

**Confirmed Minutes of the 222nd Meeting of
the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE)
held on 3 April 2017 at 2:30 pm**

Present:

Mr Stanley WONG, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Prof Nora TAM, BBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Ir Cary CHAN
Dr Billy HAU
Dr HUNG Wing-tat, MH
Prof LAU Chi-pang, JP
Ir Prof Irene LO
Mr Anthony LOCK
Ir MA Lee-tak, SBS
Prof John NG
Ir Conrad WONG, BBS, JP
Prof Jonathan WONG, MH, JP
Mr Simon WONG, JP
Mr Luther WONG, JP
Prof WONG Sze-chun, BBS, JP
Mrs Alice CHEUNG, JP (Secretary)

Absent with Apologies:

Ms Julia LAU
Dr Michael LAU
Prof Albert LEE
Mr Andrew LEE
Prof Kenneth LEUNG
Dr Eric TSANG
Ir Michelle TANG

In Attendance:

Mr Donald TONG	Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection
Ms Lily YAM	Assistant Director of Planning / Technical Services, Planning Department (PlanD)
Mr Simon CHAN	Assistant Director (Conservation), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD)
Miss Heidi LIU	Principal Information Officer, Environmental Protection Department (EPD)

Ms Becky LAM

Miss Dora CHU

Miss Apple LEUNG

Chief Executive Officer (CBD)

Executive Officer (CBD) 1, EPD

Executive Officer (CBD) 2, EPD

In Attendance for Item 3:

Mr. Donald NG

Mrs Alison LAU

Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (4), EPD

Assistant Director (Special Duties), EPD

Action

The Chairman informed Members that apologies of absence had been received from Ms Julia Lau, Dr Michael Lau, Prof Albert Lee, Mr Andrew Lee, Prof Kenneth Leung, Dr Eric Tsang and Ir Michelle Tang.

Item 1 : Confirmation of the draft minutes of the 221st meeting held on 13 March 2017 (Closed-door session)

2. The draft minutes were confirmed subject to the amendments proposed by the Chairman in para. 44 of the draft minutes.

Item 2 : Matters arising (Closed-door session)

3. The Chairman informed Members that subsequent to the discussion on the roles of ACE in relation to the implementation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) under para. 61 of the minutes of the last meeting, an information paper (*ACE Paper 7/2017*) prepared by EPD was issued to Members on 27 March 2017.

4. A Member suggested that the Environmental Impact Assessment Subcommittee (EIASC) should consider developing a mechanism in relation to the provision of the Council's collective views on project profiles. As regards non-compliance of Environmental Permit (EP) conditions in respect of major projects that had attracted widespread attention in the community and the media, he suggested the Government bring such cases to the attention of EIASC so that Members would take them into account when imposing similar conditions on future projects.

5. With reference to para. 5 of the *Modus Operandi* of the EIASC, a Member said that it was not necessary for the EIASC to present to the Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) the Council's collective view on project profiles.

ACE Members and members of the public may provide comments on the project profile of a designated project within 14 days of it being advertised. Nonetheless, she had no objection to reviewing the *Modus Operandi* of the EIASC in this respect if Members considered necessary. Another Member suggested the matter be further deliberated at an EIASC meeting and recommendations should be put forward to the full Council for endorsement. The Chairman and the Member indicated no objection.

[Posting meeting notes: EIASC would discuss the matter regarding the provision of collective views on project profiles at the next EIASC meeting, tentatively scheduled on 14 August 2017.]

6. On EP conditions, a Member pointed out that EPD and AFCD provided advice to EIASC when deliberating the conditions and recommendations to be imposed on the EP at each EIASC meeting. She considered that the majority of non-compliant cases emerged not because the EP conditions were unreasonable, but because of the negligence of the project proponents. Mr Donald Tong concurred and supplemented that EPD and other relevant Government departments had the responsibility to ensure that the conditions to be imposed were feasible and reasonable. Mr Tong assured Members that EPD would continue to closely monitor the compliance of EP conditions by the project proponent(s) and their contractors. As set out in ACE Paper 7/2017, EPD would coordinate with relevant parties to see the best way in meeting ACE Members' request for information regarding compliance of EP on specific environmental issues that had attracted widespread attention in the Legislative Council, the community and/or, the media.

