would not impede normal social and business activities having a low risk of virus transmission; and</p> <p>(b) develop an electronic COVID-19 vaccination record system to help venue operators verify vaccination records when a person entered their venue/premises; and strike a balance between protection of personal privacy and public health in the course of resuming business activities with the application of technology.</p> <p>The Chairman pointed out that according to the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486), a person would be deemed to have waived his privacy right if he/she provided vaccination records to the concerned venue operator on his/her own volition in entering a premises.</p> <p>USIT and Deputy Government Chief Information Officer ("DGCIO") advised that:</p> <p>(a) the public could download both their COVID-19 electronic testing record and vaccination record from the COVID-19 Electronic Vaccination and Testing Record System in the form of a QR code upon verifying their identity through the "iAM Smart" mobile application; and</p>	

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		<p>(b) a mobile application was being developed for free download by users to help verify the authenticity of the QR code on the COVID-19 test records and vaccination records presented by another user on a consent basis. The application of this mobile application was under Government's consideration (e.g. to facilitate checking during compulsory testing).</p> <p>Noting that 25 000 closed contacts with COVID-19 cases had been identified by the TraceTogether programme of Singapore, Mr CHAN Chun-ying enquired how many closed contacts had been identified by the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application so far, which might reflect the effectiveness of this mobile application in contact tracing.</p> <p>USIT advised that:</p> <p>(a) the objective of "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application was to provide members of the public with a convenient digital tool for developing a habit of recording the time of visits to different venues and taxi rides during the epidemic; and</p> <p>(b) unlike similar mobile application in other countries, the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application would not need to have a large number of users in order to be effective. It would notify a user if he/she was identified to have visited the same venue that a confirmed patient had visited at about the same time or hired the same taxi that a confirmed patient had taken on the same day. Over 2 000 notifications had been issued to relevant users of the application so far. The Administration would continue to encourage the public to download the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application and promote the display of the QR code in more venues, as well as to clarify any misunderstandings of the public on the mobile application where necessary.</p>	
005347 – 010127	Chairman Mr MA Fung-kwok Administration	<p>Mr MA Fung-kwok declared that his company was an agent of one of the COVID-19 antigen rapid test kits.</p> <p>Mr MA urged the Administration to consider making reference to the Mainland's practice of putting in place a health code system to help members of the public</p>	

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		<p>resume a normal way of life amid the epidemic.</p> <p>USIT and DGCIO responded that:</p> <p>(a) the Electronic Testing Record System was launched in end 2020 to facilitate persons who had received the community testing services to download their personal electronic test records from a dedicated website (<a href="http://www.evt.gov.hk">www.evt.gov.hk</a>). This platform would also allow downloading of the COVID-19 vaccination records; and</p> <p>(b) a mobile application was being developed for free download by users to help verify the authenticity of the QR code on the COVID-19 test records and vaccination records presented by another user on a consent basis. The application of this mobile application was under Government's consideration (e.g. to facilitate checking during compulsory testing).</p>	
010128 – 011202	Chairman Mr Jeffrey LAM Administration	<p>Given the hardship faced by various industries amid the prolonged epidemic, Mr Jeffrey LAM urged the Administration to consider:</p> <p>(a) reviewing the across-the-board arrangement for mandatory closure of all scheduled premises under Cap. 599F; and</p> <p>(b) continuing the implementation of the Employment Support Scheme ("ESS") to provide financial assistance to those industries that were really hard-hit by the epidemic.</p> <p>Mr Jeffrey LAM considered that the availability of vaccines could help effectively combat the epidemic and was conducive to re-launch of the local economy. In this connection, Mr LAM urged the Administration to:</p> <p>(a) ensure that the first batch of COVID-19 vaccines would be delivered to Hong Kong in February 2021 as pledged and the Programme could be launched as soon as possible; and</p> <p>(b) discuss with the Central Government the possibility of resuming cross-boundary travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland and waiving the compulsory quarantine arrangements for Hong Kong people in the Mainland if they had</p>	

