

**Confirmed Minutes of the 137<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
the Advisory Council on the Environment  
held on 13 November 2006 at 2:30 pm**

**Present:**

Prof LAM Kin-che, S.B.S., J.P. (Chairman)  
Mr James GRAHAM  
Prof HO Kin-chung, B.B.S.  
Prof Paul LAM  
Mr Peter Y C LEE  
Dr NG Cho-nam, B.B.S.  
Mrs Mei NG, B.B.S.  
Prof POON Chi-sun  
Mr Markus SHAW  
Ms Iris TAM, J.P.  
Mr TSANG Kam-lam  
Prof WONG Tze-wai  
Prof WONG Yuk-shan, B.B.S., J.P.  
Mr Esmond LEE, J.P. (Secretary)

**Absent with Apologies:**

Ms Goretti LAU  
Prof Howard HUANG

**In Attendance:**

Ms Anissa WONG, J.P.	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)
Mr C C LAY	Assistant Director (Conservation), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Mr P Y TAM	Assistant Director/Technical Services, Planning Department
Ms Monica KO	Principal Information Officer, Environmental Protection Officer (EPD)
Ms Josephine CHEUNG	Chief Executive Officer (CBD), EPD
Miss Sarah NG	Executive Officer (CBD), EPD

**In Attendance for Agenda Item 3:**

Mr Billy LAM	Managing Director, Urban Renewal Authority (URA)
Mr Stephen LAM	District Development Director, URA

Mr Daniel HO

Senior Manager, Standards and Contract  
Management, URA

**In Attendance for Agenda Item 4:**

Mr Robert YIP

Controller (Supplies Management), Government  
Logistics Department (GLD)

Mr WONG Shun-sang

Controller (Procurement), GLD

Mr Lawrence LI

Chief Supplies Officer (Provisioning and  
Inspection), GLD

**In Attendance for Agenda Item 5:**

Mr MOK Wai-chuen

Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Mobile  
Source Control), EPD

Mr HA Kong

Senior Environmental Protection Officer  
(Mobile Source Control), EPD

\*\*\*\*\*

Action

**Agenda Item 1 : Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 136<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
held on 16 October 2006**

The draft minutes were confirmed subject to a Member's proposed amendments to paragraph 6 and another Member's proposed amendment to paragraph 21, which were tabled at the meeting.

**Agenda Item 2 : Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 136<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
held on 16 October 2006**

Para. 24 Visit to the Closed Area

2. The Chairman said that Members suggested at the last meeting that a visit be arranged to the Closed Area so as to better understand the area for giving further comments on the studies. The visit was scheduled for 13 December 2006 and the Secretariat would inform Members of the details and consult Members on their availability.

**Agenda Item 3 : Briefing Session on Environmental Aspects of Urban  
Renewal Authority's Work**

3. The Chairman informed Members that the item was a briefing and sharing session with representatives of the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) on the environmental aspects of URA's work. A Member declared interest as she had joined the URA as the Executive Director of Planning and Development.

4. After showing URA's corporate video, Mr Billy Lam briefed Members on the background of the establishment of the URA. He highlighted the Urban Renewal Authority Ordinance which governed the URA's work and the Urban Renewal Strategy which guided the URA's operation. He said that the URA hoped to act as a facilitator and a catalyst to lead and set examples in the urban renewal process. Rehabilitation of dilapidated areas was an example that the URA was a pioneer. Mr Stephen Lam briefed Members on URA's vision and the 4Rs Strategy – Redevelopment, Rehabilitation, pReservation and Revitalization as well as the environmental provisions incorporated under the 4Rs.

5. A Member considered that the URA's work should be people-oriented in speeding up the redevelopment of old urban areas for building a harmonious society. However, there was a dilemma in achieving this objective as the URA was inclined to be profit-making given the need to co-operate with private developers and to remain financially sound in the volatile property market. The URA should take the opportunity of economic downturn in the property market to acquire more land to speed up the redevelopment process. The compensation to the property owners should be reasonable. In the environmental aspect, the URA could take a more active role in implementing the Government's environmental improvement measures, such as roof top greening and installation of energy efficient devices.