Item 3 : Implementation arrangements for municipal solid waste charging
(ACE Paper 6/2017)

7. The Chairman invited Members to declare interest. A Member declared that she was a member of the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) and the Convenor of the Support Group on Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging that was invited to conduct the public engagement on MSW charging. A Member declared that he was a member of the Support Group on MSW Charging. A Member declared that he was a member of the Steering Group on the Modification of Recycling and Refuse Collection Facilities in Public Places. The Chairman agreed that these Members could stay on and participate in the discussion.

[The presentation team joined the meeting at this juncture.]

Presentation cum Question and Answer Session (Open session)

8. Mr Donald Ng introduced the background of the implementation framework for MSW charging with reference to the public engagement exercise conducted by the SDC and the implementation framework it proposed to the Government in 2014.

9. With the aid of a powerpoint presentation, Mrs Alison Lau briefed Members on the proposed implementation arrangements, including the charging mechanism and levels, enforcement arrangement, support for recycling, as well as publicity, engagement and public education plan.

Public consultation process

10. A Member expressed support for the proposed implementation arrangements for MSW charging and would like to see its implementation as early as practicable. He was of the view that the Government should consult the ACE at an earlier stage and tap the views of Members before formulating its policy proposals.

11. Mr Donald Ng said that EPD conducted a public consultation in 2012 and majority of the views received had supported the introduction of quantity-based MSW charging. The Government further invited the SDC to conduct a public engagement exercise, following which the SDC put forward a framework proposal for the implementation of MSW charging. Based on the implementation framework recommended by SDC on which the ACE had been consulted, the Government had been developing the implementation arrangements in consultation with relevant stakeholders. Mr Ng added that the proposed implementation arrangements were only announced two weeks earlier and a paper was issued to the ACE on the same date of the announcement.

Charging by designated garbage bags

12. On the three-year transitional period as recommended by the SDC, a Member recalled that the ACE had suggested that it should be shortened to less than two years. In response, Mr Donald Ng said that the main concern of ACE on the transitional arrangement was its reduced incentive to residents for waste

reduction. Having regard to this view, the per-bin charge for the transitional bin-counting arrangement was proposed to be set at a higher level than the designated garbage bag charges, and that a widening “premium” of 30%, 40% and 60% would be imposed on top of the proposed charge for the designated garbage bags (\$0.11 per litre) in the beginning of the first, second and third year respectively. He added that this proposed arrangement would help encourage an early switch to the ultimate use of designated garbage bags.

13. In response to a Member’s concern on the emergence of counterfeit designated garbage bags, Mr Donald Ng said that with reference to the experiences of Taipei City, all designated garbage bags would bear an anti-counterfeit label to deter forgery. In addition, designated garbage bags would only be put on sale at established retail outlets authorised by the Government, such as supermarkets, convenience stores and personal care product stores, etc.

Charging by gate fee

14. While expressing support for the implementation of MSW charging, a Member considered that the arrangement of charging by designated garbage bags should be extended to residential buildings which were not using the collection service of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). He was concerned that under the gate fee arrangement, the private waste collectors (PWCs) or the property management companies (PMCs) might impose higher charges on their clients/occupants.

15. Mr Donald Ng explained that charging by designated garbage bags would be applicable to all residential buildings using FEHD’s waste collection service, including the network of about 2 900 refuse collection points (RCPs) and bin sites across Hong Kong managed by FEHD. Waste producers, most of which were from village houses and single block buildings that did not have property management, could dispose of their waste wrapped in designated garbage bags at RCPs directly. Due to enforcement difficulties, residential buildings that were not served by FEHD’s waste collection service, which accounted for 10% of all residential buildings, would not be able to opt for charging by designated garbage bags.

16. A Member pointed out while businesses would incur additional cost under MSW charging, there were insufficient financial incentives for waste reduction as MSW charges would only be shared out among tenants in settings such as shopping

malls. He suggested that apportionment method based on disposal quantity should be worked out. Mr Donald Ng advised that community involvement projects funded by the Environmental Conservation Fund (ECF) were being conducted to explore different ways to apportion MSW charges to different tenants and units on the basis of their waste load. These could include the distribution of fixed-size garbage bags by PMCs to measure waste load generated by individual units. Based on the experience gained from the trial projects, the Government would draw up some best practice guides for reference by relevant stakeholders.

