

**Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Southern District Council (SDC)**  
**(2016-2019)**

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Date : 5 January 2016  
Time : 2:30 p.m.  
Venue : SDC Conference Room

**Present:**

Mr CHU Ching-hong, JP (Chairman)  
Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH (Vice-Chairman)  
Mr AU Lap-sing, MH  
Mr AU Nok-hin  
Mr CHAI Man-hon  
Ms CHAN Judy Kapui  
Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying  
Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung  
Mr CHU Lap-wai  
Mr FUNG Se-goun, Fergus  
Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH  
Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH  
Mr LO Kin-hei  
Dr MAK TSE How-ling, Ada, MH  
Mr TSUI Yuen-wa  
Ms YAM Pauline  
Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN

**Secretary:**

Ms YIP Wai-see, Priscilla Senior Executive Officer (District Council),  
Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department

**In Attendance:**

Mr CHOW Chor-tim, JP	District Officer (Southern), Home Affairs Department
Miss TSE Nga-lap, Lilian	Assistant District Officer (Southern), Home Affairs Department
Mr CHAN Ip-to, Tony	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department
Ms LO Mun-wah, Cindy	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department
Miss CHOW Suk-ye, Jessica	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department

**Opening Remarks:**

Mr CHOW Chor-tim, JP (DO) welcomed the newly elected and re-elected Members to the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of SDC (2016-2019). Under the relevant provisions of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547) (the Ordinance), a District Council (DC) was to elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman at the first meeting of the Council. The District Officer had to preside at the meeting concerned until the Chairman and Vice Chairman were elected. In this connection, he would preside over the meeting for the discussion of agenda item 1, i.e. “Election of SDC Chairman and Vice-chairman”.

2. DO said that the Secretariat had not received any applications for absence from Members before the meeting.

**Agenda Item 1: Election of SDC Chairman and Vice-chairman**

**[2:31 p.m. - 2:48 p.m.]**

3. DO said that subject to Section 62(4) of the Ordinance, he would preside over the election of the SDC Chairman and Vice Chairman. The election of the SDC Chairman and Vice Chairman would be conducted in accordance with the “Procedure for the Election of District Council Chairman and Vice Chairman” and the voting procedure as specified in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance issued by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) earlier on.

4. DO continued that the original nomination form had to be given in person by the nominees standing for election of the Chairman or Vice Chairman at the

Southern District Office (SDO) one hour before this meeting commenced, i.e. not later than 1:30 p.m.

5. Mr LO Kin-hei raised an enquiry on the rules of order. He doubted that the above time frame had narrowed the meaning of Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. Under the Ordinance, nominations might be made any time before the chair of the meeting announced the close of nominations. He queried the HAD's practice of setting the nomination time to one hour before the meeting commenced. Besides, he considered that it had shown no respect for all DCs as the procedure of meeting had been formulated for the DCs. HAD might issue guidelines for reference but the standing orders should still be drawn up by the respective DCs based on their own merits. Provided that it was not contrary to the relevant legislation, DCs were supposed to have the discretion to draw up the method of electing a Chairman and a Vice Chairman. The procedure for the election of DC Chairman and Vice Chairman should not be confined to the directives given by HAD. He asked whether the rules set by HAD were still valid if all Members present at the meeting did not accept and unanimously turned to impromptu nominations. He questioned whether the rules set by HAD should be regarded as having the same validity as that of Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. He opined that although it was not desirable to deal with an enquiry on the rules of order at the beginning of a new SDC term, he stressed that the HAD's sole decision on setting the nomination time frame had disrespected the DCs indeed, and had deprived DCs of the right to decide on their internal operation mode. As such, he protested strongly against such practice.

6. DO responded that the election of the DC Chairman and Vice Chairman currently conducted in the 18 districts had varied according to their respective arrangements in practice, which was not a desirable situation. In this regard, HAD had discussed with the District Officers of the 18 districts and considered that unification of the procedures for the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman across the 18 districts would better uphold the principle of openness and fairness while enhancing the transparency of the election. Besides, it would also enable the respective District Offices to provide the appropriate administrative support more effectively. The new arrangements being introduced were also in compliance with the requirements of Schedule 5 to the Ordinance.

