

Minutes of 112th Meeting of Environmental Campaign Committee

Date : 2 March 2009 (Monday)

Time : 2:00 pm

Venue : Conference Room, 33/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Hong Kong

Present

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| Mr. Joseph LEE, SBS, JP | (Chairman) |
| Ms Elizabeth LAW, MH | (Vice-Chairman) |
| Dr. LAW Chi-kwong, SBS, JP | |
| Dr. LEUNG Man-fuk, Edward | |
| Mr. LUI Tung-ming, MH | |
| Dr. NG Cho-nam, BBS | |
| Ms NG Chui-yiu, Jennifer | |
| Mr. NG Ping-kin, Arkin | |
| Ms WONG Pik-kiu, Peggy, MH | |
| Professor WONG Woon-chung, Jonathan | |
| Mr. Benny WONG, JP | Environmental Protection Department (EPD) |
| Ms Betty CHEUNG | EPD |
| Ms Alissa WONG | Education Bureau (EDB) |
| Dr. Tina MOK | Department of Health |
| Ms Connie TSANG | Information Services Department (ISD) |
| Ms Maria LAU | Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) |
| Mr. Francis WONG | EPD (Secretary) |

In attendance

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| Ms Miranda YIP | EPD |
| Mr. Kendrew CHAN | EPD |
| Miss Brenda LAM | EPD |
| Mr. Roger LEUNG | EPD |
| Miss Carrie WONG | EPD |

Absent with apologies

Mr. LEUNG Che-cheung, MH, JP
Mr. LEUNG Man-tao, Manuel
Mr. MA Ching-hang, Patrick
Mr. NG Sau-kei, Wilfred, MH, JP
Mr. TAM Siu-ping, George
Ms WONG Suet-ying

I. Vote of Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all Members to the meeting. He also welcomed Ms Connie TSANG, who replaced Mrs. Angela WONG as the representative from the ISD in the ECC.

2. The Chairman informed Members that Dr. Eric TSANG had retired from the ECC with effect from 1 January 2009 and thanked Dr. TSANG for his contribution to the ECC during his tenure.

II. Confirmation of Minutes of the Last Meeting

3. The minutes of the 111th Meeting held on 26 November 2008 were confirmed without amendments.

III. Progress Report of the Working Groups

(a) Awards Committee on the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (ACHKAEE)

4. Ms Miranda YIP briefed Members on the work progress of the ACHKAEE as reported in the ECC Paper No. 16/08-09. She informed Members that the final adjudication of the 2008 HKAEE Sectoral Awards was completed in December 2008, and awards would be presented to the winners in the 2008 HKAEE Awards Presentation Ceremony cum 2009 HKAEE Launching Ceremony to be held on 27 March 2009. As for the Environmental Labels, the number of applications was approaching 2,000, which well exceeded the original target of 1,700. Ms YIP further briefed Members about the review results of the 2008 HKAEE and the proposed framework of the 2009 HKAEE.

(b) Education Working Group (EWG)

5. Ms Miranda YIP briefed Members on the work progress of the EWG as outlined in the ECC Paper No. 17/08-09. Members noted that the EWG generally agreed to forge a partnership between the Hong Kong Green School Award and the HKAEE Sectoral Awards Scheme which would be extended to the Schools Sector.

(c) Environmental Education & Community Action Projects Vetting Sub-committee (EE&CAPVSC)

6. Ms Elizabeth LAW briefed Members on the work progress of the EE&CAPVSC as outlined in the ECC Paper No. 18/08-09. Members noted that honoraria for speakers who were staff of the applicant organizations or the co-organizers would normally not be supported.

(d) Publicity Working Group (PWG)

7. Ms Miranda YIP briefed Members on the work progress of the PWG as outlined in the ECC Paper No. 19/08-09. She updated Members on the latest position of the Promotion Programme on Source Separation of Waste (PPSSW). As at 9 February 2009, the ECC Secretariat had received about 94 applications for 180 sets of plastic waste separation bins and 30 sets of metal waste separation bins from residential, commercial and industrial buildings.

