

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Strategy Sub-committee

Digest of notes of meeting held on 22 September 2010

- Date** : 22 September 2010
Time : 2:30 p.m.
Venue : Room 822, West Wing, CGO
- Chairman** : Ms Christine Fang
- Members** : Mr Chan Siu-hung
Mr William Bruce Hicks
Mr Henry Ho
Prof Ho Kin-chung
Mr Victor Li
Dr Lo Wai-kwok
Prof Poon Chi-sun
Mr Sin Chung-kai
Ms Iris Tam
Dr Andrew Thomson
Dr Ray Yep
- Apologies** : Prof Lam Kin-che
Mrs Miranda Leung
- In attendance** : Miss Vivian Lau, Deputy Secretary for the Environment,
Environment Bureau (ENB)
Miss Mary Tsang, Assistant Director (Cross-Boundary &
International), Environmental Protection Department (EPD)
Dr Shermann Fong, Senior Environmental Protection Officer
(Cross Boundary & International), EPD
Mr Damian Chan, Assistant Secretary for the Environment
(Sustainable Development)1, ENB
Ms Elia Wong, Assistant Secretary for the Environment
(Sustainable Development)2, ENB

Mr Wang Yuen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer
(Sustainable Development), ENB

Miss Alice Liu, Senior Town Planner (Sustainable
Development), ENB

Ms Pennie Lai, Campaign Manager (Sustainable
Development), ENB

Ms Paulina Pun, Town Planner (Sustainable Development),
ENB

Miss Karen Lee, Executive Officer (Sustainable Development),
ENB

Secretary : Ms Jennifer Chan, Principal Assistant Secretary (Sustainable
Development), ENB

Item 1 – Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting (29 April 2010)

The draft minutes of the last meeting were circulated on 26 August 2010. As Members had no further comments, the minutes were confirmed. A non-attributable digest of the minutes would be posted on the website of the Sustainable Development Division for public information.

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

The meeting noted that the Secretariat had prepared a paper on the proposed public engagement on climate change for discussion under agenda item 3.

Regarding the comparison of the baselines of the Computer-aided Sustainability Evaluation Tool (CASET) indicators; and the practicality of adopting the same methodologies in working out the Environmental Performance Index for Hong Kong, a composite paper had been prepared for discussion under agenda item 4.

The meeting also noted that the Secretariat circulated to Members on 24 August 2010 the report entitled “Where We Are Now – A Review of Progress on Sustainable Development” published by the UK Sustainable Development Commission on 1 July 2009.

Item 3 – Public Engagement on Climate Change (Paper No. 04/10)

Members were briefed on Paper No. 04/10 which covered the current public consultation on climate change being conducted by the Government and proposals for the Council’s next public engagement on climate change.

The meeting noted that the Government had already taken into account the proposed Air Quality Objectives Review improvement measures that were relevant to reducing carbon emissions when working out the measures to

combat climate change. The associated benefits of the proposed climate change strategies and actions, though not quantitative, were set out in the consultation document to give the public a complete picture. The issue could be further discussed at the upcoming Council meeting where there would be a consultation session on climate change.

The meeting noted that the Council's upcoming public engagement would focus on the demand-side measures, particularly maximizing energy efficiency. The Council would strategically focus its efforts on an area that could achieve the most, which would be energy efficiency and conservation in buildings, as close to 90% of our city's electricity consumption was related to buildings. The public engagement would also look into the need of promoting/requiring energy-cum-carbon auditing and reporting for companies and organizations. The Council would engage specific user-groups to identify response strategies for themselves to mitigate their greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions. There would also be public education to raise public awareness of climate change and to promote a low carbon lifestyle.

The meeting agreed that the Council's public engagement would not be a part of the Government's public consultation on climate change, but would follow up on working out a series of response strategies on the demand-side management. The Council would also identify some user-groups and households for the education-plus programme, through which the Council could facilitate them in translating knowledge into physical actions.

The meeting agreed that the Council could provide a platform to different user-groups to identify a list of targets/barriers and to map out their response strategies on how they could contribute to the targets. The Secretariat would outline the content areas of the public engagement for the Council's consideration.

The meeting noted that a support/working group could be set up to work on the detailed content if necessary.

Item 4 – Further information on CASET baselines and international benchmarking on Hong Kong (Paper No. 05/10)

This discussion item would be deferred to the next meeting since the discussion on item 3 had overrun.

Item 5 – Any other business

There was no other business.

Item 6 – Date of next meeting

The Secretary would confirm the date of the next meeting nearer the time.

Secretariat
Council for Sustainable Development