

**AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES (AQO) REVIEW WORKING GROUP  
AIR SCIENCE AND HEALTH SUB-GROUP**

**Digest of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting  
held on 26 July 2016 at 2:30 p.m.  
in Conference Room, 33/F., Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wanchai**

**Present:**

Ms. Christine LOH	Under Secretary for the Environment ( <b>Chairperson</b> ), Environment Bureau (ENB)
Mrs. Alice CHEUNG	Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (3) ( <b>Vice-chairperson</b> ), Environmental Protection Department (EPD)
Prof. Peter BRIMBLECOMBE	
Prof. Jimmy FUNG	
Dr. Nicky LAM	
Dr. Roland LEUNG	
Mr. LOONG Tsz Wai	
Dr. Eunice MAK	
Dr. MAN Chi Sum	
Dr. NING Zhi	
Dr. Loletta SO	
Prof. TIAN Lin Wei	
Prof. WONG Tze Wai	
Dr. Steve YIM	
Mr. MOK Wai-chuen	Assistant Director of Environmental Protection (Air Policy), EPD
Mr. Terence TSANG	Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Air Science), EPD
Mr. LEE Wai Man	Chief Assistant Secretary (Works) 3, DEVB
Ms. Alice PANG	Deputy Project Manager (KLN), CEDD
Ms. Amy CHEUNG	Assistant Director of Planning/Territorial, PlanD
Dr. Eddy NG	Principal Medical & Health Officer (Non- Communicable Disease), DoH

**In Attendance:**

Ms. Josephine HO	Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Air Policy) 1, EPD
Ms. Emily CHENG	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Air Science) 3, EPD

Dr. Kenneth LEUNG	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Air Science) 4, EPD
Mr. Simon LAM	Environmental Protection Officer (Air Policy) 11, EPD
Mr. TSANG Chun-wang	Environmental Protection Officer (Air Science) 64, EPD

**Absent with apologies:**

Prof. Alexis LAU

Mr. LEE Tak Kong

Ir LO Pak Cheong

Prof. WANG Tao

**Chairperson's Remarks**

1. The Chairperson welcomed Members to the first meeting of the Air Science and Health Sub-group.

**Agenda Item 1 – Guidelines on “Declaration of Interests”**

2. The Administration briefed Members on the guidelines on “Declaration of Interests”.

**Agenda Item 2 – Terms of Reference and Work Plan of the Sub-group (AS&H Paper 1/2016)**

3. The Administration briefed Members on the terms of reference and work plan of the Sub-group. Members did not raise any comment.

**Agenda Item 3 – Background Information for AQO review and Scope of Work (AS&H Paper 2/2016)**

4. The Administration briefed Members on the background information for AQO review, the air quality trends in Hong Kong and PRD region, and the scope of work for the Sub-group.
5. Members discussed and expressed their views and comments on the following items:

**(1) Scope of Work for Air Science and Health Sub-group**

All Members agreed with the scope of work for the Sub-group.

The meeting noted that there was an established air quality modelling tool (i.e. Pollutants in the Atmosphere and their Transport over Hong Kong (PATH) model), which would be used for this Review. Furthermore, Prof. WONG was

developing for EPD a methodology of assessing health and economic impacts, which if agreed by the Sub-group, could also be adopted for this review.

The key outstanding items were the method for estimating emission reduction potential of control measures, and the inputs and boundary conditions for the air quality, health and economic impact assessments. They would be discussed and advised by this Sub-group in forthcoming meetings.

## (II) Reference to the Air Quality Guidelines (AQGs) promulgated by the World Health Organization (WHO)

The Administration briefed Members on the development of WHO AQGs, and the 2005/2006 AQGs (Global Update) was the most updated set of reference available.

A Member noted that WHO had set up a working group on reviewing the AQGs since the last update in 2005/2006 but no formal updating process had been initiated.

The Administration would update Members on the latest development of WHO AQGs in the next Sub-group meeting for deciding on whether the 2005/2006 AQGs (Global Update) would still be adequate as the benchmark for this AQO review.

## (III) The target assessment year

In consideration of the target year of the last AQO review (i.e. 2020), a 5-year review cycle and the time for implementing new emission control measures, the Administration proposed 2025 as the target assessment year for this review and the post-2025 scenario would be considered in the next AQO review exercise. Nevertheless, the newly proposed measures could be implemented sooner than 2020 if they were ready and practicable for implementation.

A Member would like to have further information on the control measures to be proposed by other sub-groups before deciding on the target assessment year. The Administration would provide the information of other sub-groups' meeting to Members when available, and encouraged Members to further communicate with other sub-groups if necessary.

The meeting agreed to decide on the target assessment year for this AQO review in the next Sub-group meeting.

## (IV) Information required from other sub-groups on the proposed measures

Members would provide in the next Sub-group meeting comments on the draft list of information required for each measure for the assessment in Annex E of AS&H Paper 2/2016.

(V) Regional and Super-regional Influence on Hong Kong's Air Quality

Members pointed out that the emissions in the PRD region as well as those beyond PRD (i.e. super-regional) would be contributing to the background pollution levels for Hong Kong, and hence, the action plans and projected situations of those areas at the target year would also be relevant for the assessment in this review. The meeting agreed that Members would help provide relevant information for the review.

(VI) Others

In response to a Member's enquiry on the latest development of electric vehicles (EVs) and their impacts on improving the air quality, the Administration explained that replacing conventional vehicles with EVs, which had no tailpipe emissions, would improve roadside air quality. However, EVs were not ready to take up most of the commercial vehicle applications such as heavy trucks, double-deck buses, etc., which were much more polluting than private cars, particularly in the time frame covered by this review. Nonetheless, the Administration would monitor closely the development of the EV technology.

A Member was concerned about the increased demand for qualified professionals and mechanics for the maintenance of vehicles equipped with advanced emission control devices. The Administration noted the concern, which had also been raised for further discussion in other sub-groups.

A Member raised that there might be major local emission sources, not covered by the three sub-groups on measures. The Administration explained that the areas covered by the three sub-groups should have covered major emission sources. Nevertheless, Members were welcome to identify any omitted emission sources for the Administration to follow up as part of this review.

**Agenda Item 4 – Any other business**

7. No other business was raised.

**Agenda Item 5 – Date of the next meeting**

8. The next meeting would be held on 19 September 2016 (Monday). The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.