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ACE Paper 5/2022
For information on 16 May 2022

**Enhancement of the Plastic Shopping Bag Charging Scheme and
the Plan on the Control of Single-use Plastics**

Background Note

PURPOSE

This paper provides background information on the “Enhancement of the Plastic Shopping Bag Charging Scheme and the Plan on the Control of Single-use Plastics” (*ACE Paper 4/2022*) prepared by the Environmental Protection Department for discussion at the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) meeting on 16 May 2022.

BACKGROUND

2. The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) conducted a public engagement from September to December 2021 on the control of single-use plastics to gauge the views of the public on the possible ways to gradually control non-essential and hard-to-recycle single-use plastic items. In April 2022, the SDC submitted a report with 24 recommendations in five key areas to the Government for consideration. The Government has put forward a work plan to follow up on the SDC’s recommendations, which included the enhancement of the Plastic Shopping Bag Charging Scheme and various control measures on hard-to-recycle and non-essential single-use plastic products.

3. The ACE had been consulted on the control of various single-use plastic products in the past and Members had provided valuable comments and suggestions at meetings. The relevant papers and minutes of the meetings are appended below for reference -

Brief description	Relevant papers and meeting minutes
The 13th ACE Waste Management Subcommittee Meeting held on 6 June 2007 to discuss the paper on “A Proposal on An Environmental Levy on Plastic Shopping Bags”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE-WM Paper 8/2007 ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 143rd ACE Meeting held on 11 June 2007 to discuss the paper on “A Proposal on An Environmental Levy on Plastic Shopping Bags”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE Paper 12/2007 ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 144th ACE Meeting held on 10 September 2007 to discuss the paper on “Public Consultation Report on the Proposal on An Environmental Levy on Plastic Shopping Bags”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE Paper 17/2007 ● ACE Paper 17/2007 (Annex) ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 157th ACE Meeting held on 15 December 2008 to discuss the paper on “Implementation Details of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags under the Proposed Product Eco-responsibility (Plastic Shopping Bags) Regulation”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE Paper 31/2008 ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 24th ACE Waste Management Subcommittee Meeting held on 27 November 2009 to discuss the paper on “The Environmental Levy Scheme for Plastic Shopping Bags – Related Statistics”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE-WM Paper 10/2009 ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 27th Waste Management Subcommittee Meeting held on 26 May 2010 to discuss the paper on “The Environmental Levy Scheme for Plastic Shopping Bags – Latest Levy Income”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE-WM Paper 2/2010 ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 29th ACE Waste Management Subcommittee Meeting held on 15 June 2011 to discuss the paper on “Public Consultation on the Extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE-WM Paper 1/2011 ● ACE-WM Paper 1/2011 (Annex) ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting

Brief description	Relevant papers and meeting minutes
The 180th ACE Meeting held on 19 September 2011 to discuss the paper on “Report of the Waste Management Subcommittee – Views on the Extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE Paper 13/2011 ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 30th ACE Waste Management Subcommittee Meeting held on 7 December 2011 to discuss the paper on “Extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE-WM Paper 2/2011 ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 244th ACE Meeting held on 8 March 2021 to discuss the paper on “Public Consultation on the Producer Responsibility Scheme on Plastic Beverage Containers”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE Paper 1/2021 ● ACE Paper 1/2021 (Annex) ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 248th ACE Meeting held on 6 September 2021 to discuss the paper on “Public Consultation on the Scheme on Regulation of Disposable Plastic Tableware”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE Paper 15/2021 ● ACE Paper 15/2021 (Annex) ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting
The 251st ACE Meeting held on 6 December 2021 to discuss the paper on “Council for Sustainable Development's Public Engagement on Control of Single-use Plastics”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACE Paper 21/2021 ● ACE Paper 21/2021 (Annex A) ● ACE Paper 21/2021 (Annex B) ● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting

ACE Secretariat
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