IV. Proposed Budget of ECC Environmental Programmes for Financial Year (FY) 2009/2010

8. Ms Miranda YIP took Members through the proposed budget of the ECC environmental programmes for FY2009/2010 as outlined in the ECC Paper No. 20/08-09. Members had some discussions on the following budget items, amongst others, proposed for FY2009/2010:

(i) World Environment Day (WED) 2009

9. It was generally agreed that carnivals and ceremonial events were not preferable due to the generation of excessive waste and the lack of long-lasting educational impact to the public. The proposal of publishing a comic book with the theme of “Low Carbon Living” was supported to echo the calling of the WED 2009 to combat climate change. Widespread publicity would be launched to publicize the comic book, and the press might be engaged in this regard.

(ii) Promotion Programme on Source Separation of Waste (PPSSW)

10. In response to some members’ concern on the difficulties of promoting the new waste separation bins or even source separation of waste to the villa-type domestic housing in the rural areas, Mr. Francis WONG said that as agreed by members via circulation of paper before, the ECC Secretariat would allocate new waste separation bins to the designated recyclables collection points which were set up at public places, including those in the rural areas, and managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. Mr. Benny WONG, JP supplemented that the Administration had been implementing various measures to facilitate separation and recycling of waste, such as the compilation of a

contact list of recyclers and the funding schemes under the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) for supporting the installation of waste separation facilities on floor basis at buildings.

(iii) HKAEE

11. As reported in the ECC Paper No. 16/08-09, the scope of the HKAEE would be substantially enhanced in 2009. Members noted that such enhanced scope was assumed for the 2010 HKAEE for budgetary purpose. In particular, the budget earmarked for consultancy services in 2010 was based on the consultancy fee proposed by the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC), i.e. the consultant for 2009 HKAEE which was still under the negotiation between the ECC Secretariat and the HKPC.

12. A member agreed to enhance the publicity for the 2009 HKAEE and considered the budget proposed for publicity as reasonable, but he opined that the budget earmarked for the consultancy services to be provided by the HKPC was on the high side. He suggested that more detailed cost breakdown should be provided. A member shared his views and added that it was worthy to consider charging the applicants for Environmental Labels a nominal fee as their business would benefit from the Labels indeed. A member also commented that the ECC's financial commitment to the HKAEE should be monitored as more and more applications were envisaged in future when the HKAEE gained popularity.

13. As for the hire of consultancy services, a member proposed and a member agreed that tenders should be openly invited to select the most competitive proposal. To sustain the prestigious status of the HKAEE, a member suggested the HKPC formulate mid-term and long-term marketing strategies to promote the scheme.

14. Mr. Benny WONG, JP appreciated Members' comments. He added that their comments would be taken on board in the negotiation with the HKPC. Ms Betty CHEUNG supplemented that as the technical details of the enhanced framework of the HKAEE were still being developed, the proposed budget could be regarded as a ceiling, and the Secretariat would critically review the budget submitted by the HKPC to ensure proper use of resources.

15. The Chairman thanked Members for their views and concluded that in consideration of its important role in mobilizing the business sector to go green, the HKAEE warranted allocation of resources which were required with justifications. Ms Betty CHEUNG responded that the winners of the HKAEE would be seen as role models in environmental protection which would help their counterparts to excel in this aspect, thereby creating a multiplying green effect

amongst the society.

(iv) Manpower

16. Members agreed to strengthen the manpower of the Secretariat by appointing 2 Administrative Assistants, 12 Project Officers, and 4 additional Project Coordinators to support the ECC programmes and monitor the approved EE&CA Projects in FY2009/2010. They considered the manpower cost at \$7.13 million which just accounted for about 10% of the proposed total budget of the ECC programmes as well as the estimated total budget of newly approved EE&CA Projects (around \$50 million) in FY2009/2010 as reasonable.

17. After discussion, Members endorsed the proposed budget of the ECC for FY2009/2010 at \$34.67 million. The proposed budget would be further submitted to the ECF Committee meeting to be held on 19 March 2009 for approval.

[Post-meeting notes: The budget for the 2010 HKAEF (covering consultancy fee, publicity and event management) was subsequently reduced from \$15.65 million to \$11.65 million and the overall proposed budget of the ECC for FY2009/2010 became \$30.67 million. The ECF Committee endorsed such revised budget of the ECC at its meeting held on 19 March 2009.]

V. Any Other Business

18. There was no other business.

VI. Date of Next Meeting

19. The next ECC meeting would be held in June 2009. Members would be informed of the date and venue in due course.

20. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.