

## COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the 14th Meeting of Community Sports Committee

**Date:** 12 September 2007 (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)  
Mrs Susana CHAN LO Yin-bing  
Mr Norman CHAN Shui-tim  
Ms CHAU Chuen-heung  
Prof CHEUNG Siu-yin  
Mr Cowen B C CHIU  
Mr Kenny CHOW Kun-wah  
Mr Alan CHOW Yiu-ming  
Mr Benedict LEE Shui-sing  
Mrs Laura LING LAU Yuet-fun  
Dr LO Wing-lok  
Mr TONG Wai-lun  
Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung  
Prof LEUNG Mee-lee

#### **Department Representatives in Regular Attendance**

Mr Donald CHOY Chi-mun	(Representative from Home Affairs Bureau)
Ms 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 Bureau)
Ms Olivia YIP Wai-ling	(Representative from Social Welfare Department)
Ms LI Wan-in	(Representative from Home Affairs Department)

#### **Absent with Apologies**

Mr John FAN Kam-ping (Vice-chairman)  
Mr CHAN Kui-yin  
Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming

Mr FUNG Kwong-chung  
Mr James KONG Tze-wing  
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung  
Mr SUEN Kai-cheong  
Mr PUI Kwan-kay  
Mr Kenneth TSUI Kam-cheung

**In Attendance**

Mr Thomas CHOW Tat-ming	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
Mr LIU Ming-kwong	(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)
Ms LOK Kit-ha (Secretary)	(Leisure and Cultural Services Department)

**Opening Remarks**

1.1 The Chairman welcomed all Members and representatives from various government departments to the Meeting. In particular, he welcomed Mr Donald CHOY of the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) to attend the Meeting as a replacement of Ms Janet WONG Chin-kiu.

1.2 On behalf of the Community Sports Committee (CSC), the Chairman congratulated Mrs Laura LING and Prof LEUNG Mee-lee for having been awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star and Chief Executive's Commendation for Community Service respectively on 1 July.

**Item 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the CSC**

2.1 The Secretariat sent the draft minutes of the 13th Meeting to Members for comment by fax on 30 July and hitherto a proposal for amending item 5.3(a) of the minutes from the Education Bureau (EB) was received. The amended draft minutes was sent to all Members by fax on 5 September. The Chairman asked Members to refer to the summary of proposed amendments to the minutes tabled at the Meeting. As there was no further amendment proposed at the Meeting, the Chairman announced the minutes of the 13th Meeting being endorsed.

## **Item 2: Matters Arising**

### **(i) Report of the Working Group on the Formulation of Indicators for Measuring the Effectiveness of Sport for All**

3.1 The Chairman invited Dr LO Wing-lok, convenor of the Working Group on the Formulation of Indicators for Measuring the Effectiveness of Sport for All (the Working Group), to report the progress of the related work.

3.2 Dr LO Wing-lok reported that the Working Group had actively undertaken follow-ups after the endorsement of the proposal on the study on the participation patterns of physical activity in Hong Kong in the 13th Meeting. The whole study comprised two phases. In phase one, a consultant would be commissioned to establish a set of indicators for measuring the effectiveness of Sport for All and, with reference to the experience of other countries, formulate the survey methodology and analyse the findings of survey. In phase two, an institute would be commissioned to conduct a questionnaire survey. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) had called tenders from seven tertiary institutions including six universities and one institute of education to conduct the consultancy study of phase one. Two tenders were received hitherto. It was anticipated that the selection procedures would be completed in mid September and the study could commence afterwards. Phase one of the study was expected to be completed in January 2008 and the questionnaire survey would be conducted in April and October in the same year to collect the data of Hong Kong people's physical activities in summer and winter respectively. The report of the whole study was expected to be completed in December 2008.