6. Mr Billy Lam highlighted that the URA was not a profit-making organization. While they had to shoulder heavy financial burden and face the challenge of fluctuations in the property market, the Authority had to maintain a stable and healthy financial state in the long run without the need for further financial injection from the Government. In performing its functions, the URA had to ensure that the provisions under the Urban Renewal Authority Ordinance and guidelines in the urban renewal strategy were complied with. In the urban renewal strategy, it was clearly stated that a people-centred approach should be used to carry out urban renewal. The Government had to balance the interests and needs of all sectors of the community without

sacrificing the lawful rights of any particular group. On the compensation to affected residents, the level of compensation was seen to be fair and reasonable. While most of the acquired properties were 40 to 50 years old, the compensation was calculated on the basis of the prevailing market rates of properties of seven years old in the same district. A caring approach was adopted and a lot of efforts had been made to offer appropriate assistance and meet the special needs of individual affected owners and tenants. On the suggestion of large-scale acquisition of land during the economic downturn, the Authority had to take into account many factors, including social acceptability and available resources as taking care of the needs of individuals involved many complicated considerations.

7. A Member considered that it was important for the URA to look at the whole impact of their work in benefiting the community rather than focusing on economic returns. In the environmental aspect, it was important to take into account environmental considerations in the building design for a sustainable living environment during the economic life of a building, such as the provision of source separation and recycling facilities.

8. A Member shared another Member's views on the provision of waste separation facilities on each floor of the new buildings. Mr Stephen Lam explained that a balance had to be struck between the provision of environmental-related facilities and financial considerations of a particular project. The provision of waste separation facilities on each floor would take up quite a large proportion of the usable gross floor area given the relatively small size of the buildings. There would be more potential to provide such facilities in larger scale projects.

9. Mr Billy Lam said that though the URA was operating under various constraints and the Government was cautious about the financial resources in view of the experience of the Land Development Corporation, the URA was able to make ends meet at this stage and actively plan ahead for the future. They were conducting studies on the total impact of the URA's work based on two major projects in Langham Place and Kwun Tong, such as social benefits of revitalizing the neighbourhood and improving the living environment as well as economic benefits including job creation.

10. A Member made the following suggestions for the renewal projects –

- (a) focusing more on improving locality health and indoor air quality, such as avoiding locating a school or a home for the elderly beside a road or a bus station;
- (b) building localized recycling stations and composting plants to demonstrate community participation in the whole cycle of resources conservation;
- (c) providing more open space, such as by building more tracking and cycling lanes as well as avoiding indoor air-conditioned markets and sky walk bridges;
- (d) greening by planting trees purposefully to improve locality health rather than for landscaping;
- (e) containing lighting intensity by avoiding oversized lighting signage with a strong glare;
- (f) conducting life cycle analysis as well as research and development on the toxicity of materials provided to residents for renovation works, such as paints and pipes;
- (g) funding and subsidizing repair workshops to provide more local employment opportunities; and
- (h) avoiding the culture of building a large number of shopping malls.

11. Mr Billy Lam considered the suggestions very useful. He explained that some of the factors were not under the control of the URA, such as the facilities in the vicinity of the project area. They had tried to beautify them as far as possible so as to integrate them with the new development. The Authority was a pioneer in the areas of building care and rehabilitation which had helped a lot in improving locality health. On food composting and resources conservation, while they would try to do more in these areas, there were practical difficulties in locating the plants in view of the not-in-my-backyard attitude. On greening, they had incorporated stringent terms in the development agreements for landscape plans. On the building of shopping malls, views were divergent in that many members of the public indicated their liking for air-conditioned shopping malls. The URA would ensure that the environmental aspects were carefully looked after and various studies such as air ventilation assessment would be conducted as appropriate.

12. Mr Stephen Lam said that the Authority was paying increasing attention and trying to do more on roof top greening. However, there were practical difficulties, such as ownership and maintenance problems. The

major objective of providing materials to owners for renovation works was to encourage owners to help themselves and induce a building care culture in Hong Kong. The materials provided were the same as those widely used in the construction industry.