17. A Member considered that assistance should be provided to PMCs at the initial stage of implementation as they might have to handle disputes in relation to apportionment of charges in accordance with the “polluter pays” principle. Mr Donald Ng advised that a platform had already been established with the PMCs to discuss the implementation arrangements and they had been consulted on the implementation of best practice guides for reference by relevant stakeholders.

18. A Member pointed out that as waste collection service cost should have already been included in rates, the Government should consider providing rates rebate before introducing the MSW charging. To reduce cost and provide economic incentive for businesses to reduce waste, the Member suggested the Government set a threshold and impose charges only when the waste disposal volume exceeded the threshold. Mr Donald Ng explained that rates was currently a form of indirect tax, and there was no direct correlation between rates and MSW charges. As for the suggestion of setting a threshold for waste disposal, setting aside the difficulty entailed in setting an appropriate level due to the diversity of disposal needs of individuals, it might also unintentionally imply that waste reduction below the threshold was not possible.

Enforcement against non-compliances

19. A Member expressed his concern on illegal dumping at RCPs or in residential buildings without PMCs. In response, Mr Donald Ng said that the Government had been engaging the Heung Yee Kuk to explore ways to help villagers dispose of waste using designated garbage bags at FEHD’s RCPs. Besides, there were pilot projects being conducted in buildings without PMCs to explore different implementation arrangements. On enforcement, the frontline staff of FEHD at RCPs would reject MSW not properly wrapped in designated garbage bags. Based on intelligence and complaints received from the public and PMCs, EPD would draw up a list of “black-spots” for conducting inspections.

The Government would also launch a comprehensive public education and publicity campaign to enhance public understanding and facilitate compliance.

20. In order to prevent illegal dumping by PWCs to evade the proposed waste charges, a Member suggested the Government consider using the global positioning system (GPS) for tracking and monitoring the movements of refuse collection vehicles. Mr Donald Ng replied that apart from around 400 refuse collection vehicles owned by PWCs, there were several thousand vehicles used for collecting and delivering waste. The Government had conducted trials to study the feasibility of installing GPS on vehicles collecting construction and demolition waste. Based on the trial result, installation of GPS on vehicles collecting MSW would be further explored in future as appropriate.

21. A Member considered that community surveillance on illegal dumping was a major factor contributing to the success of Taipei City in implementing waste charging. In Taipei City, persons reporting cases of illegal dumping of MSW would be awarded with a portion of the total fine if prosecution was successfully made. While expressing concern that such system might not be suitable for Hong Kong, the Member pointed out that measures to deter non-compliance should be considered by the Government, such as increasing the penalty level on illegal dumping. Another Member agreed that given Hong Kong's high population density, it might not be practicable to solely rely on Government departments to undertake all enforcement actions.

22. In response, Mr Donald Ng explained that for non-compliant cases, a fixed penalty notice at \$1 500 would be issued, which far exceeded the MSW charge that an average three-member household would have to pay a month. It should help provide sufficient deterrent effect against illegal disposal of waste without using designated garbage bags. In addition, prosecution by way of summons would be taken against repeated offenders and the penalty levels would be even higher. On community monitoring of disposal of waste without using designated garbage bags, Mr Ng said that currently, rewards would be provided by the Government when the offences involved were of more serious nature such as drug smuggling. The provision of reward for reporting disposal of non-complying MSW might lead to abuse of the reporting system, thereby undermining enforcement effectiveness. It might also bring about negative impact on neighbourhood relations.

23. A Member supplemented that the SDC had discussed about a reward-based reporting system and it was concluded that such system would create tension in the society. Instead of providing financial incentives for reporting of non-compliances, civic responsibility should be promoted instead.

24. On whether advanced technology could be used to facilitate compliance, a Member cited the experience of the United States where mobile applications were developed to facilitate the public to report cases of disposal of waste without using designated garbage bags. She further suggested the Government consider introducing automated card-reader systems at larger RCPs to replace visual screening by frontline staff.

25. A Member echoed the view that application of advanced technology would be helpful to prevent illegal dumping of MSW. The Government could, for example, collaborate with the business sector to install closed-circuit television (CCTV) at different RCPs for monitoring purpose.

26. A Member added that the use of advanced technology such as centralized systems, CCTV, electronic applications and/or GPS could help provide more detailed records and waste disposal statistics, reinforce enforcement and facilitate reports on non-compliance.

