

**Chief Secretary for Administration's Office –
Administration Wing**

Environmental Report 2008

Introduction

This is the report of the Administration Wing of the Chief Secretary for Administration's Office on environmental measures in the year 2008. It covers office accommodation at Central Government Offices (CGO), Murray Building (MB), Government Records Service Division and out-stationed offices of Efficiency Unit.

Environmental Goal

2. The Administration Wing aims to provide its service in an environment-friendly manner and to implement in-house green measures in all offices.

Environmental Measures implemented in 2008

3. The Administration Wing continues to practise the principles of 3-R ("Reduce, Reuse and Recycle") in its environmental measures in 2008. Broadly, they covered the following measures –

Reduce

➤ *Paper consumption*

4. When providing high-volume copying service to bureaux of the Government Secretariat, the Copying Office in CGO maintained the principle of printing on both sides of paper unless requested otherwise by the bureau concerned. All photocopiers and most network printers in the Administration Wing were capable of producing double-sided printouts.

5. Staff continued to make full use of the Notes Mail for internal communication, official correspondence and circulation of circulars. Staff were also aware of the need to refrain from making photocopies of documents and circulars unless absolutely necessary. Furthermore, the use of fax leader pages had been minimized whenever possible.

➤ *Electricity consumption*

6. The Administration Wing, in conjunction with Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), the maintenance agent, continued to closely monitor the use of electricity in our offices. Energy wardens of the Administration Wing conducted regular and ad-hoc inspections to ensure that energy saving measures had been strictly observed for the common areas and facilities.

7. As air conditioning contributed to a major portion of electricity consumption, we had continued to focus on implementing various measures to manage the use of air-conditioning. In 2008, we continued to work with EMSD to comply with the guidelines on “Energy Saving Measures in Government Premises” issued in October 2004 to maintain the room temperature of our offices at 25.5°C during summer months. In addition, all components of the air-conditioning systems and chiller plants were regularly checked to ensure their efficient operation. All worn-out parts were replaced in a timely manner to prevent wastage of electricity. We continued to closely monitor and modify the operation hours of the air-conditioning system in order to reduce unnecessary usage before or after office hours. We continued to participate in the "dress down in summer" campaign by encouraging colleagues to discard jackets and ties and dress casual in summer. These measures helped maximize the efficiency of the air-conditioning and reduce energy consumption.

8. We had minimised the operation time of lifts and reduced unnecessary lights throughout our offices. Energy-efficient light tubes and bulbs were widely used in our premises. Motion sensor lighting had been installed at various staircases in CGO and MB.

9. We requested the works and maintenance agents to observe the rules of energy saving and adopt environment-friendly products, equipment and systems when carrying out various fitting-out and refurbishment works in our offices.

10. We regularly reminded colleagues to switch off lights, air conditioning, computers and electrical appliances not in use and set office equipment to energy saving mode as far as practicable. Energy saving stickers were displayed at conspicuous places to enhance staff awareness on energy conservation.

11. Implementation of the above measures resulted in a drop of 3.19% in electricity consumption in 2008 as compared with 2007, which amounted to about 532,120 kWh. The decrease represented a reduction in air pollutants emissions of approximately 1 tonne of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), 617 kg of Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x) and 32 kg of Respirable Suspended Particulates (RSP). On a cumulative basis, we had recorded an aggregate drop of 16.4% in electricity consumption over the past three years from end 2005 to end 2008. As far as the CGO and MB were concerned, the drop in energy consumption in 2008 was 2.38%; the cumulative drop from end 2005 was 17.54%.

Reuse

➤ *Paper and envelope*

12. Colleagues had established a practice of reusing envelopes where practicable. When there was a genuine need to send unclassified documents under cover, transit envelopes would be used whenever possible. The clean side of used paper would be used for photocopying, printing and drafting. We also encouraged colleagues to use recycled paper as far as practicable.

13. The paper consumption in 2008 had substantially dropped by 23.6% over that of 2007. The envelope consumption was reduced by 5%.

Recycle

➤ *Waste paper, aluminium cans, plastic bottles, rechargeable batteries*

14. Green boxes were placed at various office locations and common areas to collect waste paper, newspaper, aluminium cans, plastic bottles and rechargeable batteries suitable for recycling. The cleansing contractors collected such recyclable items on a daily basis.

➤ *Machine oil*

15. Waste oil from chiller plant rooms in CGO and MB was collected by licensed contractors of the Environmental Protection Department for proper treatment.

Other Green Measures

16. As part of our contribution to conserve the environment, the following measures were implemented –

➤ *Compliance with Clean Air Charter*

17. The Administration Wing adhered to the commitments stated in the Clean Air Charter. To reduce fuel consumption and air emissions, our team of drivers would switch off idling engines while waiting. With the assistance of Government Logistics Department, we replaced ten vehicles in our fleet with environment-friendly cars in 2008. These vehicles emitted less carbon dioxide and consumed less fuel than conventional petrol vehicles. Other vehicles in our fleet would also be replaced by phases in coming years.

18. With the implementation of the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) (VOC) Regulation in phases starting from April 2007, all works and maintenance agents were required to help combat air pollution by using low- or no-VOC products as far as practicable.

➤ *Air quality improvement*

19. Regular indoor Air Quality Measurement was performed by EMSD in our offices.

➤ *Use of environment-friendly products*

20. Environment-friendly, low- or no-VOC products were ordered for use whenever practical through the Government Logistics Department and outside contractors. The common items included stationery items such as clutch pencils, refillable ball pens, non-chlorinated correction fluid, and other items such as mercury-free batteries.

➤ *Participation in environmental awareness activities*

21. The Administration Wing supported and encouraged staff to take part in major greening activities by nominating green managers to attend various seminars on energy saving. To promote environmental awareness amongst staff, we regularly circulated tips on green management to all staff in CGO and MB. We also actively participated in the “One-hour-long Lights

Out on the Summer Solstice” project organised by Friends of the Earth on 21 June 2008 by switching off decorative external lighting of CGO and MB at night for one hour.

Way Forward

22. The Administration Wing will continue to promote and encourage the implementation of green measures and housekeeping practices. We will work with our works and maintenance agents and continue to take measures to reduce air emission and conduct Indoor Air Quality Measurement in our offices to ensure that the air quality fully meets the guideline recommended by the Environment Protection Department. In addition, we will continue to encourage staff participation in various green management activities.

Enquiries

23. Enquiries on this report can be sent –

- by post to the Administration Wing, Chief Secretary for Administration’s Office, Central Government Offices, West Wing, 11 Ice House Street, Central, Hong Kong; or
- by fax to 2845 2091; or
- by e-mail to *admwing@csso.gov.hk*.

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