

**Advisory Council on the Environment**  
**Waste Management Subcommittee**  
**Notes of the Eleventh Meeting**  
**Held on 13 February 2007 at 2:30 pm**

**Present**

Professor Poon Chi-sun	(Chairman)
Mr. Lau Che-feng, Edwin	
Dr. Man Chi-sum	
Mr. Wong Ka-wo Simon	
Dr. Yau wing-kwong	
Mr. Raymond Fan	Deputy Director of Environmental Protection
Mr. Alfred Lee	Assistant Director of Environmental Protection
Dr. Cherie Lee	Environmental Protection Officer
Dr. Alex Li	Chief Assistant Secretary for the Environment, Transports and Works (Works) [Item 4]
Mr. M.C. Yip	Principal Supplies Officer (Procurement)/GLD [Item 4]
Mr. P.K. Leung	Acting Senior Engineer/EMSD [Item 4]
Mr. Te Chi-wang	(Secretary)

**Absent with apologies**

Mr. James R. Graham  
Dr. Ng Cho-nam  
Mr. Tsang Kam-lam  
Professor Howard Huang

**Action**

**Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the tenth meeting held on 20 December 2006 were confirmed without amendment.

**Agenda Item 2: Matters Arising**

*Trial Scheme on MSW Charging*

2. The Chairman recapped the visit to the Grand View

Garden by Members on 17 Jan 2007. Members agreed that the Administration should take into account the observations at the trial scheme, when deciding on the way forward for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging.

**Agenda Item 3: Public Education Programme under the “Policy Framework” (Paper WMSC 1/07)**

3. Mr. Alfred Lee introduced the paper and briefed Members on the five specific themes under the programme. Proposed activities under each theme were generally outlined, but the Administration welcomed other suggestions by project proponents.

4. Two Members suggested that the first three themes, namely MSW Charging, Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRS’s) and Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF), should be accorded higher priority given their educational value and potential environmental impact. Mr. Raymond Fan concurred and considered that PRS’s, in particular, might need earlier actions. On MSW Charging, a Member suggested that different modes of waste management operations could be tried out under the village housing setting in the New Territories. On IWMF, a Member considered that visits to waste facilities, such as landfills, could allow the public to have first-hand experience on the waste problem and help change the public’s mindset. A Member suggested that green groups, instead of Government staff, could be better positioned to provide such tours.

5. In connection with the funding support, A Member asked whether funding for smaller and shorter-term projects could be provided in parallel. The Secretary clarified that the public education programme was aiming at longer-term and community-wide projects (i.e. at least 12 months and with funding cap of \$500,000). Smaller projects should continue to seek funding from existing ECF programmes, such as Environmental Education & Community Action programme (i.e. no minimum time limit with general funding cap of \$150,000). Noting that public education could be rather labor intensive, A Member suggested that the funding ceiling for part-time coordinators and assistants should,

perhaps, be raised to 50%, depending on the nature of the projects.

6. Mr. Raymond Fan said that the Administration would take account of the views of the Members and prepare a paper to seek the final endorsement of the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) Committee on the public education programme and the proposed themes.

EPD

[**Post-meeting Note:** The public education programme and the proposed themes were endorsed by the ECF Committee on 16 March 2007, with the funding ceiling for part-time project coordinators and assistances raised to 50% of the total project budget.]

#### **Agenda Item 4: Green Measures in the Government (Paper WMSC 2/07)**

7. The Chairman declared his interest with regards to his research on recycled construction materials, which had an interface with the Works Branch of the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (ETWB). The representatives of the Works Branch of the ETWB, the Government Logistics Department (GLD) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) took turn to brief Members on the work of their bureaux and departments, particularly with regards to green procurement and waste management.

8. On green procurement, Members recommended the existing fleets be replaced by more energy-efficient and lower-emission models when the replacements were due. With respect to printer cartridges, the Chairman and a Member suggested that used cartridges should be properly recycled. Mr. Yip explained that the Government was moving along that direction. In particular, a memorandum had been issued on the arrangement of used printer cartridges.

9. On public works, the Chairman suggested a wider use of rubber-modified asphalt, and two Members noted the wide applications of rubber-modified asphalt in the Mainland China and

the US. Dr. Li appreciated Members' suggestions, but noted the technical issue of local manufacturing and quality control. Mr. Fan added that wider use of rubber-modified asphalt could provide an outlet of waste tyres, which were currently unnecessarily disposed of at landfills. To educate that public on the use of recycled materials, two Members suggested putting up labels, for instance, on fenders made of recycled plastics at piers or on pavement bricks made of recycled aggregated.

10. On energy efficiency, a Member asked whether the Government would promote the use of LED lights that were more energy efficient and had a longer lifespan. Mr. Leung responded that an information pamphlet on LED lights had been produced to advise the public on their energy saving potential and applications. The Member commented that green building design, with better use of sunlight, could help save energy and reduce the need of lighting, hence the disposal of used lighting equipment. He urged the Government to further improve building design in the future.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Update on the Progress of Key initiatives in the “Policy framework” (Paper WMSC 3/07)**

11. Mr. Fan briefed Members on the progress of the different initiatives under the Policy Framework. With regards to the PRS on plastic shopping bag, Members urged the Administration to come up with a detailed proposal as soon as practicable, and to pledge to strengthen funding support to environmental initiatives.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business**

12. The Chairman noted that, as per previous practice, the Subcommittee would nominate two representatives to sit on the ECF Waste Recovery Project Vetting Subcommittee and only one nomination was received. Members agreed that two of the Members should represent that Subcommittee in this term.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Date of next meeting**

13. The Chairman suggested and Members agreed that a yearly meeting schedule could be worked out to facilitate Members' early planning. The Secretary would prepare a meeting schedule for 2007 in due course. Secretary

**[Post-meeting note:** The meeting schedule for 2007 has been worked out and circulated to Members.]

ACE Waste Management Subcommittee Secretariat  
March 2007