27. On whether CCTV could be installed to facilitate enforcement, Mr Donald Ng said that there were limitations involving the installation of CCTV at RCPs since CCTV could only capture pictures at certain angle and might not help enforcement agents ascertain the identity of waste producers. While the Government had also studied the use of centralized electronic payment system in Seoul, not much information could be provided by the relevant authorities on its scope of application and cost effectiveness. He said that the Government would keep in view relevant technological developments to complement the operation and enforcement of MSW charging.

28. A Member reckoned that enforcement would be difficult especially in villages in the rural area and sought details on the arrangements for rejecting non-compliant waste at unmanned RCPs. He further suggested that no litter containers (LCs) should be provided in public places as this could create a loophole for evading MSW charge.

29. Mr Donald Ng said that the Government had been liaising with Heung Yee Kuk and visited some villages regarding the implementation of MSW charging. Appropriate measures would be worked out in conjunction with Heung Yee Kuk to facilitate compliance in rural villages. He advised that the number of LCs in public places would be reduced and the current recycling bin (RB) to LC ratio of 1:14 would be enhanced to 1:6 when MSW charging was planned to take effect in 2019. Further adjustments would be considered taking into account situation on the ground, public reaction and other operational considerations. The design of LCs and RBs in public places would also be revised to discourage abusive use of LCs to evade MSW charges and to encourage recycling.

30. The Chairman commented that the Government should give due consideration in striking a balance between educating the public to cultivate a sense of civic awareness and using penalties or financial awards to facilitate compliance. While heavy penalty and a reward-based reporting system might be successful in other places, their applicability to Hong Kong should be carefully considered.

Government's efforts in managing municipal solid waste

31. Noting that the quantity of imported plastic shopping bags (PSBs) had increased from around 48 million in 2009 when the Environmental Levy Scheme was launched to 58 million in 2016, a Member was concerned that the effectiveness of launching a charging scheme might not achieve the proposed objective of waste reduction. Mr Donald Ng replied that following the launch of the PSB Levy Scheme (Phase 1) in 2009, the number of PSBs disposed of at the landfills had dropped by over 75% in mid-2010, and a further reduction of 25% was registered after the scheme had been extended to all retail outlets in 2015. He further explained that landfill surveys were conducted in accordance with established statistical methods and the results were statistically significant. He added that MSW disposal in Taipei City and Seoul had dropped by some 30% at the initial stage when MSW charging was introduced, which showed that waste charging was an effective means to achieve waste reduction.

32. On how resources could be better utilized to achieve positive results, a Member pointed out that MSW charging and the commissioning of the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) would significantly change the waste treatment processes in Hong Kong. He suggested the Government assess the impact of various environmental initiatives on different sectors and stakeholders. The current funding support provided by the ECF and the Recycling Fund should also

be reviewed to optimize the use of resources.

33. The Chairman commented that it was important to provide the public with sufficient information and statistical data, e.g. information on waste reduction statistics of different districts, in order to raise public awareness and to enable them to better understand the positive impact on the environment that could be brought about by behavioural change.

Assistance to the needy

34. On addressing the needs of people with financial hardship, a Member suggested introducing a quota system in which one free designated garbage bag would be given daily to those families in need as a relief measure. Another Member also suggested that apart from families with financial hardship, the Government should also consider providing support to families with elderly members who might have a higher disposal need for medical reasons. Mr Donald Ng said that the responsibility to reduce waste should be shared by the whole community and exemption from MSW charging was not recommended as it was not in line with the “polluter pays” principle. Nevertheless, the Government acknowledged the need to address the financial hardship of individuals and families and would provide financial assistance to recipients under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme.

Source separation of waste and clean recycling

35. As food waste accounted for about 33% of the total daily MSW in Hong Kong, a Member suggested the Government explore measures to support source separation of food waste, such as by installing food waste RBs at housing estates apart from existing RBs for plastic bottles, papers, and metals. Making reference to the experiences of Taipei City and Seoul, she opined that this could effectively reduce the volume of MSW disposal.

36. Citing the successful experience of Seoul in adopting a radio frequency identification (RFID) food waste management system, a Member suggested the Government consider developing a similar centralized system to charge citizens on the basis of the weight of food waste they disposed.

