

(Translation)

**Minutes of Meeting of Islands District Council**

Date : 6 January 2020 (Monday)  
Time : 2:00 p.m.  
Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room,  
14/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong.

**Present**

**Chairman** (preside over items 1 and 2)

Mr LI Ping-wai, Anthony, JP                      District Officer (Islands), Islands District Office

**Chairman** (preside over items 3 to 14)

Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP

**Vice-Chairman**

Mr WONG Man-hon

**Members**

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH

Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS, MH

Mr CHAN Lin-wai, MH

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken

Mr HO Chun-fai

Mr HO Siu-kei

Ms WONG Chau-ping

Ms YUNG Wing-sheung, Amy

Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine

Mr KWOK Ping, Eric

Mr TSUI Sang-hung, Sammy

Mr FONG Lung-fei

Ms LAU Shun-ting

Mr LEE Ka-ho

Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho

Mr WONG Chun-yeung

**In Attendance**

Mr AU Sheung-man, Benjamin

Ms LEUNG Tin-yee, Christy

Mr MOK Sui-hung

Mr CHAN Yat-kin, Kaiser

Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office

Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office

Senior Liaison Officer (1), Islands District Office

Senior Liaison Officer (2), Islands District Office

**Secretary**

Ms Dora CHENG

Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Islands District Office

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Welcoming Remarks

Mr Anthony LI welcomed Members for attending the first meeting of the sixth term of Islands District Council (IDC) during which the Chairman and Vice-chairman would be elected.

The first part of the meeting (presided by District Officer (Islands))

2. Mr Anthony LI said that he would preside over the first part of the meeting (i.e. items 1 and 2) whereas the second part (i.e. items 3 to 14) would be presided by the newly-elected Chairman of District Council (DC). The nomination for Chairman and Vice-chairman of IDC ended at 1:00 p.m. on 6 January 2020. Before the close of nomination, three nominations for the post of chairman were received by the Secretariat and the three nominees were Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr Randy YU and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho.

3. Mr Anthony LI asked Members whether they had any questions before the election.

4. Mr Eric KWOK suggested that the candidates express their platforms and answer questions from Members before the election.

5. Mr HO Siu-kei disagreed to Mr Eric KWOK's suggestion and considered that Members should have an idea about the platforms of candidates.

6. Mr WONG Chun-yeung considered that IDC was previously not transparent enough and proposed voting through open ballot for the public to know the choices of members of their constituencies in various issues and the election of Chairman and Vice-chairman.

7. Ms Amy YUNG considered that Members did not know the newly-elected DC Members too well and was in favour of a questioning session before the election for candidates to introduce themselves and answer questions from Members to enable the latter to know more about their mindset and what they were concerned about. She supported the proposal of voting through open ballot to increase transparency in DC.

8. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho supported the proposal of Mr Eric KWOK and Mr WONG Chun-yeung. He considered that the secret ballot system adopted by IDC previously made it difficult for voters to know Members' choices and requested the introduction of open ballot system in this term.

9. Mr Anthony LI said that the election of DC Chairman and Vice-chairman was conducted by secret ballot according to law. He noted the views of Mr Eric KWOK, Ms Amy YUNG and Mr HO Siu-kei but said he presided over the election of IDC Chairman and Vice-chairman, not the election forum and that before the start of election, candidates could decide whether to make a brief self-introduction. A submission on election procedure similar to the contents of Mr Eric KWOK's and Ms Amy YUNG's proposal was received earlier and passed on to Members for perusal.
10. Ms Amy YUNG said that a brief discussion could help Members know more about the candidates' platforms and requested that her proposal be put to vote by Members present by a show of hands.
11. Mr Anthony LI stressed that before the start of election, candidates could decide whether to make a brief self-introduction but no discussion session would be provided.
12. Mr Eric KWOK asked if under the Standing Orders, where the proposal of having a discussion session before the election had the support of more than half the Members, whether a discussion session was allowed in response to Members' aspirations.
13. Mr Anthony LI reiterated that he was just responsible for chairing the election of IDC Chairman and Vice-chairman and not its meeting and that he would preside over the election according to the relevant provisions of the law.
14. Ms Amy YUNG said that there were no provisions under the relevant ordinance forbidding the holding of discussion sessions. If the election procedure went wrong due to misinterpretation of the provisions by IsDO, she reserved the right to take an action.
15. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho asked Mr Anthony LI whether it was part of the election procedure that he enquired of Members before the start of election if they had questions.
16. Mr Anthony LI said the question was targeting questions that Members might raise concerning the election and vote counting.
17. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho opined that in the election candidates should be allowed to make a self-introduction.
18. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that according to paragraph B(2)(4) of the Standing Orders, the District Officer (DO) presided at the first DC meeting until the Chairman and Vice-chairman were elected. He opined that the first meeting was convened not just for election of the Chairman and Vice-chairman. A discussion session would not violate the election procedure. Instead, it enabled Members to better understand the candidates' platforms.

19. Mr Anthony LI reiterated that according to the relevant Standing Orders, DO was responsible for presiding the election of Chairman and Vice-chairman and not a discussion forum and candidates could decide whether to make a brief self-introduction but a discussion session would not be provided.

20. Mr Eric KWOK said that the election of Chairman and Vice-chairman was important and the Council should allow candidates to explain their platforms and field questions from Members and express their stance on five key demands, Lantau Tomorrow Vision and reforming DCs, etc. The candidates could decide whether to answer questions. He believed the session would not take too much time.

21. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that the inclusion of a brief self-introduction and a discussion session did not amount to an election forum. He opined that the suggestion did not breach the relevant provisions of the Standing Orders and hoped that approval would be given by Mr Anthony LI.

22. Mr Anthony LI said that a Q&A session was not included as part of the election procedure.

23. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that he would express his stance on five key demands and Lantau Tomorrow Vision, etc. and invited other candidates to voice their opinions.

24. Mr Anthony LI asked whether Members agreed to let candidates make a brief self-introduction before the election.

25. Mr HO Siu-kei agreed to allow candidates to make a brief self-introduction but opined that it was inappropriate to discuss other matters at this stage.

26. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that it was the duty of DC members to discuss matters of public concern and that there should be no ifs or buts on the pretext of election procedure. He again requested candidates to express their stance on five key demands and Lantau Tomorrow Vision, etc.

27. Mr Anthony LI said that the election would proceed according to the election procedure and candidates could decide whether to make a brief self-introduction. He opined that there were other occasions where Members could give their views on various issues. He asked the first candidate Mr CHOW Yuk-tong to make a self-introduction.

28. Mr CHOW Yuk-tong explained his platform and said that he would do his best to address the livelihood issues such as traffic and housing problems. He opined that DC should play a consultative role, leaving sensitive political issues to the Government and the Legislative Council.

29. Mr Anthony LI asked the second candidate Mr Randy YU to make a self-introduction.

30. Mr Randy YU introduced himself as an elected member from Constituency T01 (Lantau) and his campaign slogan was “paying great attention to people’s livelihood, action not empty words”. It was hoped that infrastructure, transport, education and welfare services and other livelihood issues would be resolved at DC level. There were more pro-democrat members in the current-term DC than before, and diverse voices would be heard. If he was elected Chairman, he would accord priority to livelihood issues. He hoped that Members would respect and appreciate different opinions on political issues.

31. Mr Anthony LI asked the third candidate Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho to make a self-introduction.

32. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said the platforms of both Mr CHOW Yuk-tong and Mr Randy YU concerned livelihood issues, and asked them what problems they had dealt with in the previous month after election. He had started dealing with matters concerning people’s livelihood before he took office. He opined that it was the fundamental responsibility of a DC member to care for people’s livelihood and there was no need to put emphasis on it. He pointed out that Members should be concerned about matters affecting the well-being of the whole community. The protest movement against amendments to the extradition law had continued for over half a year and all sectors of society hoped that it would come to an end quickly, but the Government had been relying on the police to solve conflicts without responding to public demands squarely. That would not help solve the problem. He opined that Lantau Tomorrow Vision was closely related to the development of Lantau and queried if Members were unwilling to give their stance on the Vision, how they could care for people’s livelihood. He asked whether the relevant departments had completed a comprehensive environmental impact assessment report on the artificial islands. Although the incinerator project in Shek Kwu Chau had not commenced formally, residents saw the work get started. He asked whether the then Members had monitored the work of the departments concerned. He stressed that politics and people’s livelihood were closely related and it was impossible for DC to avoid political issues.

#### I. Election of Islands District Council Chairman

33. Mr Anthony LI said the Secretary would read out Members’ names and the Secretariat staff would distribute ballot papers to them. Members should then stamp the chop against the name of candidate of their choice before depositing the ballot papers in the ballot box.

34. Mr Anthony LI announced that the election procedure started.

(Voting in progress)

35. Mr Anthony LI announced that voting ended and there were a total of 18 valid ballot papers in the ballot box without abstention, and that the counting of votes (reading aloud the votes cast) began.

(Vote counting ended)

36. Mr Anthony LI asked if Members wanted to have the votes checked. He then announced the result of first round of voting: the first candidate Mr CHOW Yuk-tong got four votes, and the second candidate Mr Randy YU and the third candidate Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho each had seven votes. Two candidates, i.e. Mr Randy YU and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho received an equal number of votes and could enter the second round of voting.

37. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that as Mr Anthony LI had asked Members at the start of the meeting whether they had any questions before the election, he asked if questions could be raised now.

38. Mr Anthony LI invited Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho to ask questions concerning the election and voting procedure.

39. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho requested Mr Randy YU to state whether he would resign from Henderson Land.

40. Mr Anthony LI said the Council had given a chance for candidates to speak. He announced that the second round of voting started.

(Voting in progress)

41. Mr Anthony LI announced that the second round of voting ended. He said there were a total of 18 valid ballot papers in the ballot box without abstention and that vote counting (reading aloud the votes cast) began.

(Vote counting ended)

42. Mr Anthony LI asked if any Members wanted to have the votes checked.

43. Mr WONG Chun-yeung requested to check the votes.

44. Mr Anthony LI asked again if Members wanted to check the votes after Mr WONG Chun-yeung finished checking.

(No more Members requested to check the votes)

45. Mr Anthony LI announced the result of second round of voting: the first candidate Mr Randy YU got 10 votes, and the second candidate Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho eight votes. Since Mr Randy YU received an absolute majority of votes, Mr Anthony LI announced that Mr Randy YU was elected Chairman of IDC and election of Vice-chairman would then begin.

## II. Election of Islands District Council Vice-Chairman

46. Mr Anthony LI said that as at 1:00 p.m. on 6 January 2020, i.e. the close of nomination for the election of IDC Vice-chairman, the Secretariat received two valid nominations and the nominees were Mr WONG Man-hon and Ms Amy YUNG.

47. Ms Amy YUNG asked whether the candidates could make a self-introduction.

48. Mr Anthony LI said positively and invited Mr WONG Man-hon to make a self-introduction.

49. Mr WONG Man-hon introduced himself as an ex-officio member of Mui Wo Rural Committee (RC), Lantau.

50. Ms Amy YUNG introduced herself as an elected member from the Constituency of Discovery Bay, Lantau and had been elected six times in a row since 2000. She had never held any public office, nor had she acted as the Government's puppet. She would speak out for the rights of residents. Besides the self-occupied property in Lantau, she and her family did not have non-self-occupied property or farmland. As an accountant, she did not hold any salaried employment in or carry out duty for any real estate holding companies or construction companies, therefore no conflict of interests existed between her and such holding companies or companies. She opined that a DC member should be honest and act with integrity and should declare any interest he or she has if it was in conflict with his/her post as a DC member. She had a clear conscience whether she won the election or not.

51. Mr Anthony LI announced that voting began.

(Voting in progress)

52. Mr Anthony LI announced that voting ended and vote counting began. There were a total of 18 valid ballot papers in the ballot box without abstention and vote counting (reading aloud the votes cast) began.

(Vote counting ended)

53. Mr Anthony LI asked if any Members wanted to have the votes checked.

(No Members requested to check the votes)

54. Mr Anthony LI announced the result of voting: the first candidate Mr WONG Man-hon got 11 votes, and the second candidate Ms Amy YUNG seven votes. He asked again if Members wanted to have the votes checked.

55. Mr Anthony LI announced that Mr WONG Man-hon was elected Vice-chairman of IDC and then invited the newly-elected Chairman to chair the second part of the meeting.

The second part of the meeting (presided by IDC Chairman)

III. Appointment of Islands District Council Secretary

56. The Chairman said the meeting had entered the second part. He thanked Members' support and hoped for sincere cooperation and a sense of unity among Members to serve the residents of Islands District. He asked the Secretary to explain the procedure of the meeting.

57. The Secretary said that the election of Chairman and Vice-chairman had completed and now it proceeded to the second part of the meeting. There were tremendous amounts of work ranging from home affairs to operation arrangements that needed to be urgently ratified and endorsed by the current-term DC, e.g. DC Standing Orders, formation of the committees and the use of DC logo as well as community involvement projects, works projects and staff recruitment, etc. which would have to be decided in January for continuation of activities and projects and employment contract renewal. Therefore, she asked the Chairman and Members to consider whether to proceed to the second part of the meeting and the discussion on Papers 1 to 10.

58. The Chairman enquired of Members whether they agreed to continue with the meeting.

59. Mr Eric KWOK agreed to continue with the meeting and hoped that urgent matters could be placed under the item on "Any other business" for discussion.

60. The Chairman enquired of the Secretary whether the agenda of the meeting included the item on "Any other business".

61. The Secretary said that the item on "Any other business" was not included in the agenda of the meeting.

62. Ms Amy YUNG proposed IDC establish a new Finance Committee apart from the four committees at present.

63. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho proposed to use an open ballot system from now on.

64. Mr WONG Chun-yeung supported the motions raised by Ms Amy YUNG and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho.

65. The Chairman clarified that what the Members raised were proposals and not motions.



66. The Secretary said that the proposals of formation of committees and voting method could be put forward during the discussion of relevant matters.

67. Mr Eric KWOK asked the Chairman whether Members could put forward topics for discussion under the item on “Any other business”.

68. The Chairman said he had received the relevant papers earlier and had the re-confirmation of the Secretary that the item on “Any other business” was not included in the agenda of the meeting.

69. Ms Amy YUNG said that the agenda and other relevant papers of the meeting were enclosed in the paper that the Secretariat sent on 3 January this year.

70. Mr LEE Ka-ho opined that the meeting should allow Members to discuss recent social issues, the pressing ones in particular. Apart from social movements, there were a number of suspected cases of pneumonia in Hong Kong recently. He opined that all DCs, including IDC, should respond to the matter promptly. Since two control points were located in Tung Chung making the importation of infection easy, he opined that the DC had a duty to propose precautionary measures to prevent community outbreak.

71. The Chairman understood the concerns of Members but opined that DC should discuss issues as set out on the agenda to ensure that the meeting ran smoothly. He suggested that the meeting be conducted as set out on the agenda after Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho had spoken.

72. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that he proposed earlier that open ballot system be adopted and the Chairman asked Members if they agreed to discuss issues as set out on the agenda. He opined that the question involved the choice of voting and he suggested that his proposal be discussed before the Chairman’s question was put to a vote basing on the outcome of discussion.

73. The Chairman proposed that the matter be dealt with according to the DC Standing Orders.

74. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho reiterated that the question of the Chairman involved the choices of Members in voting whereas his proposal concerned the voting method, therefore he opined that the issue of voting method should be discussed first before the question of the Chairman was put to a vote basing on the outcome of discussion.

75. The Chairman said that there was no change to the Standing Orders and asked Members if they agreed to vote by open ballot from now on.

76. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that the Chairman overlooked his question and requested that the DC Standing Orders be put forward for discussion first before they entered the second part of the meeting.

77. The Secretary said that the DC Standing Orders would be discussed under the next item and the items would be discussed one by one as set out on the agenda.

78. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that the DC Standing Orders should be discussed in priority so that the issue of voting method could be discussed and put to a vote. If the discussion on the DC Standing Orders was not conducted before the question of the Chairman was put to a vote, Members could only vote by secret ballot. He was dissatisfied about the Chairman overlooking his proposal and conducting the meeting according to established procedures.

79. The Chairman said that he had responded to Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's question and as the next item was the discussion on the DC Standing Orders, Members could discuss the rules of DC thoroughly. He asked Members again whether they supported the proposal of Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho for adopting open ballot from now on.

80. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho supported the arrangement made by the Chairman.

81. Mr HO Chun-fai said that with the election of DC Chairman and Vice-chairman just completed today, there were numerous agenda items and issues needed to be addressed and he proposed that the item be dealt with according to established procedures, leaving other matters to be discussed later.

82. Ms Amy YUNG was pleased to note that the Chairman had told the media that he would conduct meetings in a democratic manner. She opined that the proposal for open ballot was in line with the spirit of democracy, representing a step towards democracy and should be recognised. If secret ballot continued to be adopted in the future meetings, the situation would apparently not be consonant with what the Chairman said earlier and run counter to the spirit of democracy.

83. The Secretary said that according to the Standing Orders, open ballot could be adopted if Members agreed.

84. Ms Amy YUNG said that IDC should introduce open ballot system to keep abreast of the times.

85. The Chairman reiterated that the next item was discussion on the DC Standing Orders and Members could then have adequate discussion on the rules of DC for future meetings. Before the discussion on Standing Orders, the meeting would be conducted according to established practice, and voting method would be discussed at a later time.

86. Ms Amy YUNG reiterated the suggestion of discussing the voting method first.

87. The Chairman asked whether Members agreed to vote by open ballot.

Members voted by a show of hands. Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr LEE Ka-ho, Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr WONG Chun-yeung, Mr Ken WONG and Ms Amy YUNG supported the proposal. )

88. The Chairman announced that the proposal of open ballot was endorsed by the majority Members and asked whether Members agreed to continue with the second part of the meeting and the discussion on Papers 1 to 10.

(Members voted by a show of hands and endorsed the proposal unanimously.)

89. The Chairman announced that Members unanimously consented to continue with the second part of the meeting and the discussion on Papers 1 to 10.