7. Mr CHAI Man-hon said that even though Members were allowed to make nominations for the Chairman or Vice Chairman impromptu, it did not seem to violate the requirements specified in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. In the light of the fact that quite a number of bodies incorporated had also allowed impromptu

nomination of candidates in their elections, there was no justifiable reason for HAD to set a nomination time frame. He considered that it was not appropriate for HAD to do so, and required that HAD should clearly account for its administrative power and under what circumstances they could exercise such power, in order to avoid suppressing the functions and authority of DCs.

8. Mr AU Nok-hin asked DO to give an account of the justifications for the close of nominations one hour before the meeting commenced. He opined that the unification of the procedures for the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman across the 18 districts was not an optimal solution owing to the different situations in various districts. Moreover, Members might also wish to make nominations for the Chairman and the Vice Chairman impromptu.

9. DO thanked Members for their views. He explained that the 18 districts had adopted different nomination deadlines and formats in the past. The acceptance of nominations in some districts (such as SDC) was due at their meetings, whilst some had their nominations closed a few hours before their meetings. Upon discussion with the District Officers of the 18 districts, HAD considered that the close of nomination one hour before the meeting was in compliance with the requirements of Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. Besides, the staff of District Offices would notify all Members of the nominations received for Chairman or Vice Chairman by email within a reasonable time. This new arrangement had not only furnished Members with the latest information on the nominations earlier but also allowed relatively adequate time for the Secretariat to prepare for the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman.

10. Mr LO Kin-hei commented that given that both the previous arrangement and the HAD's introduction of new arrangement were in compliance with the requirements specified in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance, the adoption of the HAD's arrangement for this meeting made no sense at all. He believed that DO would probably not be able to give a satisfactory response in this meeting. He opined that HAD should carefully deliberate about the exercise of such power. Otherwise, the unification of procedures owing to variations in the arrangements currently adopted for the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman today could lead to imposition of across-the-board requirements on the rules of procedure or funding criteria on the grounds of inconsistency in the future, which would predominate over the DC operation. He requested that HAD should give a written reply to the enquiries raised by Mr CHAI Man-hon, Mr AU Nok-hin and himself.

11. DO said that the Members' views would be relayed to HAD accordingly.

[Post-meeting note: HAD has provided a written reply on 29 January 2016.]

12. DO announced that the election would proceed accordingly. He said that the original nomination form had to be given in person by the nominees standing for the position of Chairman or Vice Chairman to SDO at least one hour before the meeting commenced, i.e. no later than 1:30 p.m. The nominee for the office of Chairman or Vice Chairman had to indicate his or her consent to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he or she was nominated.

13. DO informed the meeting that before the close of nomination (i.e. by 1:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting), one valid nomination for the office of SDC Chairman had been received by SDO, and all Members had been notified by email upon receipt of the nomination concerned. Mr CHU Ching-hong, JP was nominated as the candidate by Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and seconded by Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH and Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying. Under Section 5 of Schedule 5 to the Ordinance, if only one candidate was nominated for the office of Chairman, the candidate was regarded as having been elected Chairman. As there was only one candidate, he declared that Mr CHU Ching-hong, JP was elected as Chairman of the SDC (2016-2019).

14. DO said that as at 1:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting, one valid nomination for the office of Vice Chairman had been received by SDO. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH was nominated as the candidate by Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and seconded by Mr AU Lap-sing, MH and Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying. Under Section 5 of Schedule 5 to the Ordinance, if only one candidate was nominated for the office of Vice Chairman, the candidate was regarded as having been elected Vice Chairman. As there was only one candidate, DO declared that Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH was elected Vice Chairman of the SDC (2016-2019).

15. DO announced a five-minute break, and invited the newly elected SDC Chairman to take over the chair of this meeting at this juncture.

**Agenda Item 2: Appointment of Secretary of SDC under Section 69 of District Councils Ordinance**

**[2:49 p.m. - 2:51 p.m.]**

16. The Chairman thanked Members for their support. He was honoured to be re-elected as SDC Chairman and looked forward to the close cooperation amongst Members during the new term, with a view to taking forward the district work more effectively.

17. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH also expressed his gratitude to Members for their support. He hoped that Members could maintain sincere cooperation in the future in order to build a better community for the Southern District.

18. The Chairman said that subject to Section 69 of the Ordinance, for the purpose of carrying out its functions, a DC might appoint a public officer to act as the secretary of that DC.

