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**ACE Paper 33/96**  
**(for discussion)**

## **Study on Sustainable Development for the 21st Century (SUSDEV21)**

### **Purpose**

This paper seeks members' views on the draft outline study brief (at Annex) for SUSDEV21.

### **Background**

2. Section III of the Third Review of the 1989 White Paper on the Environment published in March 1996 outlines the Government's views on the concept of sustainability. Governments around the world are examining how sustainability considerations can be incorporated into the policy and planning framework. As a first step, we plan to conduct a study in 1996, subject to Legislative Council's funding approval.

### **The study**

3. The study would examine whether and how the concept of sustainability can be applied to Hong Kong, what principles and sustainability indicators are appropriate, and what systems and mechanisms are required to implement the sustainability concept. It would take about 30 months to complete. Public consultation is a main component of the study. We would seek members' views during the study process. Details are in the attached draft study brief.

### **Next steps**

4. Government will finalise the study brief taking into account members' views. We plan to seek funds for the study from Legislative Council in July 1996.

**Planning, Environment and Lands Branch**  
**June 1996**