

## COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the 11th Meeting of Community Sports Committee

Date: 22 November 2006 (Wednesday)  
Time: 10:30 am  
Venue: Conference Room I, Home Affairs Bureau, 41/F, Revenue Tower,  
5 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Present

Mr CHAU How-chen	(Chairman)
Mr John FAN Kam-ping	(Vice-chairman)
Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing	
Ms CHAU Chuen-heung	
Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming	
Mr Cowen B C CHIU	
Mr Kenny CHOW Kun-wah	
Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing	
Dr LO Wing-lok	
Mr PUI Kwan-kay	
Mr TONG Wai-lun	
Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung	
Prof LEUNG Mee-lee	

### Department Representatives in Regular Attendance

Mr Daniel SIN Pak-wing	(Representative from Home Affairs Bureau)
Miss Olivia CHAN Yeuk-oi	(Representative from Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Dr Regina CHING Cheuk-tuen	(Representative from Department of Health)
Mr Benjamin YUNG Po-shu	(Representative from Education and Manpower Bureau)
Ms TSANG Yin-mei	(Representative from Social Welfare Department)
Ms Sheree FU Suen-nee	(Representative from Home Affairs Department)

### Absent with Apologies

Mr CHAN Kui-yin  
Mr Norman CHAN Shui-tim

Mr CHAN Tung  
Prof CHEUNG Siu-yin  
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung  
Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun  
Mr SUEN Kai-cheong  
Mr Kenneth TSUI Kam-cheung

**In Attendance**

Mr Thomas CHOW Tat-ming (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)  
Mr Alan SIU Yu-bun (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)  
Mr CHENG Kong-yu (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)  
Mrs Kane LI CHOI Wing-kwan (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)  
Mrs CHOY LAM Sau-ha (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)  
Dr CHOW Wah (Education and Manpower Bureau)  
Dr LEE Chee-kwan (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)  
Ms LOK Kit-ha (Secretary) (Leisure and Cultural Services Department)

**I. Opening Remarks**

1.1 The Chairman welcomed members and representatives from various government departments to the Meeting. Moreover, he welcomed Mr Thomas CHOW, who had taken up the post of Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (DLCS). As Mr CHOW, DLCS had held many posts before, the Chairman believed that he would sure be able to provide much valuable advice on promoting the development of community sports. In addition, the Chairman also welcomed Ms TSANG Yin-mei of the Social Welfare Department, who had replaced Mr SIT Tung, Ms Sheree FU of the Home Affairs Department (HAD), who had replaced Miss Victoria TANG, and Dr CHOW Wah of the Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) to attend the meeting.

1.2 Mr CHOW, DLCS stated that he was very happy to join the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). In his recent Policy Address, the Chief Executive pointed out that Hong Kong would promote sports development on three fronts, namely “Sport for All”, “Elite Athletes” and “Major Sporting Events”. The Community Sports Committee (CSC) had great responsibility in promoting “Sport for All”, which was also the key task of the LCSD. In the future, the LCSD would work hand in hand with the Chairman, the Vice-chairman and all Members to promote the development of “Sport for All”. As the first “Hong Kong Games” (HKG) would stage next year, he said that the LCSD would tie in wholeheartedly with the decisions of the CSC in the hope of making the first major event of “Sport for All” a success. Mr CHOW, DLCS added that the staff of the LCSD and he welcomed any comments on the work of LCSD from Members at anytime.

1.3 The Chairman thanked Ms Anissa WONG, the former DLCS for her contribution to the CSC all along.

1.4 The Chairman said that the 11th Meeting of the CSC was originally scheduled to be held on 8 November but was postponed to 22 November because LCSD had to compile the comments from 18 District Councils (DCs) after the consultation exercise on “Strategies for Promoting Community Sports” which ended on 7 November before making report to the CSC. He apologized to the Members for any inconvenience caused.

### **Item 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 10th Meeting of the CSC**

2.1 The Secretariat issued the draft Minutes of the 10th Meeting to Members on 7 November 2006 by fax. Up till then, the Secretariat had not received any proposals for amendments. There being no amendments, the Chairman announced the endorsement of the Minutes of the 10th Meeting.