19. The Chairman asked Members whether they approved the appointment of the Senior Executive Officer (District Council) of SDO as Secretary of SDC.

20. Members had no objection.

21. SDC approved the appointment of Ms YIP Wai-see, Senior Executive Officer (District Council) of SDO, as Secretary of SDC.

**Agenda Item 3: SDC (2016-2019) Standing Orders**  
**(SDC Paper No. 1/2016)**  
**[2:51 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.]**

22. The Chairman asked the Secretary to brief Members on the contents of the paper.

23. The Secretary briefed Members on the contents of the paper as follows:

(i) Section 68 of the Ordinance provided that a DC might make standing orders for regulating its meeting procedures and that of its committees;

(ii) SDC had enacted its standing orders for the first time in January 2000, which was followed by a number of amendments having regard to its operation needs. The latest revised version was adopted by the Fourth Term of SDC on 14 November 2013, and it had been in force since then;

(iii) HAD had already prepared the model District Council Standing Orders (model DCSO) for the new DC term, and accordingly, individual DCs might make amendments having regard to their district needs. The proposed amendments made in accordance with HAD's model DCSO were divided into five major categories as follows:

(a) Minutes of working groups

since 2014, apart from closed-door sessions, the minutes of SDC and its Committees/Working Groups had been uploaded to the SDC website. As such, it was now proposed that such a requirement should be specified in the SDC (2016-2019) Standing Orders (Standing Orders);

(b) Registration of interests of members of SDC and its Committees

in the light of the fact that there were increasing expectations from the general public that DC members should demonstrate decency and deliver a high standard of integrity, to enhance transparency and accountability of the DCs, it was now proposed that the arrangements for making registration of interests of the members of SDC and its Committees should be amended as follows:

I. modifications would be made to the format of "Registration Form on Personal Interests of Members of a District Council or Its Committees" to facilitate Members/Committee Members to furnish the particulars of their registrable interests in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Standing Orders; and

II. the "Registration Form on Personal Interests of Members of a District Council or Its Committees" furnished by Members/Committee Members would be uploaded to the SDC website for public inspection;

(c) Code of Conduct for Members of a District Council or Its Committees (Code of Conduct)

Order 54 of the prevailing standing orders provided that SDC might warn or reprimand a Member/Committee Member for breach of the Code of Conduct. In this connection, it was now proposed that the Code of Conduct should be included in the Standing Orders as an

appendix for ease of reference;

(d) Procedure for the election of DC Chairman and Vice-Chairman

to better uphold the principle of openness and fairness as well as enhancing the transparency of the election, the procedure for the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman across the 18 districts would be unified. To tie in with the unified procedure concerned, it was now proposed to amend the relevant provisions in Appendix II, and Annexes A and B to Appendix II of the Standing Orders accordingly; and

(e) Other amendments

amendments should be made to align the Standing Orders with the relevant provisions of the Ordinance;

(iv) the Secretariat had already incorporated the above proposed amendments into the draft Standing Orders for Members to consider whether such should be adopted in the Standing Orders of the current term of SDC. The proposed amendments and the draft concerned were given in Annexes 2 and 3 to the SDC paper respectively; and

(v) Members were invited to consider whether it was necessary to set up a workshop to facilitate their deliberation on other provisions of the Standing Orders and put forth their amendment proposals accordingly; if yes, the Secretariat would make the necessary arrangements in due course.

24. The Chairman asked Members to give their views on the proposed amendments for incorporation into the Standing Orders.

25. Mr LO Kin-hei pointed out that Members were asked to discuss and endorse the procedure for the election of DC Chairman and Vice-Chairman as specified in the Standing Orders right now. Nevertheless, pursuant to the previous discussion of agenda item 1 at this meeting, SDC was requested to adopt the arrangements for the election of DC Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Such an arrangement was so ridiculous that it defied all logic. He agreed to set up a workshop, so that Members could further review and revise the Standing Orders in accordance with their past experiences.

26. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN wished to know the justifications for deleting part

of the contents from Order 48(5)(d), and considered that such contents would enable Members to understand the requirements for making registration of their personal interests. He did not understand why this deletion had to be made.

