

## Science Sub-committee, Museum Advisory Committee

7th Meeting held on 29 September 2020

### Summary of Discussion

#### **1. Three-Year Plans of the Science Museums, Science Promotion Unit and Related Offices Managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department**

- 1.1 Members noted and in general agreed to the three year plans of the science museums, Science Promotion Unit (SPU) and other related offices managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), including the annual programme plans for the year 2021-22 and the tentative programme plans for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24.
- 1.2 Members provided suggestions and advice regarding the coming exhibitions and programmes of the Hong Kong Science Museum (HKScM), the Hong Kong Space Museum (HKSpM) and SPU as follows:-

#### ***General Comments***

- (a) To leverage collaboration with professional or educational institutions to create a synergistic approach in organising programmes on the latest advancements in science, technology and innovation. To promote these programmes by inviting key opinion leaders from the education sector as museum docents or live streamers;
- (b) To make use of social media platforms and websites to explain the science that is not covered in exhibitions, and to organise exhibitions that combine online and interactive elements; and
- (c) To focus on how learning science could change the world instead of how to learn science.

#### ***Hong Kong Science Museum (HKScM)***

- (d) For the upcoming *Dino Return* exhibition, to crossover Earth Science Gallery and Palaeontology Gallery to enhance visitors' understanding of the prevalent animals and plants in the age of dinosaurs, organise extension activities that targeted secondary and university students, and collaborate with public libraries to promote books about dinosaurs;
- (e) To plan the activities of the *Meet the Shaw Laureates Science Forum and Exhibitions* and the *Distinguished Chinese Scientists Lecture Series* carefully in view of the tight schedule of the two programmes together with the *Hong Kong Laureate Forum*;

- (f) To cover the history of pandemics, including the preventive and mitigation measures of COVID-19 in the *Fighting Viruses - Innovations to Safeguard Our Health* exhibition;
- (g) To introduce the science, applications and impact of remote sensing technology in the Earth Science Gallery; and
- (h) To enhance promotion through museum ambassador programmes, social media platforms and websites with easy-to-understand catchphrases or slogans.

***Science Promotion Unit (SPU)***

- (i) To make recorded programmes available online for easy access and reuse;
  - (j) To flexibly adjust the programme schedule to maintain the programmes' relevance to daily life; and
  - (k) To develop a platform to encourage or award the public to raise questions on interesting topics, and to invite experts to answer them.
- 1.3 Members also made enquiries on future development of HKSpM in view of its site constraints, the collaborations among LCSD museums and with the industry, academic and research sectors in promoting technological development.
- 1.4 In response to the members' comments, suggestions and enquiries, an LCSD representative replied that HKScM would consider members' suggestions and continue to explore opportunities of collaboration. Software similar to mobile apps that could guide visitors through the galleries was being identified. The *Fighting Viruses - Innovations to Safeguard Our Health* exhibition provided visitors with examples of research projects and innovations from The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. HKScM was also collaborating with the Hong Kong Science Park on new exhibitions to be staged at the Telecommunications Gallery. Areas for office administration and activities would be reserved for HKSpM in the expansion of HKScM.
- 1.5 Another LCSD representative informed the meeting that the new SPU would launch a series of programmes and the archives would be available on its new website and the programme plan could be flexibly changed and topics could be rearranged as and when appropriate.

**2. Latest Progress of Renewal of Facilities of the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Hong Kong Space Museum**

- 2.1 Members noted the latest progress of the renewal of the HKScM and HKSpM.