2.2 On 8 August 2006, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) also issued the draft Minutes of Meeting of the brainstorming session held at the Kowloon Club to Members on 25 April by fax. Up till then, the HAB had received a proposal from the EMB for amending Item 2.7 of the Minutes. The Chairman asked Members to read the summary of proposed amendments of Minutes tabled at the Meeting. As there was no other amendments, the Chairman announced the endorsement of the Minutes of Meeting of the brainstorming session.

### **Item 2: Matters Arising**

#### **(i) Progress of the Development of a Large and Multi-purpose Stadium at Kai Tak**

3.1 Mr Daniel SIN of the HAB briefed Members on the progress of the development of a large and multi-purpose stadium at Kai Tak. From August till then, the progress of the development of a large and multi-purpose stadium at Kai Tak had been satisfactory. After the completion of the third round of public consultation exercise at the end of August, the Planning Department had drafted the outline zoning plan of Kai Tak based on the public opinions. On 10 November, the outline plan was submitted to and then endorsed by the Town Planning Board. It was confirmed in the outline plan that a piece of land with an area of up to 23.2 hectares at Kai Tak had been reserved for the development of a multi-purpose stadium. With the proposed metropolitan park and the adjacent open space, a sport centre would be developed in that area. The Administration would like to take this opportunity to develop an ideal venue for promoting sports and holding major sports events. During the public consultation, views on the development of a multi-purpose stadium had been collected from different sectors and groups. The proposals were generally accepted by the public while some people concerned whether there was sufficient passive recreational facilities. On various occasions, the Administration had clearly explained that the open space around the proposed stadium would be reserved for the purpose of security and crowd control. Except those days when major sports events were held, the facilities would be open to the public for leisure purpose. The members of LegCo Panel on

Planning, Lands and Works also supported the proposal of Kai Tak development. The HAB had engaged a financial consultant company to study the facilities and operation mode of the stadium. The financial study concerned had nearly come to the conclusion and the progress would be reported to the CSC in the future. Finally, Mr Daniel SIN thanked all Members for giving support and valuable advice on the development of a large and multi-purpose stadium and hoped that Members would keep on taking note of and give their support to the proposal.

3.2 Mr Francis CHAU would like to know whether an indoor skating rink and a bowling centre would be constructed in South East Kowloon instead of Tseung Kwan O as originally planned.

3.3 Mr Daniel SIN responded that the financial consultant had been asked to consider constructing the said facilities during the briefing session. However, it was reported by the media that similar facilities were already provided in Kwun Tong and in the vicinity of Kai Tak, therefore, further consideration should be given to the proposal.

**(ii) Report on the setting up of the “Hong Kong Games” Organising Committee and the Working Group on the “Formulation of Indicators for Measuring the Effectiveness of Promoting Sport for All”**

4.1 The Chairman reported that at the 10th meeting of the CSC, it was endorsed that a Working Group and a “Hong Kong Games” Organising Committee would be set up to study and examine in detail the formulation of indicators to measure the effectiveness of Sport for All and coordinate all matters relating to the organisation of the HKG respectively.

4.2 Mr CHOW, DLCS, reported on the matters of setting up the “Hong Kong Games” Organising Committee. After consideration, it was proposed to invite Mr CHAU How-chen, the Chairman and Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman to act as the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the “Hong Kong Games” Organising Committee and thanked them for accepting the invitation and appointment. As for the government side, Mr Alan SIU, the Deputy Director was appointed as the Vice-chairman of the Organising Committee while other members would include representatives from the sports sector, 18 DCs, etc. It was expected that the Organising Committee would be set up and hold its first preparatory meeting soon.

4.3 The Chairman thanked the government for the appointment and said that he looked forward to working in close collaboration with the two Vice-chairmen Mr John FAN and Mr Alan SIU to make the first HKG a success. The Chairman pointed out that since the size of the Organising Committee was already very large and members would include representatives from the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC), the relevant National Sports Associations (NSAs), the 18 DCs, the LCSD, etc., he proposed to invite two CSC members to join the Organising Committee of the first HKG and encouraged Members to nominate.

4.4 Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman nominated Mr Kenny CHOW and Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing to join the Organising Committee because Mr Kenny CHOW was the representative of the sports sector of the tertiary institutions and Ms CHAN LO Yin-bing represented both the DC and District Sports Association (DSA).

4.5 As there was no other nominations, Members endorsed the proposal concerned. The Chairman welcomed Mr Kenny CHOW and Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing to join the “Hong Kong Games” Organising Committee.

