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**(ACE Paper 18/97)**  
**for advice**

## **Fourth Review on the 1989 White Paper on the Environment**

### **Introduction**

This paper seeks Members' views on a proposal for the Fourth White Paper Review on the Environment, due to be published by the end of 1997.

### **Background**

2. When the 1989 White Paper - Pollution in Hong Kong - A Time to Act was published, the Governor in Council ordered that a review of progress on the many initiatives in the White Paper should be published every two years. The first review appeared in 1991, the second in 1993 and the third in early 1996.

3. The thrust of the Third Review, which was subtitled "Heading towards Sustainability" placed particular emphasis on sustainable development and its incorporation into decisions which have an impact on the environment.

### **The Fourth Review**

4. The approach to the Fourth Review, as set out in the draft outline attached, envisages building on the messages in the Third Review with particular emphasis on planning against pollution. Developing sustainable development programmes will continue to be the main focus.

### **Advice Sought**

5. Members are asked to advise
- a) Whether they support the proposed structure of the Fourth White Paper Review, as set out in the draft outline;
  - b) What areas they consider should be developed; and

- c) How the public could be involved in the formulation and implementation of sustainable development strategies.

6. Subject to Members' views, Planning, Environment and Lands Branch will consult the Green Groups and the Legislative Council Environmental Affairs Panel on the draft outline. Members will be briefed on the outcome of these discussions and consulted on a draft of the Fourth White Paper Review before it is submitted to the Executive Council.

Environment Division  
Planning, Environment and Lands Branch  
March 1997

# DRAFT

## **4th Review of the White Paper on the Environment** **Title : Sustainable Development : A Green Transition in Hong Kong**

Chapter	1	Preface	
	2	Introduction	
	3	Planning Against Pollution : EIA, land use	
	4	Air	) To be presented as Integrated Plans,
			) each functional programme area
	5	Water	) would refer to legislation, compare
			) the present position with 1989,
	6	Noise	) illustrate the achievements and
			) costs.
	7	Wastes	)
	8	Conservation of the Natural Environment and Ecology	
		- Fisheries and Marine Conservation	
		- Country and marine parks	
		- New policy	
	9	Energy Efficiency and Conservation	
		- Energy Advisory Committee	
		- Building Environmental Assessment Method	
		- an energy building code	
		- Demand Side Management Review	
		- renewable resources	
	10	Environmental Education	
		- a summary of government programmes to date	
		- a note on expenditure in this area	
		- a summary of the green groups' efforts	
	11	Sustainable Development Indicators	
		- SUSDEV 21	
		- background	
		- long and medium term objectives	
	12	Integration issues	
		- transport, education, energy	
	13	Polluter Pays Principle	
		- a community challenge	
		- fundamental importance	
		- difference from users charges	

- 14    Regional Co-operation
  - relations with China
  - Hong Kong -Guangdong Environmental Protection Liaison Group
  - Shenzhen River
  - Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation
  - global warming
  - ozone layer protection
- 15    Summary and Conclusions
- 16    Checklist?