Science Sub-committee, Museum Advisory Committee 1st Meeting held on 21 February 2017 and An Ad Hoc Special Meeting held on 21 April 2017

Summary of Discussion

1. Progress Report of Science Museums (July – December 2016)

1.1 Members noted the exhibitions and public programmes of the science museums, namely the Hong Kong Science Museum (HKScM) and the Hong Kong Space Museum (HKSpM), held in the period between July and December 2016.

2. Annual Plans (2017-18) of the Science Museums

- 2.1 Members noted and in general agreed to the Annual Plans of the HKScM and HKSpM, and made the following suggestions and comments:-
 - (a) The museums could consider arranging some activities to link up with museum shows and exhibitions in order to enrich the contents and enhance the delivery of individual exhibitions and public programmes;
 - (b) The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) could consider opening up the museums to the general public through the internet, for example, uploading the lectures given by renowned scientists online for viewing and teaching or producing online learning kits for the use of teachers and students;
 - (c) The LCSD and HKScM should play a vital role in the promotion of science and technology in Hong Kong;
 - (d) The LCSD could take the lead in connecting various local organisations and institutes in the field of science and technology such as Science Park, and in consolidating information and programmes of these partners for disseminating to the public through its one-stop platform; and
 - (e) The HKScM could organise more programmes for showcasing the achievements of local scientists to the youth, and exhibits of "citizen science" for the promotion of science in everyday life.

3. Proposed Discussion Topics in the Term of 2016-18

3.1 Members noted and in general agreed to the proposed topics. Given the tight schedule for the LCSD to work out the preliminary proposal for the Phase II Development of the HKScM, it was decided that an ad-hoc special meeting would be held as soon as possible so that members could give their views during the planning stage.

4. Phase II Development of the Hong Kong Science Museum

- 4.1 In the special meeting held on 21 April 2017, members revisited the recommendations of the feasibility study conducted by a consultant engaged by the LCSD and noted the latest progress of the project. Members made the following suggestions and comments:-
 - (a) The LCSD was advised to explore the possibility of speeding up the projects and revamping the present HKScM premises to add more spaces;
 - (b) In deciding the proportion and distribution of various components and different facilities of the new building, the LCSD should carefully consider identifying major target audience and specific needs of different audience groups and people with different abilities, especially the needs of schools and students; and
 - (c) The configuration of the new building should be as flexible as possible so that it could adapt to the change of usage requirements in the future.

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