

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Date : 15 September 2003
Time : 3.00 pm

Chairman : Mr Donald TSANG, Chief Secretary for Administration

Vice-chairman : Dr Edgar CHENG

Members : Dr Lily CHIANG
Ms CHOY So-yuk
Ms Christine FANG
Mr Hans Michael JEBSEN
Mr Thomas KWOK
Professor LAM Kin-che
Mr Andrew LIAO
Ir Otto POON
Mr TAI Hay-lap
Mr TIK Chi-yuen
Professor TSUI Lap-chee

Official Members : Mr Michael SUEN, Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands
Dr E K YEOH, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Apologies : Mr Barrie COOK
Mr Stephen IP, Secretary for Economic Development and Labour
Dr Sarah LIAO, Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

In attendance : Mr Andrew WONG, Director of Administration (D of Adm)
Ms CHANG King-yiu, Deputy Director of Administration (DD of Adm)
Mr Augustine NG, Assistant Director of Planning (AD of Plan)
(for Agenda Item 5)
Ms Amy CHEUNG, Senior Town Planning Planner (for Agenda Item 5)

Secretary : Mr Jonathan McKINLEY, Assistant Director of Administration

Item 1 – Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting

The Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) would put a digest of the minutes online for public viewing. In future, the digest would be put online after Members had agreed to the draft minutes by circulation.

Item 2 – Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

Members noted that matters arising would be discussed under the relevant agenda items.

Item 3 – Report of the Strategy Sub-committee (Paper 09/03)

The Council noted the proposal of the Strategy Sub-committee (SSC) to hold a workshop to seek stakeholders' views on the proposed engagement process. The process would initially require government bureaux to select a number of priority areas, reflecting issues of concern to the wider community, for the Council's consideration. These would then be put to groups of stakeholders for discussion of how to ensure sustainable development in these areas.

The proposed process would provide a mechanism for regular review and revision of the strategy in the light of changing circumstances.

Members noted that participants at the workshop would be invited to consider all aspects of the engagement process, including the selection of priority areas and the role of stakeholders. The Council would act as a bridge between the community and the Government in identifying sustainable solutions and preparing the SD strategy. Members considered that it was important for the process to begin soon.

Item 4 – Report of the Education & Publicity Sub-committee (Paper 10/03)

Members noted that the Sustainable Development Fund had been launched on 6 September. A vetting committee had been set up to help the Education and Publicity Sub-committee (EPSC) screen applications to the Fund. The EPSC would hold a workshop on 27.9.2003 to introduce the application and assessment procedures to potential applicants. Details of related publicity initiatives were set out in Paper 10/03.

Item 5 – Briefing on the Planning Department’s study: “Hong Kong 2030: Planning Vision and Strategy” (Paper 11/03)

Planning Department representatives briefed Members on the background and progress of the study, “Hong Kong 2030: Planning Vision and Strategy”. This study took “sustainable development” as its overarching goal and placed emphasis on engaging the community in the planning process. The briefing clarified differences and points of common concern between the study and the formulation of a sustainable development strategy for Hong Kong.

Item 6 – Any Other Business

Members noted that Sir Crispin Tickell, the former Convenor of the British Government Panel on Sustainable Development, had been invited to the next Council Meeting.

A paper on overseas experience in assessing the sustainability implications of government policies had been circulated for Members’ reference.

Item 7 – Date of Next Meeting

The fourth meeting of the Council was scheduled for 16 December 2003.