### **(ii) Report on Hong Kong and Shanghai Summer Sports Camp for Youth 2007**

4.1 The Chairman invited Prof CHEUNG Siu-yin, the Deputy Head of the Camp, to report on the activities of the Camp.

4.2 Prof CHEUNG reported that the Hong Kong and Shanghai Summer Sports Camp for Youth 2007 was successfully held at Oriental Land in Shanghai from 6 August to 10 August 2007. The Camp was jointly organised by the HAB of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Shanghai Administration of Sports, supported by Hong Kong Basketball Association and Hong Kong Tennis Association. Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman and Prof CHEUNG were the Head and the Deputy Head of the Camp respectively. 83 youngsters from Hong Kong and Shanghai aged between 11 and 15 participated in the Camp and received trainings on basketball and tennis. Apart from trainings and competitions, the participants also took part in camp

activities, visited the training base at Oriental Land, Shanghai International Circuit and scenic spots such as Oriental Pearl Tower and Huangpu River, etc. The Shanghai Administration of Sports held a welcome dinner on 6 August and the guests present included Mr LI Wei-ting, the Deputy Director of Shanghai Administration of Sports and Mr SHU Huimin, the Director of Sports-For-All Department of Shanghai Administration of Sports. The opening ceremony of the Camp was held in the morning of 7 August and Mr SHU Huimin was one of the guests. Both the Shanghai and Hong Kong delegations were very satisfied with the camp activities. The Camp not only achieved the objective of sports exchange, but also cultivated the participants' independence and self-discipline. In addition, the Camp helped the participants to give full play to team spirit, enhanced their understanding of the sport cultures of the two places and fostered their interest in sports. The Shanghai Administration of Sports thanked Hong Kong for participating in the Camp and looked forward to organising the same exchange programme with Hong Kong in the following year. The total expenditure of the Camp was about \$260,000 among which \$70,000 came from the Hong Kong Government and \$190,000 from enrolment fee paid by Hong Kong participants.

4.3 The Chairman thanked Prof CHEUNG for her thorough report. He remarked that Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman was not in Hong Kong and could not attend the Meeting. On behalf of the CSC, he thanked Mr John FAN, the Vice-chairman and Prof CHEUNG for serving as the Head and the Deputy Head of the Camp and participating in the camp activities with the Hong Kong delegation in Shanghai this year.

#### **Item 4: Streamlining of Sports Funding Mechanism and Additional Subvention for National Sports Association (CSC Paper 6/07)**

5.1 The Chairman invited Mr CHENG Kong-yu of the LCSD to brief Members on the contents of the CSC Paper 6/07 by PowerPoint and invited them to refer to the information tabled at the meeting.

5.2 Mr CHENG Kong-yu finished the briefing. The Chairman invited Members to give their views on the contents of the Paper.

5.3 The views and relevant responses made by Members on the Paper were summarised as follows:

- (a) Mr TONG Wai-lun remarked that the streamlined mechanism was well received by National Sports Associations (NSAs). They had greater flexibility to use the subvention as the number of categories of subvented programmes were cut from eight to four and they were allowed to freely

deploy the funding within the same programme category. Moreover, they could use part of the reserve fund to employ additional staff, which helped to ease their manpower shortage. It was indeed a very good policy. Mr TONG appreciated that the LCSD, having taken the advice of NSAs, implemented and improved the funding mechanism. Of the \$30 million of additional subvention, \$12.8 million was for programme expenses for organising 1 700 programmes including development programmes for schools and local communities, squad trainings and international competitions. Mr TONG asked for the breakdown of the subvention allotted to the said three categories of activities. He added that 100 (6%) of the subvented programmes involved arranging athletes to participate in international competitions. He remarked that the Chief Executive recommended enhancing the training of elite athletes in his Policy Address. Mr TONG opined that elite athletes should be offered more chances to take part in competitions for enhancing their skills. He further pointed out that the current subvention to Hong Kong Badminton Association for international competitions was insufficient. Particularly in the Olympic year, the athletes should be arranged to take part in more international competitions to earn more ranking points, otherwise they were not qualified to compete in the Olympic Games. He suggested increasing relevant subvention for NSAs in the Olympic year for them to strengthen the training of elite athletes by arranging them to take part in more international competitions.