90. The Chairman said that according to Section 69 of the District Councils Ordinance, a DC might appoint a public officer to act as the secretary of that DC. IDC would appoint Senior Executive Officer (District Council) to act as the secretary according to the long established practice.

#### IV. Islands District Council Standing Orders (Paper IDC 1/2020)

91. The Chairman requested the Secretary to present the paper briefly.

92. The Secretary presented the paper briefly.

93. Ms Amy YUNG pointed out that it was proposed in paragraph 4(f) under Proposed Amendments to add a disclaimer, i.e. an exclusion clause. She understood that when a DC member applied for reimbursement, relevant documents should be produced and made available at the DC Secretariat for public inspection. She opined that the DC Secretariat, as the first gate-keeper, should not be exempted from liabilities and she object to the proposed amendment.

94. Mr Eric KWOK enquired whether Members could put forward any opinions for discussion at the meeting according to the DC Standing Orders.

95. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that Members might want to express their views on the amendment to the DC Standing Orders so that they could know how matters were handled.

96. The Secretary said that paragraph 4(f) under Proposed Amendments referred to Annex IV which was a declaration of personal interest form for members of DC and its committees to declare their personal interest. As they filled out the form of their own accord, there was no way for the Secretariat to ascertain whether all their interests were included or if the contents were completely true. The responsibility should then be borne by the member of DC or the committee concerned.

97. The Chairman said that he understood Members had divergent views over the DC Standing Orders and suggested setting up a task force for discussion. He stressed that the matter concerned how DC meetings were conducted for the next four years, as well as about setting the meeting schedule for Members to make preparation and submit questions beforehand. As the upcoming special meeting was planned for the election of committee chairmen and vice-chairmen, he suggested that the task force complete the discussion on DC Standing Orders before the next formal meeting.

98. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He agreed to what the Chairman proposed. Since the new DC Standing Orders might be in force at the next DC meeting, he asked whether the meeting would start at 2 p.m. or be set at some other time.
- (b) The Chairman told the media just now that he would respect the views and issues raised by Members across the political spectrum, e.g. five key demands, not one less, oppose Lantau Tomorrow Vision or reforming DCs. He hoped that the Chairman would not exercise the veto, allowing a consensus to be reached to avoid misunderstandings.
- (c) At present, members of the public or concern groups were welcome to observe the proceedings of DC and the meetings of its committees and standing or ad hoc working groups. He suggested that members of the public or concern groups be permitted to speak up to enhance their understanding. He hoped that the Chairman and Members would consider his proposal at the next meeting.

99. The Chairman expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He recognised that the meeting time might be lengthened. The meeting used to start at 2 p.m. and some Members might have to leave early after 6 p.m. which might cause a lack of quorum easily. As such he proposed to reschedule the starting time to 10 or 10:30 a.m. with lunch break at noon for resumption at 2:30 p.m. so that Members would have sufficient time for discussion. If the committee meetings progressed at a faster pace, they might finish in the morning. Meetings could be divided into two sessions if there was a long agenda. He suggested to revisit the issue later during the discussion on the meeting schedule.
- (b) Given the current situation in Hong Kong, Members said earlier that they did not think DC should only focus on livelihood issues. He believed that Members were going to have the opportunity for adequate discussion and communication on various issues.
- (c) Regarding the engagement of concern or professional groups, he opined that they might likely be interested in some issues discussed at ad hoc

or general working group meetings. He suggested that the working groups vote by open ballot on whether to invite relevant concern/professional groups to the meeting to give comments. He did not think it should be a regular practice or the meeting would be much longer or even turn into a public hearing. He suggested that comments could be given during the discussion on regular or ad hoc working groups provided under the DC Standing Orders.

100. Ms Amy YUNG agreed to the proposals of the Chairman. She hoped that live streaming of the proceeding of DC and the meetings of its committees to increase transparency would be discussed next time during group discussion, and requested the Chairman to include the issue in the agenda for discussion.

101. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho gave support for the issue raised by Ms Amy YUNG. As the media might come to broadcast live DC meetings or DC allocated funds to stream the meetings live, he hoped that the matter would be put to a vote right away instead of leaving it to the next meeting to avoid missing its live-streaming opportunity. He asked Members and the Chairman to vote right away on whether the media would be invited to stream live all the DC meetings in the future.

102. The Chairman said that whenever DC discussed matters of importance, it was common that the media broadcast live the meeting. Members can vote on whether to stream live every meeting in the future.

103. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho had mentioned two types of live streaming, one by the media and the other on the arrangement of DC Secretariat. The two could not be combined for dealing with and voting at the same time. It could not be assumed that the media would have the full meeting streamed live every time and DC Secretariat might have to arrange for live streaming to increase transparency.

104. The Chairman agreed to what Mr LEE Ka-ho said. Live streaming by DC Secretariat could not be achieved in one go, and the issue had to be presented first for thorough discussion and then funding request was made through the Secretariat. As to whether there would be live streaming before the Standing Orders were amended, he advised Members to vote on whether to make an interim arrangement for media live-streaming.

105. Mr Eric KWOK said that apart from the press, some institutions would be interested and broadcast live some issues. He hoped that Members would consider such situation when casting their votes.

106. The Chairman said that the issue contained two parts which should be split for voting. Firstly, Members voted on the interim arrangement for media live-streaming of the meeting before the completion of review of DC Standing Orders.

107. The Chairman asked Members to vote by a show of hands.

108. Members voted by a show of hands. There were seven votes for and eight against. The interim arrangement was vetoed.

(Members voted in favour: Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr LEE Ka-ho, Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr WONG Chun-yeung and Ms Amy YUNG. Members voted against: Vice-Chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms Josephine TSANG, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Ken WONG and Mr YUNG Chi-ming.)

109. The Chairman said that the second part concerned the interim arrangement for concern groups live-streaming of the meeting before the completion of review of DC Standing Orders.

110. The Chairman asked Members to vote by a show of hands.

111. Members voted by a show of hands. There were seven votes for and eight against. The interim arrangement was vetoed.

Members voted in favour: Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr LEE Ka-ho, Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr WONG Chun-yeung and Ms Amy YUNG. Members voted against: Vice-Chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms Josephine TSANG, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Ken WONG and Mr YUNG Chi-ming.)

112. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said eight Members were against and he respected the voting result. To his knowledge, the live-streaming arrangement was available in the other 17 DCs, and he would petition to IDC with the chairmen of other 17 DCs for putting the issue to vote again.

113. The Chairman suggested that the view of Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho be put on record.

114. The Chairman said Members agreed to fix a date for further discussion and they would be informed of the next meeting by the Secretariat in due course after arrangement was made.

V. Formation and election matters regarding the sixth term Islands District Council Committees

(Paper IDC 2/2020)

115. The Chairman requested the Secretary to present the paper briefly.

116. The Secretary presented the paper briefly.

117. The Chairman asked if Members had any opinions on the paper apart from Ms Amy YUNG suggesting to establish a finance committee just now.

118. Ms Amy YUNG added that she requested the new committee be named “Finance and Monitoring Committee” (FMC) which was to oversee financial management and fund allocation in other committees, etc.

119. The Chairman said the authority and functions of the new committee needed to be further considered and agreed on, and it would be too casual and rash to decide now whether a committee was established basing on nothing but its name. It would also be difficult for Members to endorse the proposal on the spot without relevant papers. He opined that it would be better to discuss whether a new committee should be set up and other proposals if Members proposed to set up any more committees. The issue would then be further discussed when the papers were available.

120. Mr Eric KWOK said that as there were several new Members in this term of IDC, he hoped that the Secretariat would provide information about the fifth-term IDC and its committees and working groups to enable the newly elected Members to get a better grasp of the situation.

121. Mr LEE Ka-ho said each committee had different responsibilities and agreed that all the four committees of the last term should be retained. He said that there were divergent voices in society and people expressing demands through political movement would think that DC had a duty to make a response. He suggested DC to set up a working group to address issues such as constitutional affairs or police brutality, etc.

122. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho proposed to change the functions of Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environmental Hygiene Committee and rename it Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries, Environmental Hygiene and Climate Change Committee. Typhon Mangkhut wreaked havoc around Hong Kong, especially the Islands District which was surrounded by sea on all sides. He opined that climate change was an important issue facing residents of Islands District. He suggested to discuss the functions of this committee and FMC proposed by Ms Amy YUNG at the same time and hoped that the name of the committee would be agreed upon first.

123. Mr FONG Lung-fei supported the proposal of Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho.

124. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Annex 5 to the paper set out six working groups and he hoped that matters relating to the names, expenditure and other arrangements for these working groups would be discussed. Owing to time constraints, he suggested that a date be set for a special meeting to review and rename the working groups in light of social circumstances. He opined that the environmental matters of Islands District should be given due concerns, e.g. large-scale reclamation works carried out in Tung Chung north.

- (b) He proposed suspension of the six working groups set out at the annex until a special meeting was held for detailed discussion and review of their activities, responsibilities and the resource requirements in the last term of DC.

125. Ms Amy YUNG agreed to what the Chairman said that there were problems for holding discussion on a committee with nothing but its name. She asked the Secretariat to help check with the other 17 DCs whether the latter had similar working groups which could serve as reference and facilitate Members' discussion.

