

**COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGY SUB-COMMITTEE**

Paper 01/06

**Subsequent Stages of the Second Engagement Process**

**Purpose**

This paper outlines the decision of the Council for Sustainable Development (the Council) on the new Priority Areas and invites Members' views on the implementation of the subsequent stages of the second engagement process.

**Engagement Process**

2. The five-stage engagement process was as follows --
  - I. Identify Priority Areas
  - II. Prepare an "Invitation and Response" (IR) document
  - III. Directly involve the community
  - IV. Report back to the Government
  - V. The Government to act

*Identification of Priority Areas*

3. The second engagement process began with the public stakeholder forum on 28 July 2005 to invite views on new Priority Areas. Members considered the forum outcome, discussed with Government bureaux the appropriate scope of the new Priority Areas, and put forward the Sub-committee's recommendations to the Council for consideration.

4. At the meeting on 16 December 2005, the Council decided to take forward the Priority Areas of Clean Living Environment and Population Policy. To take forward the former, the Council has set up a Study Group under the chairmanship of the Council Vice-Chairman. The membership and terms of reference of this Study Group is at **Annex A**.

5. On the other hand, the Strategy Sub-committee (SSC) is tasked to plan and implement the engagement process on the Priority Area of Population Policy. A tentative timetable for the engagement process in 2006 is at **Annex B**.

6. Hence, Stage I of the engagement process has been concluded. Implementation of the subsequent stages of the engagement process on the Priority Area of Population Policy will be discussed in the ensuing paragraphs.

*Preparation of an “Invitation and Response” (IR) document*

7. In line with the practice adopted in the first engagement process, Members earlier agreed that a stakeholder-led *Support Group (SG)* should be established in Stage II of the engagement process to lead the preparation of the IR document and help plan the engagement process. Members may wish to offer views on the proposed composition and terms of reference of the SG at **Annex C**.

8. Members earlier noted the option of engaging dedicated *research support* to help SSC and SG to prepare the IR document. Notwithstanding, it is understood that there is already a wealth of research work available on population policy and related issues, and the need for further support in this area may not be strong.

9. Members may wish to note that the Committee on Social Development and Quality of Life of the *Commission on Strategic Development* is considering the strategic issues to be addressed in 2006, and population policy related issues are also on their palette. The SDU will keep in view the interface with the Commission at various stages of the engagement process, and work with the SG accordingly.

*Involving the wider community*

10. The public involvement stage is Stage III of the engagement process, which commences with the launch of the IR document and encompasses a series of engagement events and channels. In the last exercise, the Council engaged three *partner organisations*<sup>1</sup> to help implement the engagement programme and forge community ownership of the process. Members may wish to consider whether the same partner organizations, or other stakeholder groups<sup>2</sup> which also have an interest in SD issues, should be involved in the coming exercise.

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<sup>1</sup> Partner organisations for the first engagement process include: -- Business Environment Council, Hong Kong Council of Social Service, and Hong Kong People’s Council for SD.

<sup>2</sup> The Council also received support and advice from a number of other organisations in the last exercise, in particular: -- Friends of the Earth (Hong Kong), Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, and Hong Kong Institution of Engineers

11. Having reviewed the experience of the first engagement process, the Council earlier noted that future engagement exercises should achieve *wide outreach* aimed at different levels, and build upon the continued engagement of Hong Kong's youth population. To enhance the engagement at the district level, we have invited two District Council members through the Home Affairs Department to join the SG. Separately, the Council's Education and Publicity Sub-committee (EPSC) has also organised various publicity programmes to engage different sectors of the community, in particular the youth sector through the School Outreach Programme and the SD Publicity Materials Design Competition. A summary profile of the stakeholder network established by the first engagement process and other EPSC initiatives is at **Annex D**. Building upon the stakeholder network established so far, the SG will further consider the detailed arrangements of the public engagement events.

#### *Reporting back to the Government*

12. As regards Stage IV of the engagement process, Members earlier discussed and agreed to engage an *independent agency to prepare a parallel report* on the outcome of the engagement process. As the Council has now decided on the Priority Area for the coming engagement process, the SDU will follow up on this front.