37. Mr Donald Ng explained that in Hong Kong, about one third of the food waste was generated by the commercial and industrial (C&I) sector and the

remaining was generated by the residential sector. Phase 1 of the OWTF was scheduled to be commissioned by end 2017 with a treatment capability of about 200 tonnes of food waste per day; whereas tendering for Phase 2 of the OWTF, with the daily treatment capacity of 300 tonnes of food waste was in progress. Altogether, they could provide a treatment capacity of 500 tonnes, which would be equivalent to some 50% of the total quantity of food waste generated by the C&I sector. Experiences in other places showed that a recovery rate of 50% of food waste was an optimal level.

38. Mr Donald Ng added that unlike other cities where recycled food waste could be used to produce pig feed or compost for agricultural use, suitable outlets for recycled food waste in Hong Kong was relatively limited. Currently, the ECF provided funding support for installation of food waste composters at suitable residential estates to raise the public awareness of source separation of food waste and food waste reduction. With the launching of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign to encourage the reduction of food waste at source, encouraging progress was made as shown in the reduction of the per capita domestic food waste disposal rate by around 9% from 2014 to 2015. Mr Ng pointed out that apart from treatment facility, arrangements for collection and transportation of food waste from residential sector would have to be considered; and in this regard, the Government would undertake a consultancy study on food waste collection and transportation from different sectors.

39. A Member proposed that exemption of food waste from MSW charging would provide a strong incentive for source separation of food waste and food waste recycling. The Member also suggested that the number or capacity of OWTF should be increased in order to treat more food waste. Another Member added that since food waste source separation and transportation would also involve extra costs for the trade, additional financial incentives should be provided to encourage the trade to opt for recycling of food waste instead of disposing of them at the landfills.

40. In response to the suggestions, Mr Donald Ng explained that MSW charging would help encourage source separation of food waste and other recyclables as it could help reduce MSW charges. By separating food waste and other recyclables for recycling, the gate fee for disposal based on weight would be lowered. As for charging by designated garbage bags, separating recyclables from the waste stream could help reduce the numbers or sizes of designated garbage bags to be purchased and used. A Member suggested that the Government should make

it clear to the public that recovered recyclables would not be subject to any charges.

41. A Member expressed his support for the scheme and appreciated the Government's efforts in implementing the scheme. He agreed with the Members that the issue of food waste should be addressed, since food waste could contaminate other recyclables.

42. A Member remarked that many people in Hong Kong were willing to carry out their civic responsibilities even without incentives or penalties, and it was important for the Government to provide clear advice on how recycling could be done. He added that recycling facilities in public places were often filled with non-recyclables or contaminated recyclables, which would discourage the public from participating in recycling. He considered that promotion and education on clean recycling was important.

43. Mr Donald Ng said that the existing network of RBs under the Source Separation of Waste Programme (SSW) covered around 80% of Hong Kong's population. Apart from further increasing the provision of RBs at residential estates, the Government would step up publicity efforts to raise public awareness of source separation of waste and clean recycling. The Steering Group chaired by the Secretary for the Environment had been reviewing the distribution of RBs and LCs in public places, as well as their design with a view to enhancing their user-friendliness and promoting clean recycling. The Government also had plan to provide outreaching service to step up education efforts on the ground and render on-site assistance and support to the PMCs and residents to practise clean recycling, which would enhance the quantity and quality of the recyclables.

Assistance to the recycling industry

44. A Member suggested the Government consider ways to improve the business environment of the recycling industry, especially for the recyclers collecting low-value recyclables. Another Member added that the Government should consider providing subsidies to the recyclers given the volatility of the prices of recyclables. He considered that the Government should ensure that the recycling industry would have enough capacity to treat the increased amount of recyclables after the implementation of MSW charging.

45. Mr Donald Ng explained that the Government had launched various initiatives to promote the development of the recycling industry, such as the setting

up of the Recycling Fund in 2015. On the suggestion to provide direct subsidies to recyclers, Mr Ng said that the recycling of papers and metals were generally profitable in Hong Kong, and it might not be cost-effective to use public money to subsidize the recyclers of these materials. As for low-value recyclables, such as glass, waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and plastic bottles, the Government had been undertaking the necessary work to introduce various Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRS) to promote closed-loop recycling of these materials.

46. Mrs Alison Lau supplemented that the recycling industry had expressed support for MSW charging since it would increase the quantity and quality of recyclables. After the implementation of MSW charging, disposal of contaminated recyclables would be subject to MSW charges. Waste producers would thus have greater incentive to clean their recyclables for collection by the recyclers. In this respect, the recycling industry was ready to enhance their capacity with the support of different schemes such as the Recycling Fund.

