

HAB434

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4095)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Please inform this Committee of the following:

1. What were the expenditure involved and staff establishment of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Office over the past 5 years?
2. On safeguarding items in the first Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory of Hong Kong, please tabulate the initiatives/policies adopted by the Government, expenditure involved and staff establishment over the past 5 years.
3. Will licences be issued in respect of folk handicrafts to allow the hawking of traditional crafts in order to preserve intangible cultural heritage items with local characteristics? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 399)

Reply:

- (1) The expenditure and staff establishment of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Office and the former ICH Unit in the past 5 years are set out below –

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Staff Establishment (as at the end of the financial year)
2013-14	7.06	3
2014-15	7.42	3
2015-16	9.45	16
2016-17	15.86	16
2017-18 (Estimated)	15.15	16

- (2) The Government attaches great importance to safeguarding ICH, and endeavours to enhance public awareness and understanding of ICH. Some of the key measures introduced in the past 5 years include –
- (a) the announcement of the first ICH inventory of Hong Kong comprising 480 items in 2014;
 - (b) the establishment of a dedicated ICH Office in 2015 by upgrading the former ICH Unit under the Hong Kong Heritage Museum;
 - (c) the setting up of the Hong Kong ICH Centre at the Sam Tung Uk Museum in 2016; and
 - (d) the promulgation of the first Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong comprising 20 items of high cultural value and with an urgent need for preservation in 2017.

The expenditures and manpower incurred for these measures are absorbed by the resources of the ICH Office and the former ICH Unit.

- (3) The Government has stepped up efforts in the promotion and transmission of traditional craftsmanship and collaborated with bearers of the traditional techniques and masters of the local folk handicrafts to organise programmes to safeguard and promote ICH. There is no plan to issue licences dedicated for hawking of traditional crafts.

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