4.6 Regarding the setting up of the Working Group on the “Formulation of Indicators for Measuring the Effectiveness of Promoting Sport for All”, the Chairman stated that since Dr LO Wing-lok and Mr Francis CHAU had served the Advisory Committee on “Physical Fitness Test for the Community” as members, he proposed to keep them both in the Working Group to facilitate the following up action of the relevant study. In addition, as the work of the Working Group would involve matters of school sports, the Chairman proposed to invite Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung to join the working group. Depending on the future workload, further consideration might be given to enlarge the membership of the Working Group.

4.7 The proposal was endorsed by the meeting. The Chairman thanked Dr LO Wing-lok, Mr Francis CHAU and Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung for joining the Working Group and proposed that Dr LO Wing-lok should act as the convenor of the Working Group. The Chairman stated that the first meeting of the “Hong Kong Games” Organising Committee and the Working Group were expected to be held during the period between December 2006 and January 2007. The Secretariat would inform the members concerned of the date and arrangement of the meetings in due course.

### **(iii) Report on 2006 Hong Kong and Shanghai Summer Sports Camp for Youth**

5.1 The 2006 Hong Kong and Shanghai Summer Sports Camp for Youth was held successfully at Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre from 7 August to 11 August 2006 with Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung and Mr CHAN Kui-yin of the CSC acted as the Head and the Deputy Head of the Camp respectively. Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung summarized the activities held at the Summer Camp to the CSC. 47 Shanghai and 50 Hong Kong youngsters aged between 11 and 15 had participated in the summer camp activities and took part in the exchange training programmes on basketball and tennis. The opening and closing ceremonies were held at Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre on 7 August and 10 August 2006 respectively. Special arrangements were made this year for the participants from both Hong Kong and Shanghai to stay in the same camp so that they might have more opportunities for exchange and communication. Both the Shanghai and Hong Kong delegations were perfectly satisfied with the exchange activities. Apart from achieving the objective of sports exchange, the participants’ interest for sports was enhanced also. In addition, activities such as visits to the Hong Kong Stadium, Ocean Park, Hong Kong Disneyland, the Peak, etc., allowed the participants to know Hong Kong better. During the latter stage of the Summer Camp, ball games competitions were arranged. The Shanghai’s Delegation was very much satisfied with the arrangements of Hong Kong, and the head of Hong Kong’s

Delegation and LCSD representatives were invited to have dinner with them. It would be Shanghai's turn to hold the Summer Camp next year.

**Item 3: Report on the Introduction of the Paper on “Strategies for Promoting Community Sports” to District Councils (CSC Paper 7/06)**

6.1 The Chairman remarked that starting from September, the Deputy Director and Assistant Director of LCSD had attended the meetings of the 18 DCs respectively to introduce the paper on “Strategies for Promoting Community Sports”. The DCs were invited to give their active support and participation in promoting the development of community sports. The consultation exercise had completed successfully. The Chairman requested Miss Olivia CHAN, Assistant Director of LCSD to report on the results of the consultation and views of the DCs.

6.2 Miss Olivia CHAN of LCSD briefed Members on the contents of CSC Paper 7/06 with the aid of PowerPoint and reported the results of the introduction of the paper on “Strategies for Promoting Community Sports” to the 18 DCs and the subsequent follow-up actions to be taken.

6.3 The Chairman remarked that the 18 DCs had shown strong support for the major directions of development proposed in the strategy paper and had provided many invaluable views to the LCSD for consideration. The Chairman requested Members to give their views on the contents of the paper.

6.4 Members discussed in detail the contents of the paper. The points of discussion were summarised as follows:

- (a) Mr Francis CHAU thanked the LCSD for introducing the strategy paper to the 18 DCs in the territory respectively. With regard to the issue of improving the communication between NSAs, DCs and DSAs, the Sai Kung DC had reflected the difficulties and restrictions encountered by district sports organisations in joining some NSAs as affiliated club members. Some district sports organisations found it hard to join the NSAs as affiliated club members, and they had no priority in hiring venue facilities because of that. Given that DCs would take part in the management of venue facilities in the future, in order to strengthen communication and improve collaboration between the DCs, district sports organisations and NSAs, he hoped that information on the extent of flexibility that DC might exercise when allocating venue facilities to local organisations in the future could be provided to the DCs for reference as soon as possible. Moreover, regarding the opening of school sports facilities for public use, Mr Francis CHAU remarked that he had, when serving in district, discussed with schools in his district on the feasibility of opening libraries and other sports facilities to the community, and noted initially the restrictions (including staff allowance, maintenance fees, etc.) encountered by schools in opening facilities. Since Sai Kung DC was one of the trial districts to take part in the pilot scheme, Sai Kung DC had, when hiring school facilities, considered initially to providing hiring charges and operational fees to schools for