- (b) Mrs Susana CHAN appreciated the provision of additional subvention to NSAs. Of the 1 700 additional programmes, 1 000 were development programmes at the school and community level. She would like to know the respective numbers of school and community development programmes and their details.
- (c) Mr CHENG Kong-yu responded that details would be provided for Members' reference after the meeting. Regarding international competitions, he explained that besides allocating 6% of the \$12.8 million additional subvention for NSAs to participate in international competitions, a fixed amount in the existing some \$110 million provision had been earmarked for NSAs to participate in international competitions. In addition, there were other sources of subvention, such as the Arts and Sport Development Fund, which provided funding for NSAs to participate in major international competitions. He said that the LCSD had all along been very supportive of squad training. Therefore, 35% of the \$12.8

million additional subvention would be allocated for enhancing squad training with a view to strengthening the training of elite athletes and giving them more opportunities to participate in competitions. He added that to tie in with the Chief Executive's policy objective of promoting sports at the grass-roots level, the LCSD would use the additional resources to organise some 1 700 programmes. Some 1 000 of these programmes targeted mainly at schools and the community to enhance sports development at the grass-roots level.

- (d) Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD added that the purpose of the Paper was to report to Members the additional allocation of \$30 million would mainly be used to promote sports at the community level. \$12.8 million of the sum was programme expenses for organising 1 700 programmes. It was hoped that with the additional subvention, NSAs could collaborate with DCs, district sports associations and schools to organise more programmes at the community level. She stated that after granting an additional \$30 million to NSAs, the total subvention for NSAs in the year was more than \$140 million. A significant portion of the sum was funding provision for NSAs to participate in international competitions. Moreover, an additional \$40 million was allocated to NSAs through various channels to provide funding for the training of elite athletes. Funds were also earmarked by the Arts and Sport Development Fund and the Hong Kong Sports Institute for elite athletes to take part in major international competitions. To give a full picture of the allocation of subvention for Members' reference, the LCSD would consolidate the relevant information and submit to Members the breakdowns of the subvention in due course.
- (e) Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung said that he highly appreciated the granting of additional subvention to NSAs. Regarding human resources and salary subvention, he supported the recruitment of additional staff in the Approved Establishment of NSAs. However, he pointed out that although the staff of NSAs were issued a Special Personnel Fund as a token of encouragement, their length of service was yet to be recognised and their salaries remained unchanged. He worried that the lacking of a long-term incremental system might be an obstacle for NSAs to retain their staff. He hoped that the service of these staff could be recognised to encourage them to continue to serve with loyalty.

- (f) Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSD replied that when the subvention to NSAs was administered by the ex-Hong Kong Sports Development Board, there was no pay scale for the subvented staff too. When the LCSD took over the administration of subvention to NSAs in 2004, the subvention mode was kept. She fully understood NSAs' difficulties in retaining their staff. But the provision of annual salary increment was a re-current expenditure and due to the limitation of resources, the Treasury did not provide additional resources for that. As an additional subvention of \$30 million was successfully sought this year, the sum was used as a Special Personnel Fund payable to the staff of NSAs according to their length of service to recognise their loyal service. She said such arrangement would continue in the following year and the LCSD would also continue to endeavour to seek additional resources to cater for the needs in this aspect. She stated that under the streamlined funding mechanism, the personnel funding would be issued to NSAs in four quarterly instalments. The NSAs could use the funds flexibly to meet their developmental and operational needs.
- (g) Mr Kenny CHOW opined that it was unreasonable not to grant increments to staff and it warranted a review. He hoped to seek more resources from the Government through this Committee to address the salary issues of NSAs' staff to avoid the operation of NSAs being hindered by frequent staff turnover.
- (h) Mr YEUNG Hoi-cheung said that the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation currently received subvention from both the EB and the LCSD. Staff whose remunerations were subvented by the EB were granted increments while those subvented by the LCSD were not. As such, there were two different systems in the organisation. He hoped that the mechanism could be reviewed in order to balance staff morale.
- (i) Mr Benedict LEE opined that the provision of increments directly affected staff's willingness to contribute to their organisations. At present, the amount of subvention granted to an NSA was decided in accordance with its performance. He said that if staff were provided with attractive benefits, it would be beneficial to the operation and performance of NSAs. It would be difficult to retain staff, especially those with outstanding performance, without an incremental system. He opined that although the ex-Hong Kong Sports Development Board did not have an incremental system for NSAs' staff, it might be a suitable time to review

the existing subvention mechanism with reference to the operation of other government authorities. He said that if most Members considered it necessary to enhance the subvention mechanism, the CSC should reflect it to the Government with a view to maintaining staff's devotion to NSAs, thereby driving NSAs to strive for better performance.