Publicity and education

47. A Member enquired the progress and experience gained from the thirty three community involvement projects on MSW charging. In response, Mr Donald Ng said that while some of the projects were still in progress, preliminary findings showed that MSW charging could be implemented effectively in different premises. In particular, it was noted that there was a drop in the sizes of free garbage bags sought by residents in some single-block buildings. Upon completion of the projects, sharing sessions would be arranged and their experiences would be suitably incorporated in the best practice guides being developed for reference by stakeholders.

48. A Member enquired whether the per capita disposal rates of MSW had taken into account the increasing number of tourists in Hong Kong. He also suggested that sufficient data should be collected to review the effectiveness of MSW charging in future. In response, Mrs Alison Lau replied that EPD published statistics on waste disposal and recycling annually. Tourists might dispose of their waste at the hotels they stayed or in the litter bins placed in public places, and no separate statistics had been kept. The collection and presentation of relevant waste data and statistics could be reviewed and adjustments made upon the implementation of MSW charging.

49. A Member stressed the importance of civic education. He suggested that the public should be encouraged to report any non-compliance, such as via the mobile application “Tell me@1823”, so as to help the Government identify and draw up the black-spots for conducting inspection and enforcement actions. Such information should be made available to the public to increase their awareness and to promote involvement and participation.

50. As children were receptive to new information, a Member opined that it would be more effective to cultivate a sense of civic responsibility at the early stages of education, and suggested the incorporation of waste reduction into the curriculum for general studies at kindergarten, primary and secondary school levels.

51. A Member agreed to the importance of education, and added that it should also cover tertiary institutions’ students. To enhance public understanding of MSW charging, she opined that the Government should explain clearly the different charging mechanisms and provide more details on the transitional arrangements.

52. Mr Donald Ng said that while enforcement actions were important, examples of other cities showed that publicity and public education held the key to successful implementation of MSW charging. The Government would launch a comprehensive publicity and promotion campaign to enhance public awareness and understanding of MSW charging. Publicity and educational efforts would be strengthened in particular during the preparatory period following the passage of the relevant legislation in order to prepare the community for the implementation of MSW charging.

53. Mrs Alison Lau supplemented that trial runs of MSW charging in different types of settings were being conducted under the ECF community involvement projects. Although the projects were only trial in nature without involving actual payments, many still witnessed a drop in MSW disposal due to the publicity and education efforts by the project proponents. The Government would continue to collaborate with non-government organizations (NGOs) and green groups to further promote the charging scheme.

Conclusion

54. Mr Donald Ng thanked Members for their support for MSW charging and

said that their comments and suggestions would be taken into account when the Government took forward the charging scheme.

55. The Chairman summarized the views of Members and concluded that Members were supportive of the scheme and would like to see its early implementation. The Chairman further acknowledged that in formulating details of MSW charging, the Government had consulted the public, different statutory and advisory bodies including the ACE and various stakeholders. The current implementation framework and plan proposed by the Government had taken into account the views received. He invited the EPD to keep ACE informed of the progress of implementation in future.

[The presentation team left the meeting at this juncture.]

Internal Discussion Session (Closed-door session)

56. For policy proposals formulated by the Government that involved different stages of public engagement and consultation, a Member suggested that the Secretariat could provide some background material on the subject to facilitate Members' discussion where appropriate.

57. Two Members suggested and Mrs Alice Cheung agreed that for projects and/or proposals that had been substantively discussed at previous ACE meetings, it would be helpful for the ACE Secretariat to circulate the relevant notes of meetings and papers for Members' reference before the meeting. Secretariat

Item 4 : Any other business (Closed-door session)

Visit to AAHK DCM Barge

58. The Chairman advised Members that a site visit organized by the Airport Authority Hong Kong would be held on 20 April 2017. The site visit covered a boat trip to visit the Deep Cement Mixing barge in the marine works site, followed by a briefing on updates of the project at the airport office. The tentative visit programme was passed to Members for reference on 27 March 2017.

59. There was no other business for discussion at the meeting.

Item 5 : Date of next meeting (Closed-door session)

60. The next ACE meeting was scheduled for 8 May 2017 (Monday). Members would be advised on the agenda in due course.

**ACE Secretariat
May 2017**