

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Digest of Notes of meeting held on 14 June 2004

- Chairman** : Mr Donald TSANG, Chief Secretary for Administration
- Vice-chairman** : Dr Edgar CHENG
- Members** : Ms Christine FANG
Dr Lily CHIANG
Ms CHOY So-yuk
Mr Barrie COOK
Mr Michael JEBSEN
Mr Thomas KWOK
Professor LAM Kin-che
Mr TAI Hay-lap
Mr TIK Chi-yuen
Professor TSUI Lap-chee
- Official Members** : Mr Stephen IP, Secretary for Economic Development & Labour (SEDL)
Dr E K YEOH, Secretary for Health, Welfare & Food (SHWF)
- Apologies** : Mr Andrew LIAO
Ir Otto POON
Mr Michael SUEN, Secretary for Housing, Planning & Lands (SPHL)
Dr Sarah LIAO, Secretary for the Environment, Transport & Works (SETW)
- In attendance** : Ms CHANG King-yiu, Director of Administration (D of Admin)
Mrs Susan MAK, Deputy Director of Administration (DD of Admin)
Ms Bonnie YAU, Senior Administrative Officer (SD) 1
Miss Linda SO, Senior Administrative Officer (SD) 2
- Secretary** : Mr Jonathan McKINLEY, Assistant Director of Administration (SD) 2

Item 1 - Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

The Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) would monitor the implementation of projects supported by the Sustainable Development (SD) Fund and would liaise as necessary with relevant District Offices.

Item 2 – Report of the Education and Publicity Sub-committee (Paper 04/04)

Members noted that the EPSC had decided not to reconsider the application from Hong Kong People's Council for Sustainable Development to the SD Fund. The EPSC would slightly revise the procedures for processing the second round of applications to the Fund. The EPSC was considering an education and publicity strategy, with a view to enhancing public awareness of SD.

Members considered it important for the SD Fund to first establish itself as a process that could guarantee the proper utilisation of funds and deliver good quality projects. Based on the objective that the \$100 million SD Fund should last for ten years, \$10 million annually was originally earmarked for grants from the Fund. Nonetheless, some flexibility was justifiable in this first year of the Fund's operation, particularly in view of the enthusiastic response following the first call for applications. Members agreed that an additional \$5 million should be set aside from the SD Fund, making available a total of \$7.25 million for the second round of applications.

Item 3 – Report of the Strategy Sub-committee – Draft Invitation and Response Document (Paper 05/04)

Members noted that the Invitation and Response (IR) document was the product of a partnership between the Council, the Government representatives and the other stakeholders who participated in the Support Groups. The objective of the document was to put key questions to the public and involve them in the formulation of the SD strategy. The document had highlighted the general social, economic and environmental costs of different options. The community would decide whether they could afford the various options, having regard to the costs as well as their aspiration to improve the general quality of life.

Members agreed to endorse the draft IR document in principle, subject to any additional views that Members might forward to the SDU in a week's time. In planning for the launch of the next stage of the engagement process in July, due regard would be given to other events around the period.

Item 4 - Any other business

It was brought to Members' attention that a publication entitled "Sustainable Development in Hong Kong" had recently been published by the Hong Kong University Press, which featured a collection of articles on SD issues in Hong Kong.

Item 5 – Date of the Next Meeting

The sixth meeting of the Council was scheduled for 13 September 2004.

Council Secretariat
August 2004