them to take care of areas such as insurance, employ part-time staff, etc. He suggested the LCSD should take it as a reference.

- (b) The Chairman remarked that since quite a number of organisations were very concerned about the collaboration between NSAs and district sports organisations, he invited Prof LEUNG Mee-lee, representative of SF&OC, to respond to the issue of district sports organisations being unable to join NSAs as affiliated club members.
- (c) Prof LEUNG Mee-lee explained that although NSAs were the affiliated club members of SF&OC, they had autonomy in their own administrative management. At present, each NSA had quite a number of affiliated club members. If a district sports organisation was unable to join a NSA concerned as affiliated club member, it might be due to various reasons and SF&OC would not verify whether the applicant had been unfairly treated during its application. As circumstances varied in each case, the problem had yet to be identified. Hence it was hard to make a generalised comment at the moment.
- (d) Mr Francis CHAU remarked that as DCs would take part in the management of venue facilities in the future, they might reconsolidate and reallocate resources according to the circumstances of their own district. Owing to limited venue resources, there might be changes in the previous arrangement of NSAs having priority in hiring venue facilities. To avoid confusion and disputes, he suggested that guidelines on the allocation of venue facilities that DCs have to follow in the future should be drawn up in advance.
- (e) Prof LEUNG Mee-lee concurred with the views of Mr Francis CHAU and proposed that when discussing the allocation of venue facilities in the future, the DCs should arrange for the representative(s) of SF&OC to attend the meetings, listen to the views of DC members and communicate with them.
- (f) Mr CHOW, DLCS, said in response that the DCs would take part in the management of district facilities in the future following a review of its functions. Hence, some NSAs were very concerned about the allocation and arrangement of venue facilities in the future. Owing to the limited district facilities, arrangement on the priority in hiring venue facilities should be put in place. Mr CHOW, DLCS thus suggested that when discussing this issue, the respective DCs might invite the representatives of NSAs to attend the meetings so as to listen to their views and, depending on the circumstances and needs of their own district, submit proposals to the government for consideration. Given that different districts might have different views, Mr CHOW, DLCS concurred that it was primal to discuss the issue of venue arrangement in the future with the four districts where the pilot scheme would be implemented. In addition, with regard to the school resources, given that the sports facility resources were limited and the majority of users hoped to book

the sports facilities during the prime time, Mr CHOW, DLCS thanked Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman for taking active part in the negotiation with school councils on the feasibility of opening school sports facilities to the public to alleviate the problem of insufficient venue and making better use of community resources. Concerning the libraries, Mr CHOW, DLCS remarked that the LCSD was quite ready to have the books on loan to schools so as to encourage the schools to open their library facilities for public use. It was hoped that work would be done in that direction to encourage more school principals to open their school facilities to the community. The LCSD would also continue following up the issues of insurance and maintenance cost with the EMB.

- (g) In response to the issue of district sports organisations joining NSAs as affiliated club members, Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman said that as quite a number of NSAs were facing the same problem, he proposed that the qualifications of affiliated club member should be clearly stated in the prospectus to avoid disputes. He cited the School Sports Federation (SSF) as an example and said that not all the schools could join the SSF. Tutorial schools, for instance, were not eligible for joining. In addition, as regards the opening of school facilities, he reported that a meeting with the EMB and school councils was held on September 15 to identify better the worries of schools in opening sports facilities for public use. The representatives of school councils would continue to collect views from their respective members and a second meeting would be held three months later. It was hoped that the issues of concern of schools could be itemized after the second meeting and then submitted to the departments concerned for consideration. Since the opening of school facilities would involve school administration, he suggested that the EMB should arrange for representative(s) responsible for school administration to attend the meetings in future to facilitate discussion. Furthermore, he explained that local dignitaries and DC members in general had a misconception that all schools were either government-owned or public-funded. It was in fact not the case. Quite a number of school premises were constructed through self-financing or they were not government property. Hence, when discussing the opening of school facilities, amiable communication should be maintained to encourage schools to open their school facilities of their own accord. Lastly, he thanked the LCSD for providing effective assistance in respect of the opening of school sports facilities and undertaking to follow up on the concerns of schools.
- (h) Mr Benedict LEE wanted to find out whether the main objective of the HKG was to promote sport for all or to select elite athletes. Furthermore, he opined that insufficiency of venue facilities would exist mainly during the prime time. For instance, LCSD venue facilities were of low usage rate at daytime but they were not enough to meet the demand at night. As daytime was the prime time for schools, something should be done to coordinate the utilization between the two periods. He considered that the current discussion on ways to open school facilities was