13. A Member congratulated the URA for its success and recognized the challenges they were facing. While he understood that density was a big consideration in the projects, he hoped that the building design could incorporate human scale at the street level even for high-rise buildings. Mr Billy Lam said that there would be different considerations for different projects. For example, the people in Sham Shui Po would like to have more modern designs while the people in Wanchai would like to preserve the streetscape and local character. For the four redevelopment projects in Wanchai, they would apply the holistic 4Rs approach to rejuvenate the area through an action area approach by redeveloping some areas, beautifying some streets as well as rehabilitating and conserving some buildings. There would be preservation of street level environment and human scale activities. The redevelopment plan had taken into account views collected in a series of consultations and studies.

14. A Member considered that it was important to note that restoration of historical buildings in heritage preservation required specialist skills. He was a little concerned that the pictures in the presentation showed old buildings painted in rather garish colour schemes and modernized in an inappropriate way. He hoped that the URA could have architects who were sensitive in this area of preservation.

15. Mr Billy Lam said that under the urban renewal strategy, the URA was tasked to conserve historical buildings that were included as part of its redevelopment projects. These buildings were graded by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. There might be some misunderstanding that URA was responsible for preservation of old buildings in general. The buildings targeted for preservation by the AMO included monuments and graded buildings. The Western Market was an example of a monument and the URA was responsible for taking it over and revitalizing it. The buildings in Mallory Street and the Blue House in Wanchai were examples of graded buildings. While some pre-war buildings in Wanchai were not graded buildings such as the pawn shops at Johnston Road, they would be conserved by the URA due to their

historical, architectural and cultural values. One of the practical difficulties in conserving these buildings was that the buildings were treated as new buildings under relevant building ordinances and the relatively stringent requirements had to be complied with. On expertise in heritage preservation, he cited Chairman of the URA Planning, Development and Conservation Committee who was a well-known conservation architect and was able to provide some advice from time to time. Conservation of buildings was a new field in Hong Kong and they were still facing a lot of challenges. Rather than preserving the buildings as historical artefacts for display, the target was to conserve and adapt them for proper economic reuse so that whatever income generated could contribute towards the repair and maintenance costs.

16. A Member said that he was impressed with the work done by the URA in applying low-waste technology and environmental measures in the demolition process. He noted that while the good practices, such as selective demolition, the use of metal formwork and pre-fabrication, were common practices in government projects, they were seldom adopted by private developers. Mr Stephen Lam said that most of the examples quoted in the presentation were mandatory provisions in the development agreements with private developers. They would examine various factors and characteristics of each project to determine whether certain provisions would be made mandatory or voluntary. While the URA fully supported selective demolition, a major limitation was that most of the construction sites were too small for conducting separation of inert and non-inert materials. Moreover, some of the materials demolished from the dilapidated buildings were weak and not suitable for recycling. The Authority would try as far as possible to conduct selective demolition when circumstances permitted.

17. A Member said that he was very impressed by the approach taken by the URA in addressing various environmental issues in the renewal projects. He suggested that the URA make available the noise exposure information available from noise studies to prospective property purchasers which would set a good example to private developers.

18. A Member said that there was a general impression that the URA's projects tended to increase the development intensity of the site which might not fit the local environment, e.g. the redevelopment of high-rise buildings with parking facilities along the narrow and steep roads of Graham Street and Gage Street in Central. The provision of parking facilities which

were not available previously would increase the traffic flow in the area. Although the traffic impact assessment for this particular project might be acceptable, there could be incremental impacts affecting the carrying capacity of the whole district for future developments.

19. The Chairman summarized Members' comments as follows –

- (a) the Council and the URA shared the same vision in improving the living environment of Hong Kong;
- (b) the Council appreciated that the URA had a comprehensive package of environmental provisions in dealing with the environmental aspects of renewal projects and were appreciative of the new environmental initiatives incorporated in the projects, such as in the areas of air ventilation and water conservation;
- (c) the Council considered that the URA was well-positioned to exert influence on improving the environment of Hong Kong as the target projects mainly involved rundown urban areas which gave rise to much potential for environmental improvement. Through planning, design and work practices of the renewal projects, the Government's environmental improvement initiatives could be incorporated, such as in the areas of energy efficiency, provision of waste reduction and recycling facilities as well as building a healthy city;
- (d) the Council hoped that the URA could take the lead in promoting environmental initiatives, such as greening, rooftop greening in particular, and disclosure of noise exposure information to prospective property purchasers; and
- (e) the Council appreciated that the URA would face great challenges ahead in providing an environmental-friendly living environment and the Council would be supportive of environmental initiatives of the URA.