126. Mr WONG Chun-yeung said he had no comment on the names of the committees and working groups at the moment. He suggested that the new term of DC draw reference from the mechanism of the Urban Council and Regional Council in force until 1999 for delegating to the six working groups the authority in dealing with the Government.

127. The Chairman expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Regarding the comment of Mr Sammy TSUI on the six working groups listed at Annex 5, he said the fiscal year would end on 31 March this year and some of the work proposals of the working groups had been endorsed by DC of the last term. Therefore he proposed that the six working groups continue to organise the activities between January and March as endorsed, and Members could check the relevant papers for the content and spending of the activities and raise their views and make enquiries at the meeting.
- (b) He agreed with Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho that there was a need to monitor climate change and its impacts on the Islands District and the residents, e.g. relationship between high and low tides and frequent flooding in Tai O.
- (c) Regarding the suggestion of Ms Amy YUNG for establishing FMC, he considered that information should be gathered to study the practice in other districts and the procedures concerned as in the case of IDC Standing Orders mentioned earlier, with a special meeting convened for study and discussion on matters including revamp of the operation of any or all the four committees and retention of the existing six working groups, etc.
- (d) He suggested Members refer to the relevant information and, when the papers were available, submit questions for further discussion. He would discuss with the Secretariat after the meeting whether the issues, if of a great volume, should be discussed at the next DC meeting or a special meeting be held for discussion of the formation of committees and their working groups.



- (e) He sought the approval of Members for election of the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the four committees on 20 January with the names and terms of reference of the committees discussed later. He believed that the committee chairmen and vice-chairmen could direct Members to discuss the improvement of committee operation and whether there was a need for more working groups. He opined that certain topics could be discussed at the meetings of relevant committees rather than IDC meetings so as to improve the efficiency of the meetings.
- (f) He proposed that Members endorse the paper as “provisional paper” and there would be further discussion at a later time on revamp of the committees and working groups as well as their operation after 1 April, etc. He stressed that he preferred to conduct discussion when the paper was ready, and did not wish to be misunderstood that discussion was not approved. He believed Members would respect each other despite divergent views in the Council.

128. Mr Eric KWOK reiterated that he hoped the newly elected Members would have a better understanding of the operation of committees and working groups.

129. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said he hoped to submit the earlier proposal about the name change of the Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environmental Hygiene Committee to Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries, Environmental Hygiene and Climate Change Committee.

130. The Chairman asked Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho to submit the proposal to the Secretariat after the meeting.

131. Mr WONG Chun-yeung said the Chairman had not responded to his proposal. He suggested to set up a new working group in addition to the six working groups listed at Annex 5 to examine the authority of DC and empower it to undertake responsibilities modelled on the functions and terms of reference of the former Urban Council so as to improve people's livelihood more effectively.

132. The Chairman opined that the proposal of a new working group by Mr WONG Chun-yeung involved matters at bureau level and delegation of powers and it would be more appropriate to raise an enquiry at the first DC meeting. DC would form a working group to study and follow up on the proposal if the Government and the relevant bureaux gave the green light.

133. Mr Sammy TSUI said that his suggestion earlier to suspend the operation of the six working groups was meant to incorporate into the terms of reference of the working groups issues of community concern. For activities that required to be carried out in the short term (e.g. during the Lunar New Year), a special meeting could be convened to discuss the details. To his understanding, the DCs of other districts also revamped the working groups. If the papers were endorsed now, a revamp of working groups could not take place until the next fiscal year.

134. The Chairman asked the Secretary to give a brief introduction of the committees and their operation.

135. The Secretary outlined as follows:

- (a) There were currently four committees under IDC. One was the Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee, under which were three working groups, namely, the Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee Activities Working Group, the Islands District International Day of Disabled Persons Working Group and the Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee Vetting Group. Ongoing activities held by the Activities Working Group included Islands District Women's Development 2019, Crossover Lab Initiative and the Cooperation Scheme with District Councils which were cross-year activities. International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2019-20 was being held by the Islands District International Day of Disabled Persons Working Group. The Vetting Group was ad hoc in nature responsible for vetting funding applications by non-governmental organisations and would meet this month to approve and vet activities scheduled for April and May.
- (b) There were two other committees namely the District Facilities Management Committee and the Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC). Under the latter was the Traffic and Transport Committee Working Group which followed up on questions raised at TTC and organised visits and activities, e.g. Islands District Road Safety Campaign 2019-2020 which was an ongoing activity.
- (c) The fourth one was the Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environmental Hygiene Committee under which were two working groups, namely the Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environmental Hygiene Committee Activities Working Group and the Islands Healthy City and Age-Friendly Community Working Group. The Activities Working Group was responsible for maintaining the webpage for outlying islands travel whereas the Islands Healthy City Working Group responsible for management and operation of the dedicated website "Islands Healthy City-Community Outreach" and implementation of Islands Age-Friendly City Project Ambassadors-Tung Chung Team.

136. Mr Sammy TSUI opined that it had been a meaningless meeting that day as Members had no power to make decision on matters discussed.

137. The Secretary said all activities above were scheduled for January to March.

138. Mr Sammy TSUI said he was not clear about the work of TTC which the Secretary outlined earlier. He opined that Members of the previous term might have their focus primarily on the publicity and education programme without spending much time observing the bus flows. The current-term Members however thought

that they should curtail the amount of publicity to observe more the actual situation, e.g. lost trips or other serious problems and hold talks with Citybus Ltd. and Long Win Bus Company Ltd.

139. Mr Eric KWOK understood the concerns of Mr Sammy TSUI as many new Members knew little about the operation of committees in the last term. He suggested that the Secretariat provide Members information about the existing committees and working groups by email and arrange with the Chairman to hold meetings expeditiously to finish the discussion. Otherwise, there would be no end to it. He said that the purpose of the meetings was not to discuss traffic issues. Instead these issues should be discussed at TTC meetings. He understood that many Members wanted to set up new committees and working groups but it was impossible to discuss them one by one at this meeting.

140. The Chairman expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He understood that new Members might not know much about the operation of the last-term DC and wanted to gain more understanding and step up monitoring. He knew that activities had been endorsed by the 18 Members of the last term and some would be held from January to March. He proposed that the expenditure on activities held from January to March be disclosed for Members' information. If the allocation for activities for January to March was frozen, all activities in Islands District would be halted. He agreed that more discussion was needed but hoped that the operation of DC would not be hindered like Legislative Council was.
- (b) He suggested that Members consider endorsing the paper. He understood Members' concerns that the four committees had been established for a long time and should be revamped. However, before the discussion on revamp and the names and terms of reference of the committees, clear and definite papers had to be prepared. He hoped that Members would first consider endorsing the paper for keeping the four existing committees with the terms of reference to be discussed later by respective committees. He pointed out that a special meeting would be held on 20 January 2020 for election of committee chairmen and vice-chairmen and the relevant issues would then be addressed and followed up.
- (c) Regarding the activity expenditure for working groups under the last-term IDC as at 31 March 2020, he understood that each working group was allocated funds every month to conduct regular activities such as visit to the elderly. He hoped that the activities would not be suspended. He asked the Secretariat to provide Members by mail details of the activities of the working groups as at 31 March 2020. Members could raise questions later.

141. Mr Sammy TSUI enquired whether Members had the veto power if misuse of resources by working groups were detected.

142. The Chairman said that Members could raise questions if irregularities were detected, and collaborative decisions would be made by 18 Members. If there were irregularities as identified by all 18 Members, they should be addressed. He suggested that Members endorse the paper for election of committee chairmen and vice-chairmen on 20 January, and the Secretariat could provide further information if necessary.

143. Mr WONG Chun-yeung suggested that before directing Members to vote, the Chairman should ask Members to move to item VI as the allocation for community involvement projects of IDC, including allocation for activities scheduled for January to March enquired by Mr Sammy TSUI was shown in Paper IDC 3/2020.

144. The Chairman said Paper IDC 3/2020 concerned the allocation whereas Paper IDC 2/2020 under this item concerned formation of four committees and election of chairmen and vice-chairmen of the committees on 20 January.

145. Mr WONG Chun-yeung suggested the Chairman give a brief introduction of the work of the last-term IDC to allay Mr Sammy TSUI's concern.

146. The Chairman said it would take quite a lot of time to summarise the work of the last-term IDC. He asked the Secretariat or IsDO whether a briefing could be provided for Members.

147. Mr Anthony LI said that a briefing on the organisational structure of DC had been provided for newly elected members earlier on. Paper IDC 3/2020 might help Members get the answers to some of their questions. He suggested to discuss Paper IDC 3/2020 first so that Members would have a clear idea before proceeding to discuss Paper IDC 2/2020.

148. The Chairman advised Members to move on to discuss Item VI (Paper IDC 3/2020) before returning to Item V.

149. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho understood that the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the committees were to be elected on January 20. As they were going to begin with the discussion on item VI, i.e. the allocation for January to March 2020, he suggested that a special meeting be held prior to 20 January to discuss the formation of committees, including their names and terms of reference, etc.

150. The Chairman understood that Members might encounter problems as they started work although they attended the briefing last time. Arrangements for another briefing would be made with the Secretariat.

151. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said whether another briefing would be given was beside the point. He reiterated that he hoped Members could meet before 20 January

to discuss the formation of committees and explore ways for improvement of their functions.

152. The Chairman expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He would discuss with the Secretariat whether a meeting could be arranged before 20 January; if not, a discussion would be held at the meeting on 20 January on formation of the committees and a date would subsequently be fixed for a meeting for election of the committee chairmen and vice-chairmen.
- (b) He suggested to revise Paper IDC 2/2020 first before the election of the committee chairmen and vice-chairmen. Members could convene a special meeting to discuss the revamp of the four committees, whether new committees were required, addition or deletion of working groups and finance audit, etc. After the relevant matters were finalised, the Secretariat would enquire of Members in writing whether they were interested in joining any committees and then the chairmen and vice-chairmen were elected. As such, it might be unable to elect the committee chairmen and vice-chairmen on 20 January.

153. The Chairman asked Members to vote by a show of hands.

154. Members voted by a show of hands and endorsed the proposal unanimously.

155. The Chairman announced to hold up a vote on Item V until later which he said might result in the committees failing to elect the chairmen and vice-chairmen on 20 January.

156. Mr Eric KWOK expressed hope that the newly elected Members would discharge their duties diligently and study the work record of last-term IDC and its committees and working groups to have sufficient grasp of the details of the discussion items. He did not wish to see Members being unclear about what was discussed, wasting the meeting time. If the committees or working groups wanted to bring any matters to the attention of Members, he hoped that the Secretariat would send relevant information to Members by email.

157. The Chairman thanked Mr Eric KWOK for his input, and advised new Members to spend more time for preparation and the re-elected Members to study information papers to improve the efficiency of meetings.

VI. Islands District Council funds for community involvement projects  
(Paper IDC 3/2020)

158. The Secretary briefly presented the paper.

159. The Chairman made first-tier declaration of interests relating to 16 activities (activity nos.: 213, 375, 373, 217, 20, 393, 398, 22, 23, 29, 223, 26, 27, 221, 376 and 374) set out in Annex 2 and the Lunar New Year celebration lightings events organised by Tai O RC, Tung Chung RC and South Lantau RC. He would not express views on the above matters.

(Post-meeting note: Mr CHAN Lin-wai submitted to the Secretariat the declaration of interests form making a second-tier declaration of interests relating to an activity (activity no.: 21) set out in Annex 2.)

160. Mr Eric KWOK enquired whether the declaration of interests were only required in relation to community involvement projects implemented on or before 31 March 2020. He remarked that he had applied for funding on behalf of local groups for activities to be held after April and would like to ascertain that the said activities were not covered.

161. The Secretary indicated that this agenda item covered activities held between January and March 2020 only.

162. Mr Sammy TSUI enquired whether a vote should be held. He pointed out that the paper set out various activities such as day tours and seafood feasts held between January and March without providing the details, hence a vote should be held.

163. The Chairman said that a vote would be held and enquired whether Mr Sammy TSUI would like to put any particular activity to vote.

164. Mr Sammy TSUI pointed out that there were a large number of activities scheduled for January to March and the paper only showed the activity names and total amount of funding, which ranged from several thousand dollars to several tens of thousand dollars, making it difficult to discuss the activities one by one. He indicated that he would express his standpoints in the voting session.

165. Mr Eric KWOK expressed that like Mr Sammy TSUI he was concerned about the funding. He was a member of the last term of CACRC Vetting Group, which had completed the vetting of activities to be held between January and March 2020 for endorsement by the new term of DC according to related procedures. If Mr Sammy TSUI or other Members wanted to know more about the vetting process, rules of allocation and terms and conditions of acceptance of DC funds, they might join the vetting groups under IDC. He supplemented that DC was empowered to revise the relevant guidelines and approve funding proposals according to the rules made by the Home Affairs Department (HAD). He advised the Secretariat or the Chairman to explain to Mr Sammy TSUI the prevailing vetting arrangement.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had explained to Mr Sammy TSUI after the meeting the prevailing vetting arrangement.)

166. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He clarified that he did not harbour suspicion of the activities or vetting process breaching the District Councils Ordinance, but just wanted to review to determine whether resources were used properly and proposed that remaining resources be devoted to other areas. He reckoned that it was necessary for Members to obtain the funding details to avoid spending too much on organising such activities as day tours or seafood feasts. Taking the celebration event to be held at Po Lin Monastery, Ngong Ping, Lantau Island on 12 February 2020 as an example, the proposed amount of funding was over \$91,000. He stressed that he did not want to point a finger at any particular application but just wanted to review the allocation of resources and advised that part of the funds could be devoted to other district work.
- (b) He pointed out that in the past DC was dominated by the pro-establishment camp which tended to devote more resources to offer snake feasts, vegetarian meals, cakes and glutinous rice dumplings and organise festive events. He opined that resources should be re-allocated to address livelihood issues such as environmental protection and reclamation work. He expressed the hope of reforming the working groups and resource re-allocation.

167. Ms Josephine TSANG understood the concern of Mr Sammy TSUI and agreed that resources should be allocated properly. She proposed that the details be brought forward for discussion at the meetings of relevant committees or working groups. She indicated that since IDC had consented to the formation and improvement of its committees and working groups, matters relating to resource allocation might be discussed at the meetings of relevant committees.

168. The Chairman said that in order to commence various activities and projects soonest for proper use of DC funds in 2019/2020, he asked Members to consider endorsing the proposals set out in the paper, which included:

- (a) ratifying the proposed funding allocations set out in Annexes 1 to 3, including an activity which was held before the meeting due to special consideration and unavoidable circumstances; and
- (b) endorsing the proposals concerning the funding criteria and approval of funding ceiling by committees set out in paragraphs 4 to 6 of the paper.

169. Mr Ken WONG indicated that he had made declaration of interests relating to funding approval in the last term of DC.

170. Members voted by a show of hands. There were 13 voted for, one against and four abstaining. The paper was endorsed.

(Members voted for included: the Chairman Mr Randy YU, Vice-Chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr FONG Lung-fei,

Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Mr Eric KWOK, Ms LAU Shun-ting, Ms Josephine TSANG, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Ken WONG and Mr YUNG Chi-ming. Member voted against included: Mr Sammy TSUI. Members abstaining included: Mr LEE Ka-ho, Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho, Mr WONG Chun-yeung and Ms Amy YUNG.)

VII. District Minor Works funds for Islands District Council  
(Paper IDC 4/2020)

171. The Chairman welcomed Ms LEUNG Tin-yee, Christy, Assistant District Officer (Islands)2 of the Islands District Office (IsDO) to the meeting to present the paper.

172. Ms Christy LEUNG briefly presented the paper.

173. Mr Eric KWOK enquired whether the funds covered works implemented on or before 31 March 2020 only.

174. Ms Christy LEUNG said that what Mr KWOK stated was correct.

175. Mr Eric KWOK proposed that detailed discussion be conducted for funding for works to be implemented on or after 1 April 2020 at the next meeting.

176. The Chairman asked Members to note the use of District Minor Works funds in 2019/2020 and consider endorsing the approved funding ceiling set out in paragraph 4 of the paper.

177. Members voted by a show of hands. There were 17 voted for, no against and one abstaining. The paper was endorsed.

(Members voted for included: the Chairman Mr Randy YU, the Vice-Chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Mr Eric KWOK, Ms LAU Shun-ting, Mr LEE Ka-ho, Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho, Ms Josephine TSANG, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr WONG Chun-yeung, Mr Ken WONG, Mr YUNG Chi-ming and Ms Amy YUNG. Member abstaining included: Mr Sammy TSUI.)

VIII. Employment of Contract Staff for Islands District Council  
(Paper IDC 5/2020)

178. The Secretary briefly presented the paper.

179. Mr LEE Ka-ho supported the recruitment of contract staff to assist with DC duties. He pointed out that with the tasks relating to IDC Standing Orders and webcast of meetings, and given that new committees and working groups might be



formed in this term, he was afraid that the Secretariat might have its hands full. He enquired, apart from the manpower indicated in the paper, whether sufficient funds had been allocated for employing extra staff to handle work in the future.

180. The Secretary responded that the salary of the existing 14 contract staff had reached the funding limit for employment of contract staff stipulated by HAD, hence no additional staff could be hired.

181. The Chairman opined that the problem facing now was insufficient resources and suggested Members raise enquiries at the future meetings of DC for relevant policy bureaux or departments to respond and explore solutions.

182. Mr WONG Chun-yeung enquired about the working hours of contract staff.

183. The Secretary responded that full-time contract staff worked 44 hours a week and the salary of part-time contract staff was calculated based on the hours worked.

184. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho understood that employment cost could only account for 15% of DC fund. Nevertheless, the entry requirements for a full-time Project Assistant included completion of Secondary 6 and pass in five subjects in the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination but the salary was only about \$12,000, even lower than that of a convenient store staff. He considered this unreasonable and proposed raising the funding limit to offer staff with a reasonable salary.

185. The Secretary said that as stated in the paper, HAD stipulated that DC might use 15% of the total fund with a maximum over-commitment of \$700,000 for staff employment and the related salary expenses could not be more than that.

186. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that he noted the limit specified and proposed that IDC should request HAD to increase staff salary.

187. The Chairman enquired whether the limit stipulated by HAD was applicable to 18 DCs.

188. The Secretary said that it was applicable to 18 DCs and reiterated that the related expenses could not exceed the limit.

189. Mr LEE Ka-ho was aware of the difficulty faced by the Secretariat and understood the viewpoints of Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho. He clarified that he did not ask the Secretariat to increase expenses but proposed that an application be made to HAD for additional funding. He requested that the proposal be put on record.

190. The Chairman opined that Members might reflect their demands by two means. First, Members might raise questions at the next DC meeting and ask the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) and HAD to arrange representatives to attend the meeting and give response in respect of the allocation of resources in 18 districts; second, in case of pressing issues, Members might send a joint letter to HAD to

express their views and, if they were dissatisfied with the reply, raise questions again at DC meetings.

191. Mr WONG Chun-yeung enquired whether staff would be given overtime pay or time-off if they worked more than 44 hours a week.

192. The Secretary replied that in general staff working overtime would be given time-off in lieu of overtime pay.

193. The Chairman expressed gratitude to Members for their concern over the benefit of DC staff and asked Members to consider whether or not to continue using DC funds to employ contract staff to provide support to IDC.

194. Members had no other comment and unanimously endorsed the proposals set out in the paper.

IX. Islands District Council “Meet-the-Public Scheme”  
(Paper IDC 6/2020)

195. The Chairman asked the Secretary to briefly introduce the background of “Meet-the-Public Scheme”.

196. The Secretary briefly introduced the contents of the scheme.

197. The Chairman asked Members to consider endorsing the proposals set out in the paper for implementation of the “Meet-the-Public Scheme” in the way as the last term of IDC did.

198. Mr Eric KWOK said that in the last term of DC, he had arranged for residents to conduct discussion on local issues at the Islands Home Affairs Enquiry Centre in Tung Chung. However, the centre could not be found easily because the signage at its entrance was not clear enough. He hoped that IsDO would liaise with the Owners’ Corporation of Tung Chung Crescent for installation of a clear signage at the entrance of the centre.

199. The Chairman urged IsDO to follow up on the proposal of Mr Eric KWOK.

200. Ms Amy YUNG expressed support for the scheme. Nevertheless, she pointed out that as a DC member for more than 20 years, she had been all along unable to rent a premise as her ward office due to high rent in the district and could only meet the residents in fast food restaurants over the years. She further indicated that if she used the subsidy for DC member to pay rent, she would have barely enough funds to hire a DC assistant to help with the DC duties. She remarked that over a year ago when she met with the Chief Secretary, she had reflected the matter to him, who agreed that the issue had to be dealt with. However, the problem remained unresolved and no related reply was received. She considered it inappropriate to

discuss local affairs with residents in public place and hoped that IsDO would make arrangement for her to meet members of the public in Discovery Bay Community Hall for participation in and implementation of the scheme.

201. Mr Anthony LI said that the conference room of Discovery Bay Community Hall should have quite a number of timeslots left unallocated which might be used by Members for meeting with the public. He would follow up on the proposal of Ms Amy YUNG with the Secretariat after the meeting.

202. The Chairman asked Members to consider whether or not to endorse the proposals set out in the paper.

203. The Chairman asked Members to vote on the issue by a show of hands.

204. Members had no other comment and unanimously endorsed the proposals set out in the paper.

X. Use of Islands District Council Logo  
(Paper IDC 7/2020)

205. The Chairman asked the Secretary to briefly present the paper.

206. The Secretary briefly presented the paper.

207. The Chairman asked Members to consider whether they agreed to the use of IDC logo for specified purposes set out in paragraph 6 of the paper.

208. Mr Eric KWOK said that the resolution of the logo image for downloading from IDC webpage was low and unsuitable for use on name cards or letterheads. He requested the Secretariat to upload another of a higher resolution.

209. The Secretary said that Members and organisations might apply to the Secretariat for use of IDC logo. Upon receipt of application, the Secretariat would send a logo image of a higher resolution to the applicant via email.

210. The Chairman indicated that as Members could obtain from the Secretariat the logo image in a higher resolution for printing name cards and letterheads, the official version of the logo needed not be uploaded to IDC webpage to prevent members of the public from downloading for other purposes. He asked Members to consider whether to endorse the proposals set out in the paper which was then put to vote by a show of hands.

211. Members had no other comment and unanimously endorsed the proposals set out in the paper.

XI. Islands District Football team  
(Paper IDC 8/2020)

212. The Chairman asked the Secretary to briefly present the paper.

213. The Secretary briefly presented the paper.

214. The Chairman asked Members to consider whether or not to continue engaging the Islands District Sports Association (IDSA) in the current term of DC for forming a local football team for participating in football leagues organised by the Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) on behalf of IDC.

215. Mr Sammy TSUI said that to his understanding, IDSA applied to IDC for an annual fund of about \$100,000 to \$120,000. He would like to know the method of recruiting football players of the Islands District Football Team (football team) and the respective numbers of football players recruited from Islands District and Tung Chung.

216. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that he had searched for information on IDSA members on the Internet but in no avail and enquired how IDC would monitor the operation of IDSA after engaging it to manage the football team. He was glad that there was a football team representing Islands District in football matches. Noting that the Islands District Basketball Team (basketball team) took part in competitions on behalf of Islands District from time to time, he enquired whether arrangement was provided for other sports items or subject to their entry to the league. He opined that the discussion should not be restricted to the arrangement for the football team and should cover every sports item in a uniform and fair manner.

217. Mr Kaiser CHAN said that the football team was currently ranked sixth in the Third Division League, which was satisfactory. On the funding, local football teams were not funded by DCs but received over \$300,000 in funding from HAB to cover operational expense, thus no inspection of accounts of IDSA was performed by DCs. To promote local football activities, HAB delegated the decision-making power relating to formation of local football teams to 18 DCs which entrusted organisations to form football teams. With the change of DC scene, a review was required to decide whether the organisation concerned would be engaged to continue undertaking the work at the first meeting of the new term of DC.

218. Mr Sammy TSUI pointed out that although formed in the name of IDC, IDSA did not aim to promoting football sports in Islands District. It was only established to form a football team and organise football matches and IDC was not even informed how team members were recruited. He considered it inappropriate. To his understanding, the football team of Kwai Tsing DC was controlled by the pro-establishment camp in the past with its people taking part in the leagues in the name of the DC. Pointing out that a football team participated in competitions in the name of DC but the team members were not residents of the district, he considered that an infringement of residents' interest. He reckoned that since the football team

was funded by HAB, the latter should not shift the responsibility for monitoring to IDC. He disagreed on taking a vote on this issue.

219. Mr LEE Ka-ho enquired how the operation of IDSA and recruitment of team members were monitored when the football team participated in matches in the name of IDC and was engaged by IDC. He also enquired, if the team did not achieve satisfactory results, how IDC would encourage and motivate the team and whether the team leader could be replaced. He wanted to know more about the formation of the football team.

220. Mr HO Siu-kei enquired how the football team was formed and whether the most suitable players were selected to represent Islands District from open matches held at outlying islands and different places in Islands District (including Tung Chung).

221. Mr Kaiser CHAN took the Hong Kong Games for 18 districts as an example, indicating that not all the Islands District team members were living in the district. At present, the recruitment of local football team members was undertaken by IDSA, which designated a director and the team leader to handle it. Non-local residents would also be considered in the recruitment and hence the team comprised members from anywhere. He remarked that apart from forming the football team to participate in matches, IDSA conducted publicity activities such as promoting football sports in schools or organisations. On monitoring standard, HAB provided guidelines stipulating that IDSA had to conduct football-related activities with locals such as football demonstration and competition. The breakdown of the expenses was however not available at the moment. Regarding the recruitment of team members that Mr HO Siu-kei mentioned just now, there was formal recruitment of the football team.

222. Mr Sammy TSUI was worried that someone might organise football activities in the name of IDC or the coach might only recruit his students as team members to give them exposure. Since the football team took part in competitions in the name of “Islands District Football Team”, IDC could not shirk its responsibility. He believed that many young people and students in Islands District loved football and wanted to join the football team yet did not know how to join. He proposed that IDC should no longer engage IDSA to establish the local football team on its behalf so that IDSA would not participate in competitions in the name of IDC.

223. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho enquired why voting was made for the arrangement of the football team but not the basketball team which also used IDC logo.

224. Mr Kaiser CHAN remarked that formal recruitment of football team members was conducted by IDSA. He proposed IDSA to inform Members the annual recruitment to let them know the situation, and Members might also nominate suitable candidates to IDSA. Regarding the basketball team using IDC logo, to his understanding, local basketball teams did not receive funding similar to that of local football teams. As for the situation mentioned by Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho just now, he

guessed that local organisations applied to IDC for funding and the use of logo, and the funding application would be subject to approval of Members.

225. Mr Anthony LI said that IDSA established a local football team for participation in some of the leagues of HKFA on behalf of Islands District. He pointed out that prior consent of IDC was required before it represented IDC in the leagues organised by HKFA. As such, it should be noted that the football team had to obtain prior support of IDC before participating in the leagues of HKFA in the name of Islands District. No relevant application had been received by IDC concerning basketball teams.

226. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho enquired whether any application had to be made to IDC for the use of IDC logo if the football team only took part in invitation matches and not the leagues of HKFA.

227. Mr Anthony LI said that the football team had to apply for participation in other football matches apart from the leagues of HKFA in the name of Islands District.

228. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho indicated that the basketball team participated in a basketball competition every year wearing jerseys with the IDC logo, and the activities participated were organised by IDSA. He was perplexed why the basketball team needed not submit application.

229. Mr Kaiser CHAN said that to his understanding, the basketball team used IDC logo since it received funding from IDC, and had obtained the consent of IDC for using the logo.

230. The Chairman proposed that after appointment by IDC, IDSA should enhance its system, such as submitting reports to IDC in a timely manner on its operation and recruitment of team members, etc. In case the report contained incomplete and inaccurate information or any act was committed affecting the image of IDC, IDC had the right to revoke approval at any time. It was hoped that this might allay Members' concern.

231. Mr Sammy TSUI hoped that open recruitment would be conducted in the district when IDSA organised football matches or promoted football activities in the name of IDC. Regarding publicity, he opined that apart from putting up recruitment banners in the district, it could disseminate relevant information through schools and institutions, in particular non-governmental organisations which might reach out to more young people who loved playing football. Since the football team was formed in the name of IDC, it should be representative and take forward various activities.

232. The Chairman opined that although the related work was undertaken by IDSA and did not fall within the purview of IDC, IDC could voice opinions.

233. Mr Kaiser CHAN said that he would relay the views of Mr Sammy TSUI to IDSA, in particular matters relating to recruitment of team members. He reiterated that IDSA conducted open recruitment of team members but would suggest IDSA

change the method and mode of recruitment to keep the local community informed of the matter.

234. The Chairman said that this issue had already been discussed by Members thoroughly and proposed that IDSA should at least submit reports to IDC on a yearly basis which covered the recruitment of team members, method of selecting players and their performance for scrutiny. A football team would then be appointed to represent IDC. If any irregularity was detected, IDC might immediately revoke approval and find out what the problem was. He hoped that the proposal would be endorsed subject to the conditions above.

235. Mr WONG Chun-yeung enquired whether Members could assist in promoting activities of the football team via any channels or platforms. He indicated that IDC used to promote activities on HAD webpage or at specified publicity locations of the Lands Department. He proposed that Members conduct publicity at schools of their constituencies to avoid unfairness in selection of players and conflict of interests mentioned previously by Mr Sammy TSUI. Apart from submitting reports to IDC, IDSA should submit the activity plans (including expenses incurred and recruitment of workers). He remarked that details of support from Members for the operation of IDC should also be among the topics for discussion.

236. Mr Kaiser CHAN said that IDSA would be required to inform Members or IsDO in the future when it conducted open recruitment of team members so that Members would have an idea about the recruitment process.

237. The Chairman enquired whether Members agreed that, on condition that annual reports were submitted to IDC, IDSA be engaged to form a local football team on behalf of IDC to participate in the leagues organised by HKFA. He asked Members to vote by a show of hands.

238. Members voted by a show of hands. There were 15 voted for and three abstaining. The proposal was endorsed.

(Members voted for included: the Chairman Mr Randy YU, the Vice-Chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Ms Amy YUNG, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Eric KWOK, Ms LAU Shun-ting, Mr LEE Ka-ho and Mr WONG Chun-yeung; Members abstaining included: Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho.)

## XII. Proposed Schedule for Islands District Council meetings in 2020 (Paper IDC 9/2020)

239. The Chairman asked Members to consider endorsing the proposed schedule for IDC meetings set out in the paper, and expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He proposed advancing the starting time of the meeting to allow sufficient time for Members to discuss every item in detail. Taking the current meeting which started at 2:00 p.m. as an example, Members might not have sufficient time to discuss all items. He pointed out that the conference room was shared by IDC and Central and Western District Council so advanced reservation of time slots was necessary. As such, he enquired of Members if the Secretariat should reserve the morning and afternoon sessions of the conference room according to the proposed schedule set out in the paper.
- (b) He asked the Secretariat to study the feasibility of the proposal, including availability of resources. If the meeting started at 10:00 a.m., the Secretariat might have to prepare for it from the previous Friday or 8:30 or 9:00 a.m. on the day of meeting, which might affect the welfare of the Secretariat staff. But if the meeting was advanced, it might end earlier without continuing till evening. He proposed reserving the conference room for the whole day for every meeting, which he believed would be supported by the majority Members, and enquired if the Secretariat would study the feasibility of the proposal.
- (c) He understood that Members were very concerned about the working hours of the staff of IsDO and the Secretariat. In addition, the proposal was subject to the availability of the conference room and working hours of the staff concerned. After discussion with DO (Islands) and the Secretary, it was decided that meetings would be held according to the proposed dates and time set out in the paper. He asked Members to reserve time for the meetings where possible.
- (d) He reiterated that even if the starting time of the meeting could not be advanced to 10:00 a.m., it could be 10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. or other time in the morning. However, it would be most desirable to start at 10:30 a.m., suspend for lunch at 1:00 p.m. and continue the meeting at around 2:00 p.m. so Members had sufficient time to discuss all items.
- (e) He said that the next meeting would be held on 20 January 2020. The Secretariat would notify Members via email if there was any change. He hoped that IDC Standing Orders and work arrangement of the four committees and working groups under IDC could be discussed at the next meeting. After discussion of the above, the date of special meeting would be decided and the committee chairmen and vice-chairmen would be elected. He urged Members to reserve time for the meetings according to the proposed schedule set out in the paper again. The meeting time would be confirmed in due course.

XIII. Services for cleansing Islands District Council notice boards and posting notices  
(Paper IDC 10/2020)



240. The Chairman asked the Secretary to present the paper.
241. The Secretary briefly presented the paper.
242. Mr Sammy TSUI enquired about the number of notice boards in Islands District and validity period of the service contract. He pointed out that it was difficult for tenants of some new housing estates (such as Ying Tung Estate) to obtain information of DC and enquired whether notice boards could be provided in the housing estates concerned.
243. The Chairman said that the number of notice boards were listed in the information paper and asked the Secretary to give response.
244. The Secretary said that IDC had 16 notice boards at present. The cleansing service contract would last for two years, from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2022.
245. The Chairman suggested Mr Sammy TSUI propose provision of notice boards in Ying Tung Estate at District Facilities Management Committee (DFMC) meetings.
246. Mr LEE Ka-ho considered it necessary to hire contractors to clean notice boards in the district so he did not object to the funding proposal. He pointed out that the social atmosphere in the past few months had driven people to make use of the “Lennon Walls” in their own district to exchange views. However, DC notice boards were a one-way communication platform where notices of meetings were put up to disseminate information to the residents. He enquired whether the effectiveness of notice boards was assessed, and if the result was unsatisfactory, whether improvements would be made, such as converting the notice boards into “Lennon Walls” to facilitate communication between residents and DC Members.
247. Mr WONG Chun-yeung agreed with Mr LEE Ka-ho. Assuming around 10 000 residents walked past the notice boards of IDC or IsDO, only 10 to 20 would take notice of the information on the notice boards. He proposed designating parts of the notice boards for Members’ use and for use as “Lennon Walls” for residents to express and exchange views thus attracting more residents to read the notices of IsDO or IDC. He reiterated that one half, not necessarily the whole, of a notice board would suffice.
248. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that according to the paper, the Secretariat received quotations from two companies by the deadline and the cost estimate for two years was \$50,000. As no other relevant paper was provided at the meeting, he enquired if the Secretariat could provide information about the quotations for Members’ perusal. As the utilisation rate of the notice boards was relatively low, he proposed improvement measures such as displaying notices on screens instead. He considered the proposal of setting aside half of a notice board for Members’ use feasible, for example the use of notice boards for promotion of activities such as

football competition, basketball competition and carnival they organised. Lots could be drawn if several Members applied for the same period of time. With the upcoming basketball competition next year, posters featuring the event would be displayed on half the notice board. Residents attracted by the poster might also read the papers of IDC to understand its operation and the scope of work performed by DC Members. He proposed discussing the use of notice boards in detail later.

249. The Chairman said that the cleansing of notice boards and the cost estimate of \$50,000 were the major items for discussion at the current meeting. Any suggestions on the use of notice boards could be put forward via questions later in order to invite representatives of relevant departments to attend the meeting and give response.

250. Mr WONG Chun-yeung considered the quoted price acceptable. However, the \$50,000 service charge could be saved if the notice boards served as “Lennon Walls”. He pointed out that apart from meeting the public face-to-face, Members had to raise suggestions and question government departments at the meetings. He hoped that a breakthrough of the confrontation between pro-establishment and pan-democratic Members could be made by providing “Lennon Walls” for the public to reflect their aspirations in the face of the social incidents of the past few months. If the notice boards could serve as “Lennon Walls”, he, as a pan-democratic Member, pledged that he could mobilise people to clean the notice boards voluntarily and save the \$50,000 service charge. He understood that Members with different political stance might oppose so he proposed drawing up the terms of use. For example, the content posted should not contain foul language, personal attack and false statement. He reiterated that the proposal aimed to help DC save money on service charges.