primarily work at medium low level. He suggested that the issue should be handed over to the bureaux for formulating overall strategies. To consolidate community and school facilities, he suggested that when constructing new community facilities, consideration should be given to construct these centrally-managed facilities next to schools so that they could be used by schools at daytime and members of the public after school hours. This arrangement would not only enable effective use of school resources but also speed up the supply of community facilities. In doing so, the schools concerned would have no need to worry about the management of venues and the issue of insurance. He suggested the CSC should consider this proposal.

- (i) The Chairman said in response that the main objective of HKG was to strengthen cooperation between district sports organisations and NSAs, and it served as an embodiment of their promotion of community sports. The targets of the HKG were mainly members of the 18 districts and not the elite athletes. However, athletes with potential could be identified through the staging of HKG and recommendation could be made to relevant NSAs for these athletes to receive further training. The rules and conditions of the HKG would be submitted to the “Hong Kong Games” Organising Committee in due course for detailed deliberation. Moreover, the Chairman requested Mr Benjamin YUNG, representative of EMB, to respond to the suggestion of linking schools with community facilities.
  
- (j) Mr Benjamin YUNG thanked Mr Benedict LEE for his suggestion and considered that it was very creative. He remarked that prior to the merger of the former EMB with the Education Department (ED), the School Building Design Committee under the ED had examined and deliberated the suggestion in 2000. It had even paid visits to other countries to take a look of their facilities. For instance, in Singapore, some sports facilities were constructed near schools so that the facilities could be used by the schools at daytime and open for public use at night. While adjacent to the schools, these facilities were built separately and independently. The issues of management and security were thus not involved. Given that the Planning Department had to go through established procedures for land use planning, and it took about 4 years for school construction, the ED was not able to make changes to the design forthwith in response to the need for school since it had to cope with the demand for school places at that time. Up till now, due to the drop in new birth population, the EMB seldom had the chance to submit proposal to construct new schools. He, however, considered that the suggestion in question was worth re-examining in the future when opportunities arose. Furthermore, Mr Benjamin YUNG thanked Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman for clarifying the issue of opening school facilities. Since the majority of schools providing better facilities were not government properties, it was hoped that through negotiation and amicable communication, these schools might be willing to open their facilities for community use.

- (k) Ms CHAU Chuen-heung opined that what had to be solved at present was not the problem of school construction. She said that the facilities of some schools with Year 2000 design premises were very satisfactory. However, no one was able to answer the concerns as to how to solve the problems of venue security and insurance. If the worries of schools could be addressed, she believed that many schools would be willing to open their facilities for public hiring. Furthermore, she also agreed with Mr Benedict LEE on his suggestion of having the central to be responsible for the management of venue. Consideration should also be given to install additional security facilities or adopt two independent security systems, etc., to solve the problem of venue security. She opined that opening school facilities for community use was an issue of management strategy that could not be solved at district level and it should be dealt with by someone at the top level.
- (l) Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung opined that apart from Year 2000 design schools, the facilities of other schools were not as favourable as that of the LCSD. Besides, the facilities of some Year 2000 design schools were not able to meet the needs of the public. He took the schools on Po Kong Village Road as an example. There were 5 to 6 primary and secondary schools in total. Apart from insufficient sports facilities, they had to share with other schools for facilities. In addition, the usage rate of facilities by primary and secondary schools on weekdays was already quite high. They also had to undergo maintenance during the summer holiday, so the time available for opening was rather limited. He considered that the sports facilities of universities were comparatively better. Consideration might be given to open university facilities to the community during long holidays. It would be more favourable than the idea of opening the facilities of primary and secondary schools.
- (m) Mr Kenny CHOW said in response that for the facilities at universities, arrangements had to be made for classes to be held at daytime and training sessions for school teams at night. Maintenance works would also be carried out during the long holidays.
- (n) Mr Benedict LEE added that taking his university as an example, there were over ten thousands students and several thousands academic staff members in total. Arrangements had to be made for classes to be held at daytime and the usage rate at night was very high too. The time available for opening was quite limited. If the universities had to open their facilities during the long holidays, they would have to face the same problems of venue security and maintenance. Since the universities were not under the ambit of the government or bureaux, the areas involved were more complicated than that of primary and secondary schools. He suggested that if the plan of linking schools with community facilities could be successfully implemented in Singapore, it might be possible for Hong Kong to adjust the policies to facilitate development in that direction. Furthermore, as a number of university cities or school cities were already sharing the same facilities, consideration might