**Agenda Item 4 : Green Purchasing of General Commodities by the HKSAR Government**

***(ACE Paper 23/2006)***



20. Mr Robert Yip said that the Government Logistics Department (GLD), which served as the procuring arm of the Government, would like to update Members on the latest initiatives and measures in green purchasing of general commodities in the Government. Mr Lawrence Li briefed Members on the measures in implementing the green initiatives and highlighted that the GLD would continue to identify new opportunities to avoid unnecessary consumption of environmentally sensitive items, promote reuse and recycling, and introduce new green products in the Government.

21. A Member said that he was in full support of the green purchasing practices in the Government as it would be important for the Government to set a good example for the private sector. He considered that the change of mindset and culture was even more important, such as by adopting green office management and practices. While using recycled paper was a good green practice, the conservation of paper, such as by uploading bulky annual reports and booklets onto websites to reduce printing requirements, would be even more effective.

22. A Member shared another Member's views and considered that it was important to conserve the resources. He asked whether it would be possible to release the statistics of environmental performance of each department and make an appeal for them to set targets to further improve their environmental performance. Mr Robert Yip said that they had put on the website information on the usage of photocopying paper for the past three years and encouraged departments to set targets in reducing consumption. According to statistics, the consumption of various items such as photocopying paper and pencils were on the declining trend.

23. A Member asked whether there was a procurement policy to require the procurement of products with better energy performance, such as products with energy efficiency labels and rechargeable batteries. Mr Robert Yip said that on top of the commonly used general commodities listed in the appendix of the paper, the GLD also procured other products, such as room coolers, refrigerators and photocopiers, for user departments. Products without the energy efficiency labels would not be considered. However, the usage rate of rechargeable batteries was relatively low and it was not a centrally procured item.

24. A Member enquired about the weighting accorded to

environmental considerations under the tendering procedures. Mr Wong Shun-sang said that under the marking scheme for considering tender bids, the weighting given to environmental considerations was normally 30% while that for price was about 70%. For environmental considerations, they would usually set out the relevant aspects for the tenderers' reference. For example, marks would be given to suppliers who were accredited the ISO 14001 or whose offer had recycled contents better than the required standard. Their objective was to purchase environmental-friendly products at a reasonable price.

25. A Member asked whether tenderers offering non-environmental-friendly products could still tender the bids in view of the relatively heavy weighting on the price consideration. Mr Robert Yip said that the tender specifications dictated the requirements of the products in a tendering exercise. Meeting the tender specification requirements, such as a certain level of recycled content for the products, was the prerequisite for the products to enter the selection process.

26. A Member suggested that the definition of recycled content should be more specific such as recycled straw and bamboo sheets rather than recycled wood chips. Mr Robert Yip said that there was limitation in doing so as there might be only one or very few suppliers in the market which could meet the stringent requirements and thus could not allow competition in the tendering process.

27. A Member asked whether the Government could exert influence to the subvented organizations, including universities, in making their purchasing decisions such as the use of recycled papers. Mr Robert Yip said that they had paid visits to the subvented organizations to encourage them to purchase environmental-friendly products.

28. A Member asked whether the GLD had discussed with other Government departments which purchased products in the market directly to ensure that green procurement was adopted. Mr Wong Shun-sang said that individual departments would usually draw up tender specifications by taking into account guidelines under the Stores and Procurement Regulations.

29. A Member considered that the government central procurement authority should keep in pace with the latest trend in purchasing

environmental-friendly products. On top of the commonly used general commodities listed in the appendix to the paper, the GLD should reach out to encourage the purchasing of other green products such as environmental-friendly cars and recycled construction materials. The higher level authorities in relevant departments should be involved in taking forward the green initiatives for a wide range of products. Another Member considered that while the general commodities centrally purchased by the GLD such as recycled paper and toilet paper appeared trivial, they were rather significant in value given the large amount of consumption in the Government.