13. As with the practice adopted in the first engagement process, the SDU will prepare *detailed reports on individual events* in Stage III and upload these reports to the SD Strategy website for public information.

#### **Views Sought**

14. Subject to Members' views on the above issues, the SDU and the SG will follow up on the subsequent stages of the second engagement process.

Council Secretariat  
January 2006

**Study Group on Clean Living Environment  
Membership and terms of reference**

Membership –

Chairman : Dr Edgar Cheng (Vice-Chairman, Council for SD)

Members : Dr Lily Chiang  
Mr Michael Jebsen  
Mr Michael Lai  
Professor Lam Kin-che  
Ir Otto Poon  
Representative from Environmental Protection Department  
Representative from Economic Development and Labour  
Bureau  
Representative from Transport Department

Terms of reference –

- (a) To study the current state of air quality in Hong Kong, the committed action programme and constraints encountered, in connection with associated contributing factors and policy areas, with a view to presenting a comprehensive picture on relevant issues.
- (b) To identify key issues relevant to Hong Kong's long-term sustainability, in particular the interface between other integrated contributing factors and the air quality.
- (c) To identify scope for a public engagement process to facilitate the community to contribute their views, including choices that have to be made by the community in order to achieve a clean living environment.
- (d) To identify possible areas that the Government, businesses, civil sector and every single member of the society may work on further to contribute to a clean living environment.

**Annex B**

**Tentative timetable for the second engagement process  
on Population Policy in 2006**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Jan – Mar  | Preparation of IR document                         |
| Apr – Aug  | Public Involvement Stage of the Engagement Process |
| Sept – Nov | Drafting of Council Report                         |
| Dec        | Publication of Council Report                      |

**Annex C**

**Support Group on Population Policy  
Proposed composition and terms of reference**

Proposed composition –

Convenor : Professor Wong Siu-lun (SSC Member)

Members : Mr Chua Hoi-wai (SSC Member)  
Academics or professionals on population related issues  
Representative(s) from the civil society, including District  
Council members  
Representative from Central Policy Unit  
Representative from Health, Welfare and Food Bureau  
Representative from Security Bureau  
Representative from Home Affairs Bureau

Terms of reference –

- (a) To identify key issues relevant to Hong Kong's long-term sustainability in the priority area, with appropriate reference to international experience and best practice.
- (b) To collect relevant background information (with reference to local and international experience) and compile an "Invitation and Response" document.
- (c) To design and implement the public involvement stage of the engagement process for public discussion of the "Invitation and Response" document and related issues.
- (d) To present the "Invitation and Response" document to the public and encourage and facilitate interactive discussion by stakeholders with a view to building consensus among major groups.
- (e) To receive and collate responses from stakeholders, with a view to making proposals to the Strategy Sub-committee and Council for Sustainable Development.

**Summary profile of stakeholder network**

| <b>Categories</b>  | <b>No.</b>   | <b>%</b>    |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| (A) <i>Business/Professional</i>                                 | 297          | 24%         |
| (B) <i>NGO (Environmental/SD)</i>                                | 69           | 6%          |
| (C) <i>NGO (Social)</i>  | 85           | 7%          |
| (D) <i>Government (including other advisory bodies)</i>          | 129          | 10%         |
| (E) <i>Academic</i>  | 86           | 7%          |
| (F) <i>Students/Youth (including teachers and principals)</i>    | 202          | 16%         |
| (G) <i>District Organisations (other than District Councils)</i> | 127          | 10%         |
| (H) <i>District Councils</i>                                     | 64           | 5%          |
| (I) <i>Individuals</i>   | 189          | 15%         |
| <b>TOTAL *</b>   | <b>1 248</b> | <b>100%</b> |

\* Apart from the above, there are also other stakeholders participating in the first engagement process who have not provided the Secretariat with their personal particulars. These include some 20,000 people who visited the roving exhibition and some 1,600 people who offered responses through the online discussion forum and leaflet questionnaires. In addition, the EPSC is conducting the fourth phase of the School Outreach Programme and will have reached out to 113 secondary schools and some 35,000 students in all districts of Hong Kong by the end of the current phase in May 2006.