be given to the suggestion concerned during the redevelopment or conversion of these schools.

- (o) Mr Alan SIU, the Deputy Director stated that following the meeting with the representatives of school councils previously, he had initial understanding of the worries and concerns of schools in opening facilities. The LCSD understood that the circumstances of each school were different and there was no need to open the sports facilities of all schools. It was hoped that during the peak hours when the usage rate of LCSD facilities was high, some of the school sports facilities (with relatively low usage rate) in each district could be open (i.e. night time on weekdays and public holidays) to alleviate the public demand for venues. The LCSD had full comprehension of the schools' worries in opening facilities. As regards the opening of school venues, there were many successful examples in the past, such as cases in Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai. Since the planning of community facilities could not keep pace with the population growth, the LCSD had successfully liaised with schools and booked their facilities for holding LCSD training programmes and recreation and sports activities. With the LCSD as the person-in-charge of the venue booking, the schools concerned needed not to contact the participants individually. Mr Alan SIU, the Deputy Director opined that if a single person-in-charge could be provided and the needs of schools were dealt with properly, it was believed that the worries of schools could be allayed. In addition, should the opening of facilities speed up the wear and tear of facilities or increase the maintenance costs, the LCSD would study actively with the EMB on ways to make changes to the existing maintenance plan to cope with the situations. It was hoped that by negotiating with schools in that direction, concrete results could be provided at the next meeting. Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman suggested that prior to the second meeting, detailed plan and follow-up arrangements could be drafted to facilitate discussion.
- (p) Mrs CHAN LO Yin-bing remarked that at present, quite a number of schools were facing the arrangement of being closed down. She took Sha Tin District as an example. There were at least four schools facing the problem of being closed down. She inquired of the EMB about whether the vacant school premises could be converted for other uses following the closing down of schools to avoid wastage of resources and expedite the supply of community facilities.
- (q) Mr Benjamin YUNG said in response that all vacant school premises had to be handed over to the Government Property Agency for reallocation. Currently, the School Allocation Committee under the EMB was following up the work. In addition, he remarked that the competition for vacant school premises was keen. Apart from arranging for vacant school premises to be used as temporary school premises to correspond with the redevelopment of schools, other NSAs would also join in to compete for vacant school premises to be used for other development purposes.

- (r) Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung added that there was no provision of ball court/field facilities in some of the schools being closed down. The facilities concerned were primarily managed by the Housing Department and had been open for public use.

6.5 After detailed discussion, the Chairman concluded that in-depth discussion and examination of the opening of school sports facilities had been conducted in the past. For better use of resources, he hoped that the relevant bureaux and departments would continue to study the suggestion and make follow-up arrangements.

**Item 4: Report on the Findings of “Public Opinion Survey on Physical Exercise Participation in Hong Kong” (CSC Paper 8/06)**

7.1 The Chairman stated that Dr Patrick HO, Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA) had instructed the LCSD to conduct, as a start, a relatively small-scale opinion survey to study the participation pattern of physical exercise for members of the public before formulating indicators to measure the effectiveness of the strategies for promoting community sports. It was hoped that the findings of the survey would provide a basis for formulating the indicators in future. The LCSD had just finished the survey titled “Public Opinion Survey on Physical Exercise Participation in Hong Kong” and the Chairman invited Miss Olivia CHAN, Assistant Director of LCSD to brief Members on the contents of CSC Paper 8/06 and Dr LEE Chi-kwan of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to report the findings and recommendations of the survey.