27. The Chairman said that DO had already explained to Members the procedure for the election of DC Chairman and Vice-Chairman during the discussion of agenda item 1. Regarding Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN's concern on the deletion of certain contents from the standing orders, the Secretariat would further explain to him after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat has already explained to Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN that the contents being deleted from Order 48(5)(d) had been transferred to a new provision, i.e. Order 48(5)(e), for better clarity.]

28. The Chairman asked Members whether they agreed to set up a workshop.

29. Mr AU Nok-hin asked whether the scope of the discussion of the workshop would include the authority of the Committees under SDC.

30. The Chairman responded that the scope of the discussion of the workshop would include the full contents of the Standing Orders. As for the terms of reference of the Committees under SDC, at this meeting, the subsequent agenda item would allow discussion on this subject.

31. Mr LO Kin-hei asked whether approval had to be given to the draft Standing Orders at Annex 3 pending discussion at this meeting, or the prevailing standing orders at Annex 1 could still be used until further discussion would be made in the workshop.

32. The Chairman responded that as a matter of fact, the draft at Annex 3 was an adaptation of the prevailing standing orders incorporating the proposed amendments in five categories as stated in paragraph 3 of the SDC paper. As for the question of whether revision had to be made to other provisions of the Standing Orders, detailed deliberation could be made in the workshop.

33. SDC endorsed the draft Standing Orders at Annex 3 to the SDC paper, and agreed to set up the workshop for discussing other provisions of the Standing Orders.

**Agenda Item 4: Formation of Committees under SDC, Determination of the Tenure of Office of Committee Members and the Number of Co-opted Members in Committees  
(SDC Paper No. 2/2016)  
[3:00 p.m. - 3:22 p.m.]**

34. The Chairman said that this agenda item was divided into three parts, namely “Formation of Committee under SDC”, “Determination of the Tenure of Office of Committee Members” and “Determination of the Number of Co-opted Members in Committees”. He asked Members whether they agreed to discuss the above three parts successively. Subsequent to this, a conclusion would be drawn.

35. Members had no objection.

36. The Chairman asked the Secretary to brief Members on the contents of “Formation of Committees under SDC” as given in the paper.

37. The Secretary briefed Members on the contents of the paper as follows:

(i) for the purpose of carrying out its functions, a DC might appoint committees in accordance with Section 71(1) of the Ordinance. There were five functional Committees established under the fourth term of SDC, namely:

- (a) Community Affairs and Tourism Development Committee (CATC);
- (b) District Development and Environment Committee (DDEC);
- (c) Traffic and Transport Committee (T&TC);
- (d) District Facilities Management Committee (DFMC); and
- (e) Focus Group on Southern District Signature Projects (Focus Group on SDSP); and

(ii) to continue the work of the last term of SDC, it was proposed that based on the existing framework, five Committees would be set up in the current term of SDC.

38. The Chairman said that it was now proposed to set up CATC. In order to have a more comprehensive and lucid discussion and surveillance on the community affairs in the district, the environment aspect as stated in the terms of reference (TOR)

of the last term DDEC would be transferred to the current term CATC. The revised TOR as proposed were given at Annex 2(A) to the SDC paper.

39. The Chairman continued that the second Committee to be set up was the “District Development and Housing Committee” (DDHC). In order to have a more in-depth and comprehensive discussion of the local development in the district, including town planning, land use and housing matters, it was proposed that the last term DDEC would be renamed as DDHC and the environment aspect as stated in its previous TOR be transferred to the current term CATC accordingly. The proposed TOR of DDHC was given at Annex 2(B) to the SDC paper.

40. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN asked whether other regular government representatives would be available to sit in at the CATC meeting upon amendments made to its TOR.

41. The Chairman responded that an officer from the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department would attend the meeting of the Committee concerned as a regular government representative.

42. The Chairman said that the other three Committees to be set up, namely T&TC, DFMC and the Focus Group on SDSP, would generally adopt the TOR of their last term with minor changes to the wording only. Their revised TOR were given at Annexes 2(C) to (E) to the SDC paper respectively.

43. Mr LO Kin-hei did not object to the TOR of the above Committees. However, from past experiences, matters relating to tourism development were not often discussed at the CATC meeting. In case the environment aspect was included in its scope of work, there would be a further reduction in the weight carried by tourism development in the discussion. In view of this, its existing name might not be able to fully reflect the work of CATC. Nevertheless, he did not have a strong objection to this, and just wished to raise his enquiry about this matter.