- (j) The DLCS replied that not only NSAs but also the LCSD faced the problem of insufficient resources. Contract staff currently employed by the LCSD were also not granted increments. He explained that the current system could not be improved with the sole effort of the LCSD or the HAB. It was a matter of government policies. He said that a more feasible means to address the problem was to seek more resources from the Government so that a Special Personnel Fund could be provided to NSAs for retaining staff with long service and boosting staff morale. He fully understood the CSC's request but hoped Members would appreciate that as government resources were limited, additional resources were sought for various policy areas every year. He promised that the LCSD would continue its effort in seeking more resources and strive for better allocation of resources with this approach.

5.4 The Chairman thanked Members for their valuable views. He expressed that since the number of NSAs subvented by the LCSD and the number of organisations subvented by the EB were different, the two could not be mentioned in the same breath. He opined that the new mechanism was a desirable breakthrough and believed that the LCSD would continue to endeavour to seek more resources.

#### **Item 4: Report of the 1st Hong Kong Games Organising Committee (CSC Paper 7/07)**

6.1 The Chairman said that a meeting was held on 22 August to thoroughly review the arrangements of the 1st Hong Kong Games (HKG). He asked Mrs Kane LI, the Secretary General of the 1st HKG Organising Committee (HKGOC), to brief Members on the contents of the CSC Paper 7/07 by PowerPoint. He also asked Members to refer to the information tabled at the meeting.

6.2 After Mrs Kane LI's presentation, the Chairman invited Members to give their views on the Paper.

6.3 Members had a thorough discussion on the Paper. The salient points of the discussion were consolidated as follows:

- (a) Mr Benedict LEE said that the statistics of participants in the competition events of the 1st HKG and its related activities was available. He would like to know if there were any quotas set for the events at the planning stage, the differences between the set quotas and the actual numbers of participants and the reasons for the differences for the next HKG's reference. He also remarked that the activities of the 1st HKG attracted over 100 000 participants and asked if it met the anticipated target. He would like to know more about the anticipated target.
  
- (b) The Chairman commented that in view of the fact that this was the first HKG and the preparation time was relatively tight, the total figure of 1 287 participants already exceeded the anticipated target. Regarding over 100 000 people participating in other related activities, including the opening ceremony, closing ceremony and other publicity activities, he asked Mrs Kane LI, the Secretary General of the OC, to report information in this aspect for Members' reference.
  
- (c) Mrs Kane LI said that given this was the first HKG and only four sports items were included, the numbers of participants of the competition events and related activities were very satisfactory. She stated that NSAs had been consulted regarding the quota and competition format for each event. As the districts probably did not send all their athletes to participate in all the events and some participants took part in two events, that explained the difference between the numbers of participants and the quotas. She asked Members to refer to Annex 4 of the Paper for the numbers of participants in the events of the 1st HKG and its related activities.
  
- (d) The Chairman remarked that the number of participants of the 1st HKG had exceeded the anticipated target. He thanked the DCs and the NSAs for their support and the staff of the LCSD for their contributions to the successful completion of the 1st HKG in view of the tight preparation time. He expressed that in order to allow sufficient time for preparing the next HKG, the 2nd HKGOC would be formed as soon as possible to start the preparation work.
  
- (e) Mr Cowen CHIU also opined the fact that the 1st HKG only included as few as four sports items was undesirable. As it was suggested adding more sports items in the next HKG, he asked whether water sports such as rowing, windsurfing and canoeing would be considered.