7.2 Miss Olivia CHAN, Assistant Director of LCSD briefed Members on the contents of CSC 8/06 and the details of the findings and recommendations of the opinion survey was explained by Dr LEE Chi-kwan through PowerPoint. The Chairman invited Members to comment on the findings and recommendations of the opinion survey.

7.3 Members had a detailed discussion on the findings and their recommendations were summarised as follows:

- (a) Mr Kenny CHOW said that if the definition of doing exercise was doing physical exercise at least three times per week with an average of 30 minutes on each occasion, then as indicated in Slide 33, only an average of 27.7% of the respondents had done physical exercise in the past three months. Since the opinion survey had adopted a definition which was different from that of the study on physical exercise conducted by the Hong Kong Sports Development Board in 2003, the findings did not imply that there was an increase in the participation of physical exercise in the recent years. Therefore, he suggested that education and sports professionals as well as Members of the CSC continue to exert effort to this end.
- (b) Concerning the findings of the opinion survey, Mr Benedict LEE had the following enquiries:
  - (i) According to Slide 25, a total of 89.4% of the respondents did not participate

in any organised recreational sports activities in the past three months. To avoid wastage of resources, did the survey try to explore the reasons behind that?

- (ii) According to Slide 34, only 28.6% of the young did exercise to “enhance health”. He would like to know the other reasons for the young to do exercise.
  - (iii) According to Slide 33, 53.1% of the elderly did physical exercise, the proportion was higher than that of the young and the adults. However, Slide 37 indicated that their average duration of exercise on each occasion was shorter than that of the young and the adults. He wanted to know the relationship between these two slides.
  - (iv) According to Slide 43, almost 80% of Hong Kong people did physical exercise in the past three months. The percentage was higher than that (47%) of the Millennium Sports Study conducted by the Hong Kong Sports Development Board from 2003 to 2004. He would like to know whether the benchmark adopted by these two studies were the same, the definition of “doing physical exercise” in the current opinion survey and how the above figure of 80% was reached.
- (c) Mr Francis CHAU asked whether the Hong Kong Polytechnic University could provide the basic information of the opinion survey including the age and sex distribution of the respondents, the definition of “doing physical exercise”, and the breakdowns of the findings for reference. These figures could be used to study in conjunction with that of the “Report for the Study of the Physical Fitness Test for the Community”. In addition, he opined that as the opinion survey was conducted through telephone interviews, it might be possible that some of the respondents had misunderstood some of the questions and thus affecting some of the figures obtained.
- (d) Dr LO Wing-lok said that certain findings of the opinion survey were identical to that of the “Report for the Study of the Physical Fitness Test for the Community”. For instance, both studies showed that generally 70% of Hong Kong people did not do enough physical exercise. However, he also wanted to know the benchmark of “doing physical exercise” adopted in this opinion survey. In addition, Slide 45 indicated that the respondents who did not do any physical exercise were mainly those with lower education attainment, living in private rental premises or retired persons. This was understandable, as, for instance, the working class had to earn a living and did not have the time and energy to do physical exercise after work. Unless the living standards of the society as a whole could be improved, this social problem would not be easy to solve. To encourage people living in private rental premises and the retired persons to do more exercise, he proposed that community

facilities should be improved in general and the findings of the opinion survey be distributed to the management of all organisations to encourage them to intensify pre-retirement seminars and promote pre-retirement preparations among their employees.