Time Marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
		<p>been vaccinated;</p> <p>USFH responded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the first one million doses of COVID-19 vaccine (Comirnaty) by Fosun Pharma/BioNTech had been scheduled to deliver in end February 2021. The Administration would follow up closely with the supplier concerned to ensure that the vaccines would be delivered as scheduled;</li> <li>(b) a dedicated task force had been set up to coordinate the implementation of the Programme. The Government planned to set up one Community Vaccination Centre in each of the 18 districts to provide vaccination services to the public; and</li> <li>(c) whether to resume cross-boundary/border travel with the Mainland and other countries/cities after implementation of the Programme required consideration of a basket of factors in a holistic manner, and vaccination was only among one of the factors to be taken into account.</li> </ul>	
011203 – 012211	Chairman Mr SHIU Ka-fai Administration	<p>Mr SHIU Ka-fai's views:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) given the low utilization rate of the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application, the Administration should consider mandating the use of this mobile application by the public to achieve its intended effectiveness in contact tracing;</li> <li>(b) the Administration should consider (i) launching the third phase of ESS to help those trades that were genuinely hard-hit by the epidemic in a more targeted manner; and (ii) setting up an Unemployment Assistance Fund to provide short-term financial assistance to those who had become unemployed due to the prolonged epidemic; and</li> <li>(c) the Administration should consider allowing certain scheduled premises under Cap. 599F, such as beauty parlours, to re-open and resume provision of low-risk services, and discuss with the relevant trades on the conditions for resuming business.</li> </ul> <p>USFH responded that the Administration would review</p>	

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		the arrangements in relation to mandatory closure of the 13 types of scheduled premises under Cap. 599F, and adopt a more refined approach on the arrangements, having regard to the additional anti-epidemic measures that could be implemented by the relevant trades.	
012212 – 013053	Chairman Mr YIU Si-wing, Deputy Chairman Administration	<p>The Deputy Chairman expressed the following views and suggestions:</p> <p>(a) given the availability of vaccines and the enhanced COVID-19 testing services, the Administration should consider setting up an inter-departmental group within the Government to study the possibility of relaxing certain anti-epidemic measures based on prescribed conditions to help different industries resume businesses to stimulate local economic activities, and to revive the operation of some important industries (e.g. the aviation industry and the cross-boundary land transportation industry); and</p> <p>(b) noting that domestic cruise travel had gradually resumed in nearby regions such as Taiwan, Singapore and Japan, the Administration should consider re-launching cruise travel in Hong Kong together with local tour services if the latter was allowed to be resumed when the epidemic situation stabilized, taking in view that passenger cruises had adopted a very stringent standard of anti-epidemic measures.</p> <p>The Administration advised that:</p> <p>(a) various short-, medium- and long-term measures had been rolled out to assist businesses to tide over difficulties amid the epidemic. The Administration would continue to engage various trades to prepare for resumption of economic activities, having regard to the enhanced health precautionary measures that could be put in place by the relevant operators. The Administration would continue to explore with the cruise trade on the feasibility of resuming cruise travel when the epidemic situation subsided further, with implementation of effective anti-epidemic and social distancing measures;</p> <p>(b) given that the efficacy of vaccine was not 100% and its protection for the community would be</p>	The Administration to take follow-up action as required in paragraph 5(a) of the minutes.

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		<p>affected by the inoculation rate, the role of vaccine in the entire anti-epidemic strategy would require further studies; and</p> <p>(c) the COVID-19 antigen rapid test now widely available in the market had the limitation that it might not be able to identify infected persons with a low viral load.</p>	
013054 – 013746	Chairman Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok Administration	<p>Expressing grave concern over the financial hardship encountered by employees of small and medium enterprises ("SMEs") and micro-enterprises that were hard-hit by the epidemic, including restaurants and beauty parlours, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok strongly urged the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau ("CEDB") to take immediate and concrete action to assist those affected trades to resume normal business operation before the Lunar New Year as far as possible, on the premise that the relevant operators agreed to put in place more stringent anti-epidemic measures.</p> <p>USCED advised that:</p> <p>(a) the Administration would continue to make cross-departmental efforts in combating epidemic on one hand while balancing the need to facilitate revival of the local economy on the other; and</p> <p>(b) on tourism industry, with the financial support provided to the industry in the first three rounds of the Anti-epidemic Fund ("AEF"), as well as the other helping measures including the Travel Agents Incentive Scheme and the Green Lifestyle Local Tour Incentive Scheme rolled out earlier, the cumulative commitment of the Government support to the industry amounted to some \$2.6 billion in total. Leveraging on enhanced testing capacity and tracing ability, the Administration was considering introducing more stringent testing and tracing requirements which, together with self-discipline and cooperation of the tourism trade and the community, would enable the gradual resumption of tourism activities when the epidemic situation stabilized.</p>	
013747 – 014134	Chairman Deputy Chairman Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan	<p>Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan urged the Administration to:</p> <p>(a) consider allowing the scheduled premises under Cap. 599F to re-open for business and the</p>	The Administration to take follow-up

