

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Digest of Notes of meeting held on 16 December 2005

- Chairman** : Dr Edgar CHENG (Acting)
- Members** : Dr Lily CHIANG
Ms CHOY So-yuk
Ms Christine FANG
Mr Hans Michael JEBSEN
Mr Thomas KWOK
Mr Michael LAI
Professor LAM Kin-che
Mr Andrew LIAO
- Official Members** : Mr Stephen IP, Secretary for Economic Development & Labour (SEDL)
Dr Sarah LIAO, Secretary for the Environment, Transport & Works (SETW)
Mr Michael SUEN, Secretary for Housing, Planning & Lands (SHPL)
- Apologies** : Mr Rafael HUI, Chief Secretary for Administration
Mr Barrie COOK
Ir Otto POON
Mr TAI Hay-lap
Professor TSUI Lap-chee
Dr York CHOW, Secretary for Health, Welfare & Food (SHWF)
- In attendance** : Ms CHANG King-yiu, Director of Administration (D of Admin)
Mrs Susan MAK, Deputy Director of Administration (1)
Miss Linda SO, Senior Administrative Officer (SD) 2
- Secretary** : Mrs Vicki KWOK, Assistant Director of Administration (2)

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

Members noted that the minutes of last meeting had been confirmed by circulation and that a digest of proceedings had been posted on the SDU website.

Members noted that the SDU had reviewed the Susdev 21 findings and international practice in sustainability assessment, discussed with focus groups of Government users and sought initial views from some stakeholders. The Secretary outlined the initial findings. The SDU would commence formal consultation with experts and stakeholders.

Item 3 – Update on Education and Publicity Programmes and Initiatives (Paper 13/05)

Members agreed to advance the discussion on agenda item 3.

Members noted that there were 43 applications in the third round of SD Fund applications. Stakeholders were invited to be collaborators of the School Outreach Programme to enhance the Programme's creativity. The winning entries of the SD Publicity Materials Design Competition would be mass-produced as education and publicity materials.

The promotion of SD was a long-term initiative. The emphasis was to build up a critical mass of people who understand and were interested in SD. As SD would constitute a major element of the New Senior Secondary Liberal Studies Curriculum, the students and teachers might become more involved in the discussion of SD issues.

Members agreed on the importance of outreach programmes to further widen the stakeholder network and extend it to the district level. The EPSC could consider further partnership with community resources.

Item 2 – Way Forward for the Second Engagement Process of Sustainable Development Strategy (Paper 12/05)

Regarding the implementation of the First SD Strategy, Members noted that the Government had published the Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste. In formulating the new schemes of control for the post-2008 electricity market, the Government would ask for the use of RE. The Government was also working on various initiatives on the pilot area of urban living space.

The SSC put forward its recommendations on the two priority areas to be addressed in the second engagement process, which encompassed broad issues related to the air quality and population policy respectively.

Members noted that the Government was committed to a comprehensive action programme to address the air quality issue. The community's anxiety on the issue could have arisen from an information gap between the Government and the community. A Study Group would be set up to study the issues and map out the way forward, after which the Council might decide on the public engagement process on the issue. The Study Group would comprise Council members and Government representatives. Members agreed that more specific questions and choices should be put to the public.

The SSC was tasked to take forward the other priority area of Population Policy. The second engagement process on the priority area would adopt a bottom-up approach.

Item 4 – Any Other Business

There was no other business.

Council Secretariat
February 2006