30. Ms Anissa Wong said that the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) was in discussion with the GLD on possible ways to further encourage green procurement within the Government. The list attached to the paper showed only the widely used products purchased under the central procurement system. There were also a number of other aspects that the EPD was working closely with the GLD in promoting green procurement. On electrical products, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) had introduced a voluntary energy efficiency labelling scheme for specified electrical appliances and equipment. They were considering the incorporation of energy efficiency labels as requirements in the tender specifications. However, this had to be subject to the availability of sufficient choice of brands with products carrying the labels to allow competition in the tendering process. The EMSD and GLD were following this up. On recycled construction materials, there were already provisions in the contracts of current public works projects encouraging the use of recycled construction materials. The EPD was discussing with the Works Branch of the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau how to further promote the wider use of recycled construction materials in public works projects. The Works Branch could be invited to attend future meetings of the Council to share and discuss the possibility of further expanding the use of recycled construction materials. She noted that one of the limitations was the availability of recycled construction materials in the local market. On adoption of green procurement in the private sector and subvented organizations, the EPD was liaising with the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, which was very supportive of environmental protection, to include green procurement as one of the themes in next year's environmental programme. On conservation of resources, the Government was focusing on energy conservation and reduction of paper consumption. The Government had pledged the target of reducing energy consumption by 1.5% each year and had been able to meet the target.

The information on paper consumption would be provided in a note to the minutes of the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: Under the bulk purchase contract for recycled and woodfree paper arranged by the GLD for the use of departments, the overall consumption of paper had reduced by 5% from 2004 to 2005 and by 15% from 2005 to 2006 (up to October). For recycled paper, the consumption had increased by 49% from 2004 to 2005 and remained steady from 2005 to 2006 (up to October). For woodfree paper, the consumption had reduced by 22% from 2004 to 2005 and 23% from 2005 to 2006 (up to October).)

31. A Member considered that every small step counted in promoting the use of recycled materials, such as the use of rolled old paper for making pencils in the Government. Extending the product life would also help in waste reduction such as by reusing durable furniture and equipment. She suggested the GLD issue regular reminders to departments to raise their environmental awareness when making purchasing decisions, including environmental problems caused by the end of life disposal and purchasing more eco-friendly souvenir items. Mr Robert Yip said that the GLD was trying to explore more recycled products for the use by departments but sometimes it was difficult to source them in the market. In respect of extended product life, many commodities such as furniture items had been used for decades in view of their durability. On souvenir items, while the GLD had a stock of eco-friendly items for the use by departments, individual departments had the discretion to source souvenir items that suit their needs.

32. The Chairman summarized Members' comments as follows –

- (a) the Council was appreciative of the work that the GLD had been doing in the area of green purchasing of general commodities for the Government;
- (b) the Council recognized that the GLD, being the procuring arm of the Government, could exert significant influence on green procurement and also on consumption through various means;
- (c) the Council believed that the Government and public organizations should set good examples and take the lead in green purchasing;

- (d) the Council considered that the change of culture and mindset was very important, not only on green procurement but also on green consumption, such as by promoting green office management and practices;
- (e) the Council suggested that the GLD could reach out to departments, subvented organizations and contractors engaged by the Government which procured products in the market directly for more environmental-friendly purchasing; and
- (f) the Council hoped that the Government as a whole could do more in further promoting green procurement and environmental-friendly consumption.

**Agenda Item 5 : A Proposal to Retrofit Long Idling Pre-Euro Diesel Vehicles with Emission Reduction Devices**

***(ACE Paper 24/2006)***

33. Mr Mok Wai-chuen briefed Members on the proposal to make it mandatory for long idling pre-Euro heavy diesel vehicles to be retrofitted with emission reduction devices with effect from 1 April 2007. He highlighted that the Administration had launched a voluntary retrofit programme for all the 2,500 long idling pre-Euro heavy diesel vehicles in July 2005. When the voluntary retrofit programme was concluded in December 2005, 95% of the eligible vehicles participated in the programme. The owners of about 150 vehicles which did not participate in the voluntary retrofit programme would have to complete the installation at their own expenses before the mandatory requirement took effect.

34. A Member said that he recognized the environmental problems caused by the older version of diesel engines and appreciated the principle behind installing emission reduction devices or converting them to Euro IV models. He, however, was a bit ambivalent on this issue. It was not because he did not support the proposal, but because there was not enough knowledge about the impacts of the particulates especially the fine particulates. While the level of reduction in the weight of pollutants was very impressive, the new version of diesel engines produced more ultra fine particulates in terms of number. The impact of an increased number of fine

particulates on health was still uncertain. There was insufficient information on the balance between the benefits gained from the reduction in mass and the harmful effects caused by the increased number of fine particulates. He urged the EPD and experts to keep track of the development in this aspect.

