

Minutes of 126th Meeting of Environmental Campaign Committee

Date : 17 January 2012 (Tuesday)

Time : 4:00 pm

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

Present

Professor LUNG Ping-ye, David, SBS, JP (Chairman)

Professor WONG Woon-chung, Jonathan, MH (Vice-Chairman)

Mr. CHAN Wing-hong, Cary

Mr. HUI Yung-chung, BBS, JP

Mr. MA Ching-hang, Patrick, BBS, JP

Dr. MA Hok-ka, Carol

Dr. NG Cho-nam, BBS, JP

Ms NG Chui-yiu, Jennifer

Professor SHEN Xu-hui, Simon

Dr. TANG Shuk-ming, Winnie, JP

Ms Bernadette TSUI

Dr. YU Yuen-ping, William

Mr. Benny WONG, JP

Dr. WONG Pik-wa, Carrie

Miss Eunice CHAN

Environmental Protection Department (EPD)

Department of Health

EPD (Secretary)

In attendance

Dr. Lawrence WONG

EPD

Ms Emily LI

EPD

Ms Wynne LAM

EPD

Miss Brenda LAM

EPD

Mr. CHEUNG Ka-yu

EPD

Absent with apologies

Mr. LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth, MH, JP

Dr. LEUNG Man-fuk, Edward

Dr. Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Mr. WONG Mau-chung, Max

Ms WONG Sau-ying

Dr. YIP Chee-hang, Eric

Miss CHENG Sin-ting, Kirsty

Dr. CHEUNG Wing-hung

Mr. WONG Pak-ho

Information Services Department

Education Bureau

Home Affairs Bureau

Vote of Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Dr. Lawrence WONG, Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction & EcoPark), and Members for attending this special meeting to discuss the proposed community participation programme in collaboration with District Councils (DCs). The Chairman also informed Members that Dr. Lawrence WONG would make a presentation on the proposal.

I. Community Participation Programme in collaboration with District Councils (ECC Paper No. 01/2012)

2. Miss Eunice CHAN briefed Members on the background and the proposal as outlined in the ECC Paper No. 01/2012. Dr. Lawrence WONG, Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction and EcoPark) of EPD, further briefed Members with respect to EPD's initiatives to promote waste reduction and recycling.

3. A member supported the proposed collaboration programme which would focus on district level engagement and suitable programmes to cater for different situation of individual districts. She suggested a few ways to further enhance the promotional effect of the programme including (1) a suitable Chinese translation of the annual theme to attract the attention of the general public; (2) a theme music for the Mobile Community Recycling Booths to attract residents to use the facility; and (3) schedule of the Mobile Community Recycling Booths could be circulated to districts and residential estates in advance for better publicity.

4. A member suggested that duplication of activities should be avoided among different districts and all the promotional materials should be made available on the internet platform. In response to Members' enquiries concerning the mechanism on allocation of funding to DCs and the selection of NGOs in co-organising the activities programmes, Mr. Benny WONG said that as the funding to DC would be sourced from EPD's own budget rather than from ECF, the standing mechanism adopted by DCs in allocating funds for district activities would be followed and such was distinct from the mechanism of ECF. Mr. WONG elaborated that ECC, with a wealth of experience in various environmental programmes, could contribute to the proposed collaboration programme by advising on the annual theme and hosting the annual summit to consolidate the experience gained from the district initiatives. ECC Members were welcome to share experience and insight with DCs in programme planning and formulation.

5. In response to a member's enquiry on the key objectives of the collaboration

programme and the impact to be achieved, Mr. Benny WONG said that the programme aimed to mobilizing and engaging DCs to support the environmental protection action programmes which might not be one of the work focus in some districts. A member agreed and said that the two major objectives of the collaboration programme should be the in-depth promotion of waste reduction and a territory-wide involvement in waste management.

6. Members supported the programme as it would put across the message of environmental protection to the district level. A member opined that a self-checking funding allocation mechanism within DCs could give autonomy to DCs and impart sense of ownership. A member expressed that DCs were essential partners to engage and their potential influence in deepening community involvement in environmental protection should not be underestimated. A member agreed with them that DCs were important partners in promoting environmental protection at the community level. He believed that the annual theme would help to give a direction to DCs in planning the activities.

7. A member stressed that the programme should be action-oriented and therefore carnival type programmes should be avoided as far as possible. A member shared the same view and said that NGOs partners could help to provide advice and support in this regard. He also attached importance to programme sustainability for programmes such as district recycling point.

8. The Chairman thanked Members for their valuable comments and suggestions. Summing up Members' comments, he remarked that it would be essential to deepen the engagement at the community level for the work of environmental protection. As bodies responsible for district matters, DCs were interface through which Government might collect feedbacks on policy and initiatives. DCs were essential partners for undertaking environmental initiatives at community level. In this regard, the ECC welcomed the proposed community participation programme in collaboration with DCs. As for the district programmes, Members looked for action-based and sustained efforts and suggested that support should be provided for DCs in programme planning and implementation including technical advice, suggested list of programmes and potential NGO partners, etc. An annual theme would be useful to prevent the district programmes from being scattered efforts while DCs would devise specific activities that suit the situation of each district. The theme ***Go Green on Waste Management – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle*** would be adopted for this year. On how to gauge the outcome of the district programmes and impact achieved, the proposed Annual Summit would serve as a platform for experience sharing and consolidation among DCs, so that the district programmes might be refined for continued improvement in subsequent years.

II. Any Other Business

9. There being no other business.

III. Date of Next Meeting

10. The next ECC meeting had been scheduled for 21 February 2012 (Tuesday) at 2:30 p.m. Members would be informed of the details in due course.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

*ECC Secretariat
January 2012*