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	Administration	<p>catering premises to resume the provision of evening dine-in services before the Lunar New Year; and</p> <p>(b) if the above arrangement at (a) was not feasible, consider allocating \$100 billion of investment gain of the Exchange Fund managed by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority for (i) injecting into the ESS Scheme to help sustain the operation of businesses and establishment of an Unemployment Assistance Fund; and (ii) handing out consumption vouchers to the public to stimulate local consumption.</p> <p>USCED responded that the Administration had been engaging relevant trades in formulating further support measures for SMEs to help them tide over their financial difficulties amid the epidemic. He undertook to convey Mr CHUNG's suggestion at (b) above to the Financial Services and Treasury Bureau ("FSTB") for consideration.</p>	<p>action as required in paragraph 5(b) of the minutes.</p>
014135 – 014825	Deputy Chairman Mr MA Fung-kwok Administration	<p>Mr MA Fung-kwok expressed disappointment over the work of the Government on epidemic control, and pointed out the financial hardship faced by the film and publication industries, the practitioners of which were mostly self-employed persons who could not benefit from ESS and other support measures under AEF. Mr MA urged the Administration to:</p> <p>(a) provide immediate financial assistance to small and medium sized publishers to sustain their operations by disbursing to them the \$40 million fund designated for holding the annual Book Fair, which had been deferred to July 2021 due to the epidemic; and</p> <p>(b) review the effectiveness of the Film Development Fund ("FDF") in assisting the film trade amid the epidemic.</p> <p>USCED responded that the Administration had:</p> <p>(a) enhanced support for SMEs, including publishing companies, to make better use of technologies and online platforms to promote their brands and products; and</p> <p>(b) earmarked around \$260 million under FDF to implement five major measures to increase the</p>	



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		<p>number of local film productions, nurture young directors and scriptwriting talents as well as enhance professional training, so as to help add values to the trade in a holistic manner. The Administration received positive response from the film sector after the launch of the said measures.</p>	
014826 – 015252	Deputy Chairman Mr CHAN Chun-ying Administration	<p>Mr CHAN Chun-ying's suggestions:</p> <p>(a) making reference to the success of the Hangzhou Municipal Government in stimulating local consumption by distributing electronic consumption vouchers, the Administration to consider handing out consumption vouchers to members of the public by way of providing rebate to relevant businesses to boost the economy and help fuel the recovery of businesses; and</p> <p>(b) the Administration to consider enhancing the SME Financing Guarantee Scheme ("SFGS") by (i) extending the provision of interest subsidy and principal moratorium for guaranteed loans beyond April 2021; and (ii) increasing the maximum loan amount of the new Special 100% Guarantee Product under SFGS from the total of employee wages and rents for 12 months to that for two years.</p> <p>USCED responded that the Administration was considering the implementation of further measures to support SMEs. He undertook to convey Mr CHAN's suggestion at (a) above to FSTB for consideration.</p>	The Administration to take follow-up action as required in paragraphs 5(c) and (d) of the minutes.
015253 – 015756	Deputy Chairman Mr SHIU Ka-fai Administration	<p>Mr SHIU Ka-fai echoed Mr CHUNG Kwok-pan's views that the Administration should consider launching the third phase of ESS; setting up an Unemployment Assistance Fund; and handing out consumption vouchers to the public to stimulate local consumption. He suggested that each eligible person be provided with consumption vouchers in the total value of \$5,000 (\$500 per week).</p> <p>Mr SHIU reiterated his request for the Administration to consider allowing certain scheduled premises under Cap. 599F to re-open for business. USFH undertook to follow up on his request.</p>	

<b>Time Marker</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
015757 – 020203	Deputy Chairman Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok Administration	<p>Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok reiterated his request for the Administration to take concrete action to help concerned industries re-open and resume business operations as soon as possible.</p> <p>Ir Dr LO particularly urged the Administration to take immediate action to liaise with the catering industry to devise ways to help catering operators resume evening dine-in service before the Lunar New Year, the peak season of the industry, to help them tide over their financial difficulties.</p> <p>USCED advised that CEDB and other relevant policy bureaux should continue to have direct communication with various trades to explore ways to enhance Government's support to them on various fronts.</p>	The Administration to take follow-up action as required in paragraph 5(e) of the minutes.
<b>Agenda item IV – Any other business</b>			
020204 – 020303	Deputy Chairman	Closing remarks.	