- (e) Prof LEUNG Mee-lee wished to know the age distribution of the respondents and the definition of “doing physical exercise”. She also opined that students attending physical exercise lessons at school should not be regarded as having done physical exercise. In addition, she advised that if the methodology of the opinion survey differed from that of the study conducted by the Hong Kong Sports Development Board, then the findings of the two studies should not be compared.
- (f) Dr LEE Chi-kwan replied as follows:
  - (i) The opinion survey was primarily a preliminary study. Therefore, the questionnaire was not designed to explore why the respondents’ did not participate in organised sports activities.
  - (ii) Besides “enhancing health”, the young also did physical exercise for leisure, personal interest and fitness, etc..
  - (iii) Slide 33 mainly showed the proportions of the young, adults and elderly who did physical exercise and the percentage totalled 100%. Slide 37 compared the average duration of physical exercise of the elderly on each occasion.
  - (iv) The opinion survey had already collected various kinds of information of the respondents such as their age and sex distribution, educational qualifications and their residential districts, etc. A preliminary report of the details had been submitted to the LCSD. The LCSD could provide the report to interested Members for reference.
  - (v) The meaning of “doing physical exercise” was defined by the respondents themselves. Telephone interviews had its limitations. To avoid discouraging the respondents from answering, the interviews should not be too lengthy and the number of questions asked should not be too many. There were altogether 32 questions in the questionnaire which was already the maximum in terms of the questions asked in the telephone interview. The response rate was about 50%.
- (g) Miss Olivia CHAN of the LCSD added that this was a relatively small-scale and simple opinion survey. It aimed primarily to provide fundamental data, which would submit in conjunction with the findings of the “Report for the Study of the Physical Fitness Test for the Community” to the Working Group on the Formulation of Indicators to Measure the Effectiveness of Strategies for Promoting

Community Sports as reference for formulating more systematic indicators and implementing large-scale project in the future.

- (h) Mr Benedict LEE suggested that for the avoidance of doubt, relevant factors, such as it was the respondents themselves who defined whether they had done any physical exercise, should be added in the report.
- (i) Dr LEE Chi-kwan added that it was a scientific opinion survey and the random sampling was done in accordance with the relevant standards. The successful samples, totalled more than 1 000, were suffice to project the situation of the whole territory, and 50% response rate was already quite satisfactory.
- (j) Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman pointed out that since the benchmark of the opinion survey differed from that of the study conducted by the Hong Kong Sports Development Board, he proposed to delete from the document the information concerning the comparison of the two studies.
- (k) Ms CHAU Chuen-heung enquired about the recommendations of the opinion survey and the “Report for the Study of the Physical Fitness Test for the Community” so that she could know how the LCSD would further pursue on the recommendations when studying its long-term plans and promoting activities? What should the community do to help promote “Sport for All”? How would the resources be allocated and how to synergise with the DCs, etc.
- (l) Miss Olivia CHAN of the LCSD replied that the findings of the opinion survey and the “Report for the Study of the Physical Fitness Test for the Community” would be submitted to the Working Group and they would be used as a reference for studying and formulating assessment indicators in the future. In addition, after consolidating the CSC’s opinions, the findings of the “Public Opinion Survey on Physical Exercise Participation in Hong Kong” would be distributed to all the District Leisure Services Office of the LCSD to act as reference and fundamental data for formulating recreational sports activities in the future. Besides, large-scale researches and other follow-up actions would also be carried out in the future regularly.
- (m) Mr Benedict LEE expressed that as the opinion survey showed that 90% of the respondents would not participate in organised recreational sports activities, he hoped that the LCSD could pursue further on the reasons of such.

7.4 After detailed discussions, the Chairman concluded that the LCSD would continue to follow up on the relevant issues while the newly established Working Group would continue to explore why members of the public did not participate in recreational sports activities. The Chairman expressed his gratitude to the Hong Kong Polytechnic University for conducting this opinion survey.

(Post-meeting Note: According to the information provided by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the opinion survey showed that 80% of Hong Kong people did exercise in the past three months. Whereas, the findings were 47% in the Millennium Sports Study conducted by the Hong Kong Sports Development Board from October 2003 to February 2004. Both surveys asked, in similar ways, the respondents whether they did any kind of recreational sports activities in the past 3 months. The participation rate was thus calculated according to their answers. In addition, the kinds of sports and other relevant information asked in both surveys were open-ended and defined by the respondents themselves. Therefore, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University considered that the findings of the two surveys were comparable.)

**Item 5: Any Other Business**

8.1 The Chairman remarked that this was the last meeting of the current CSC as its term would be expired at the end of this year. He expressed his gratitude to the Members for their enthusiasm and valuable opinions. The Secretariat would inform Members of the date of next meeting

8.2 On behalf of the Members, Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman thanked the Chairman for his leadership. He also thanked the HAB and LCSD for the services they provided to this Committee.

8.3 The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m..

\*\*\*\*\*

Community Sports Committee Secretariat  
February 2007