- (f) The Chairman replied that upon the formation of the 2nd HKGOC, discussions would be held with the LCSD and the NSAs concerned as soon as possible to decide what sports items should be included in the 2nd HKG taking into consideration the human resources available and technical support from the NSAs.
  
- (g) Mrs Laura LING commented that there was insufficient preparation time for the 1st HKG and publicity had to be stepped up for the 2nd HKG to ensure that all the districts would have a clear understanding of the arrangements of the competition events and give their support. She suggested that the next HKG should tie in with the publicity work of the 18 districts to serve the purpose of Sport-for-All. She remarked that the 1st HKG only included as few as four sports items and that was undesirable. She supported that water sports should be included in the HKG. However, some districts might have difficulties to participate in the water sports for shortage of supporting facilities. She therefore suggested that in considering what sports items to be included, the availability of supporting facilities for the sport in the districts and the popularity of the sport should be taken into account for avoidance of dispute. She said that time was very important as shown from the experience in organising the 1st HKG and therefore sufficient time should be allowed for organising the next HKG and communication with districts enhanced to work out the details of staging the events in the districts.
  
- (h) Mrs Susana CHAN appreciated the successful completion of the 1st HKG given the tight preparation time. She opined that the relatively small number of participants in the 1st HKG was due to the format of the competition. She opined that the evaluation meeting conducted by the 1st HKGOC was very comprehensive. She said that the 1st HKG organised jointly by the LCSD and all the districts under the leadership of the Chairman and Members should score more than 80 marks and was an invaluable experience. She also shared the view that the 1st HKG only included as few as four sports items was undesirable and water sports should be included in the HKG. In considering the sports items to be included, the facilities of the districts and the popularity of the sports must be taken into account.
  
- (i) Ms CHAU Chuen-heung stated that the 1st HKG was a success. She was of the opinion that venue selection must be given careful

consideration and that the venue at Siu Sai Wan was undesirable. As it was located in the upmarket residential area, the audio equipment of the venue was undesirable and failed to create an intensive atmosphere. She pointed out that as the Paper suggested DCs forming their teams to participate in the 2nd HKG next February, more publicity were needed at the district level if active participation and support was expected from DCs. She suggested that after the commencement of the new term of DCs, information on the 2nd HKG might be conveyed to DCs through different channels to ensure both the districts and the public would have a good understanding of the arrangements of the competition events, which would facilitate DCs to form their teams to participate in the 2nd HKG for promotion of the HKG.

- (j) The Chairman thanked Members for their invaluable views. He said that the preparation time for the 1st HKG was relatively tight and only four sports items were included in the 1st HKG. He agreed that the preparation work for the 2nd HKG should start as early as possible and more sports items be added. As the new term of DCs would commence next February, he suggested starting the preparation work for the 2nd HKG at that time and discussing the arrangements of the events with the 18 districts.
- (k) Mr Benedict LEE pointed out that the Paper proposed to solicit support from various sectors of the community, commercial and district sponsorship. He opined publicity was very important. At present, apart from commercial sponsorship, all expenditures of the event were borne by the Government. He therefore worried that publicity might not be sufficient. He considered that a new plan for seeking commercial sponsorship must be formulated. As the East Asian Games would also be held in 2009, there might be difficulties in soliciting commercial sponsorship for the 2nd HKG.
- (l) The Chairman commented that the objectives and nature of the 2nd HKG and the East Asian Games varied. Apart from the funding from the LCSD, the HKGOC would also actively seek commercial sponsorship to obtain more resources for publicity. He thanked Members for their support and participation and hoped that they would continue to support the 2nd HKG.

**Item 5: Any Other Business**

7.1 The Director of Leisure and Cultural Services said that the Secretary for Home Affairs had kept meeting different sectors after assumption of post. He said that the Secretary would have a lunch gathering with representatives of the sports sector on 17 September and hoped that Members would attend the lunch gathering. Ms Olivia CHAN of the LCSO added that the gathering would be held at Queen Elizabeth Stadium from 12:45 pm to 2:15 pm and Members' active participation would be most welcome .

7.2 The Chairman thanked Members for attending the meeting.

7.3 The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

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Community Sports Committee Secretariat  
January 2008