251. The Chairman reminded Members that a notice board was only slightly larger than an A3 paper which might not be used for other purposes, such as serving as a “Lennon Wall” as proposed by Members. DC had been providing cleansing service by means of outsourcing and the expenditure involved was not a great amount so he suggested Members endorsing the allocation first. Members could then pay a site visit to the areas concerned to inspect the size and location of the 16 notice boards and raise questions accordingly.

252. Mr LEE Ka-ho opined that since very few residents were aware of the notices put up on the notice boards of IDC, he proposed provision of “Lennon Walls” to optimise the use of the notice boards. He understood that the use of notice boards was not included in the discussion paper but hoped that the Secretariat could put the proposal on record and provide the result of the effectiveness evaluation of the notice boards. He opined that it would be meaningless to put up DC notices to which no one paid attention and requested the Secretariat to provide relevant data of the past for further discussion on the proposal.

253. Mr Eric KWOK said that the service area of IDC covered Lamma Island, Peng Chau, Po Toi Island, Cheung Chau as well as Mui Wo, Pui O and Cheung Sha in Lamma South. Although the notice boards of IDC were a one-way information platform with low utilisation rate, he considered it necessary to disseminate

information by posting notices on the notice boards which he read from time to time. He hoped that the Secretariat could provide relevant data to Members for reference as proposed by Mr LEE Ka-ho and asked the eight Members who were the Chairmen of RCs to offer assistance. In view of the small size of the notice boards, he proposed identifying spaces in each district for provision of “Lennon Walls” and he would raise such proposal at DFMC meetings.

254. Ms Amy YUNG said that according to past experience, the residents seldom read notices on the notice boards of IDC and some information had become outdated. As construction works were underway in Discovery Bay, she did not know where the notice boards of IDC and IsDO were and requested the Secretariat to provide relevant information about their locations. With advancement in technology, many residents preferred receiving electronic information. She reposted notices and other information of IsDO on the social networking site Facebook and proposed that DC consider disseminating information to the public through electronic channels such as blogs.

255. The Secretary responded as follows:

- (a) IDC had 16 notice boards in total. It was difficult for the Secretariat to conduct a pedestrian count around each notice board so relevant data could not be provided.
- (b) The management company of Discovery Bay was carrying out maintenance works and had temporarily removed the notice boards of IsDO and IDC. IsDO had contacted the management company to follow up on the matter.

256. The Chairman said that the proposal of providing notice boards, large display panels or interactive screens involved public funds and it took time to proceed from application to approval for funding. He suggested Members discuss the proposal at DFMC meetings and consider endorsing the 2-year cleansing service contract first.

257. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho asked the Secretariat to provide the quotation details of the two cleaning companies.

258. The Secretary said that the quotation included 16 bi-monthly cleansings at \$2,980 each, which would be charged at the end of each session.

259. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho enquired of the Secretariat the criteria for selecting the cleaning company.

260. The Secretariat said that the cleaning company with a lower quotation was selected as the contractor.

261. The Chairman asked Members to consider endorsing the proposal in the paper and voted by a show of hands if there were no other questions. The result was 16 votes in favour and 1 abstained. The proposal was endorsed.

(Members voted in favour included: the Chairman Mr Randy YU, the Vice-Chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei, Ms LAU Shun-ting, Mr LEE Ka-ho, Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho and Mr WONG Chun-yeung; Ms Amy YUNG abstained.)

(Mr CHOW Yuk-tong left the meeting at around 5:45 p.m.)

#### XIV. Date of Next Meeting

262. The Chairman said that the special meeting for election of the chairman and vice-chairmen of the committees was originally scheduled for 20 January 2020 and the first DC meeting was scheduled for 17 February 2020. However, as IDC Standing Orders and formation of the four committees under IDC had to be discussed in advance, the special meeting on 20 January might be rescheduled. The Secretariat would notify Members of the meeting date via email or other means. He said that Members could raise questions, if any, at the special meeting as well as later DC and committee meetings and prepare the papers required. He reminded Members that as stipulated in the Standing Orders, each Member could only speak three times on each item to ensure that all Members had sufficient time to express views.

263. Mr Sammy TSUI said that the outbreak of coronavirus disease in Wuhan had caused public anxiety in Hong Kong. In his opinion, DC should explore preventive measures and the resources available as well as appeal for public support for prevention of the disease so he enquired why such issues were not discussed at the meeting. The next meeting would be held in February or March and the problem might be tackled or aggravated by then. In addition, it would be Lunar New Year later this month. He enquired how DC would handle the problems concerned.

264. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that there were two boundary control points in Islands District so DC had the responsibility to respond to questions related to the disease as soon as possible. It would be too late for discussion at the meeting in February.

265. The Chairman understood that Members were concerned about the impact of the disease on residents. However, as the problem involved the Department of Health (DH), the Hospital Authority (HA) and other professional departments, there was a need to obtain information about the situation from relevant departments in advance and to consider how to respond to the problems, such as whether DC should distribute masks to the residents. He proposed that the Secretariat could enquire of DH of the severity of the disease, its impact on Hong Kong as well as effective preventive measures to be taken by the public, and provide relevant papers for Members' perusal before discussion at the meetings.

266. Mr Sammy TSUI said that although there was a notification mechanism between Wuhan and Hong Kong, the information obtained was very limited and the public could only learn the situation from news. He watched and read the daily TV news and radio reports but did not receive much information from these channels. After all, news released by the Mainland served as the major source of information. As the number of cases of coronavirus disease in Hong Kong and Wuhan were on the increase, he was concerned about the community spread of the virus in Hong Kong although it was quite far from Wuhan. He also pointed out that DH raising the response level a few days ago indicated that the seriousness of the disease should not be overlooked. He agreed with the proposal of the Chairman of distributing resources including masks, liquid soap and disinfectant liquid to the residents and opined that DC should not allocate all resources for organising activities. Instead, it should make good use of the resources available to tackle special and urgent problems. He enquired how to tackle the recent price increase in masks and their shortage, and was concerned that the consequences would be beyond imagination if a large-scale outbreak and human-to-human transmission occurred in Hong Kong.

267. Mr WONG Chun-yeung relayed the views of residents that they hoped DC could request DH in writing to raise the response level to that used during “SARS” outbreak. After studying the “SARS” epidemic in 2003 and the relevant news reports, he hoped that DC or IsDO could hold urgent meetings or write to request information from DH concerning the problem.

268. Mr Sammy TSUI said that in an interview, Dr HO Pak-leung considered it inappropriate to conclude whether human-to-human transmission would occur at this stage as some patients of coronavirus disease had not visited the seafood markets concerned despite the increase in confirmed cases. He opined that although the possibility of human-to-human transmission remained unknown, the issue should not be taken lightly as it was related to people’s livelihood and many people had already been infected.

269. Mr Eric KWOK agreed with the views of Mr Sammy TSUI and Mr WONG Chun-yeung regarding the disease. However, any proposals involving the use of DC funds must be endorsed before the funds were released. He enquired whether the Chairman had the authority to convene special meetings for discussion on disease-related issues. As there were two boundary control points (i.e. the Airport and Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge in Tung Chung) and a large number of visitors in Islands District, he enquired how DC would prevent the spread of disease and whether resources could be deployed for distribution of masks and liquid soap to the public as well as publicity and educational programmes to protect the public from infection.

270. The Chairman proposed requesting the Secretariat to write to DH to enquire about the latest situation of the disease first. In addition, as Lunar New Year was around the corner, a number of citizens would travel overseas while visitors would travel to Hong Kong. He requested DH to send representatives to attend the meeting in the near future to account for the development of the disease and preventive

measures. He believed that DH could allocate funds for preventive work but DC could enquire about the situation to be prepared in advance. If the department failed to respond, he would follow up on the matter with the Secretariat.

271. Mr Eric KWOK enquired if DC could deploy resources for distributing masks or liquid soap to the residents, demonstrating that IsDO and DC cared for people's livelihood.

272. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to check if sufficient resources were available for carrying out relevant work.

273. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that he had contacted DH and St John Hospital earlier but the latter replied that it could not set up street counters or distribute masks to the public due to a lack of resources. He opined that DH or HA might not have extra resources for setting up street counters to spread messages on fighting the disease, and therefore he suggested DC allocate funds for purchasing and distributing 40 000 masks to residents of Islands District. During "SARS" outbreak in 2003, the public had to wear masks when they went out. He opined that it needed to raise public awareness of health protection immediately or there might be an outbreak of the disease with adverse impacts on the economy as in the past. As such, he proposed seeking provisional funds for carrying out relevant work.

274. Mr WONG Chun-yeung said that as Islands District (especially Tung Chung) was near the Airport, he proposed inviting the Airport Authority, apart from relevant departments including DH, to send representatives to the meeting.

275. The Chairman agreed that DC had the responsibility to address coronavirus-related issues but it should find out if resources were available for taking appropriate measures. As suggested by Mr Sammy TSUI, the mask supplies were running out and he would continue to follow up on the matter.

276. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

-END-