35. Mr Mok Wai-chuen said that while the focus on vehicular emissions was all along on the mass of air pollutants, they noticed the recent shift of the focus to the number of fine particulates. They were keeping track of the development closely, including international approaches in controlling the number of particulates in approving new vehicles. He had not come across evidence that Euro IV models emitted more fine particulates than pre-Euro models. He highlighted that in pre-Euro models, evidence showed that there were more toxic substances attached to the particulate surface and thus reducing the mass would have beneficial effects on public health.

36. A Member fully supported the proposal. He was concerned about the 150 registered cross-boundary pre-Euro long idling vehicles running on the road. The Chairman expressed the same concern. Mr Mok Wai-chuen explained that long-idling vehicles were vehicles that needed to keep their engines running while stationary for operational reasons. The exhaust temperature of these vehicles was too low for the catalysts to perform properly. Moreover, the cross-boundary vehicles used diesel in the Mainland which made the use of very active catalysts even more difficult. Due to technological constraints, there were no suitable emission devices for these vehicles. Nevertheless, the proposal of encouraging owners of old diesel commercial vehicles to replace their old vehicles by offering one-off grant announced in the 2006-07 Policy Address would be applicable to these cross-boundary vehicles which could help ease the problem. Upon the Chairman's enquiry, Mr Mok said that the relevant transport trade had been consulted and noted the exemption to this group of vehicles due to technological constraints.

37. Upon a Member's enquiry, Mr Mok Wai-chuen said that the number of 150 cross-boundary pre-Euro long idling vehicles was based on the record of the Transport Department. These vehicles were registered in Hong Kong and had permits to run across the boundary. In respect of the timetable of the proposal, the EPD planned to table the legislative amendments at the Legislative Council in 2006. Once the amendments were passed, they would issue letters to notify and remind all relevant vehicle owners to install emission

reduction devices before the commencement of the legislation to retrofit the vehicles. Otherwise, their vehicle licenses would not be renewed. If they were caught by EPD's joint on-road enforcement operations with the Hong Kong Police Force, their vehicle licenses would be cancelled.

38. A Member fully supported the proposal. He learnt from some sources that the garages could provide services to take out the emission reduction devices and install them again for the annual licence renewal inspection. Mr Mok Wai-chuen said that EPD's joint operations with the Police would catch these non-complaint vehicles. In the first nine months in 2006, 59 vehicles out of about 100 inspected pre-Euro diesel vehicles got their licenses cancelled because there were no emission reduction devices or the devices were not in good working conditions. The high percentage of non-compliance detected was mainly because the road inspections focused on highly suspected vehicles.

39. The Chairman concluded that the Council fully supported the proposal.

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

#### **ACE Retreat**

40. The Chairman said that the current term of the Council was drawing to an end. He proposed and Members agreed to have a meeting in the form of a retreat to tie up loose ends, particularly relating to air quality and waste management issues. The retreat would be held on 11 December 2006 which was the scheduled meeting date in December. A Member suggested that the retreat could also include a session for Members to share views on how the Council could work more effectively to meet challenges ahead.

#### **Proposal of promoting the disclosure of noise exposure information**

41. In connection with the suggestion that the URA should consider making available the noise exposure information to prospective purchasers under the discussion of agenda item 3, a Member asked about the latest development of the proposal of promoting the disclosure of noise exposure information in the sales brochure. She was concerned about the level of details in disclosing the noise exposure information as the traffic forecasts

would usually involve projections for about 20 years upon full development of the area and the general public might have difficulties in apprehending the technical information. Another Member said that the information could include noise exposure level under the existing road network. The Chairman said that he noted that the proposal was still in the consultation stage. To facilitate understanding of the public, it would be useful to state clearly whether the noise exposure information referred to existing or projected levels. It would be good for the URA to take the lead in promoting the Administration's initiatives.

**Agenda Item 7 : Date of Next Meeting**

42. The Chairman suggested and Members agreed that as there were no urgent items requiring the deliberation of the Council in December, no regular meeting would be held in December. The next regular meeting would be held in January 2007.