44. The Chairman responded that in the naming of the Committee concerned, due consideration had been given to the fact that community affairs had already included environmental matters; hence, the wording “environment” was not incorporated in its name in order to avoid too much redundant detail. Besides, considering that tourism development had, all along, been one of the key initiatives of the Southern District, it was proposed that such wording should be retained in the naming of CATC.

45. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN said that by making reference to past experiences, matters relating to tourism development and the promotion of the Southern District brands should be referred to CATC for discussion. Regarding the hardware and infrastructural development with respect to tourism, as such matters entailed the procurement and utilisation of resources for realising tourism development projects, they should be put forward for discussion at the DDHC meeting.

46. The Chairman shared Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN's view, and said that having regard to its nature, the proposed agenda items would be referred to a Committee as appropriate for discussion and follow-up. If a project was within the scope of district development or town planning, even its nature was tourism-related, it would be more appropriate to refer the matter to DDHC for discussion and follow-up. If the item for discussion was related to tourism publicity, CATC should be tasked to make discussion and take follow-up action.

47. The Chairman asked the Secretary to brief Members on the "Determination of the Tenure of Office of Committee Members" as given in the paper.

48. The Secretary said that in view of the ever-enhancing functions of DCs, it was envisaged that the workload of the five Committees would continue to increase. To assist the Chairmen of the Committees in planning and managing the affairs under their purview, it was proposed to adopt the arrangement in the previous term that a Vice Chairman post be created in each of the five Committees mentioned above, and the office of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and members on these Committees would be subject to a two-year tenure.

49. The Chairman asked Members whether they agreed to the above proposal.

50. Members had no objection.

51. The Chairman asked the Secretary to brief Members on "Determination of the Number of Co-opted Members in Committees" as given in the paper.

52. The Secretary said that pursuant to Order 34(2) of the SDC (2012-2015) Standing Orders, the total number of co-opted members appointed to the committees of a Council must not exceed the total number of members of that Council. The number of members appointed to each committee should not be more than five. In the last term of SDC, there were five co-opted seats each designated on CATC,

DDEC and T&TC. She asked Members to consider whether the designation of co-opted seats on CATC, DDHC and T&TC in their current term should be maintained. If Members agreed so, Members were invited to consider whether the number of co-opted seats on the respective Committees should remain unchanged, i.e. a maximum of five co-opted members on each Committee with a tenure of two years. Furthermore, the criteria for nomination and selection of co-opted members might be discussed in detail in the workshop for discussion of the provisions of the Standing Orders.

53. Mr LO Kin-hei suggested that a resolution on the designation of co-opted seats on all Committees should be made first. Afterwards, the Committees would determine whether co-opted members would be designated having regard to their respective operation needs, in a bid to enhance flexibility.

54. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN supported Mr LO Kin-hei's proposal. He considered that maintaining a highly efficient operation should be the prime consideration factor in determining the number of members on a Committee, and the number of members should be kept as small as possible, in order to avoid overly long discussions. As such, he agreed that members of the respective Committees could, having regard to their operation needs, further decide the need for designating professionals in various fields as appropriate to be co-opted members after the Committee meetings.

55. The Chairman said that SDC might consider the designation of five co-opted seats each on the five Committees, provided that the total number of co-opted members should not exceed the number of SDC Members, i.e. 17. However, he personally considered that it would be more appropriate for Members to make discussion on matters relating to the management of district facilities.

56. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH opined that it would be more appropriate that no co-opted seats would be designated on DFMC.

57. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung opined that the last term's arrangement should be adopted; i.e. no co-opted seats would be designated on DFMC.

58. Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying shared the views of Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, and considered that no co-opted seats should be designated on DFMC.

59. Ms Paul ZIMMERMAN reiterated that the formation of Committees should cope with their operation need. If necessary, professionals in various fields as appropriate might be designated to provide their professional advice. Therefore, he did not understand why a decision had to be made at this stage that co-opted seats should not be designated on DFMC. Based on the same principle, he also did not agree to cap the number of co-opted members right now. He suggested that such a decision should not be made until the Committees had started their work in the new term having regard to their operation needs.

60. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH opined that it would be more appropriate that no co-opted seats should be designated on DFMC. As a matter of fact, in the past, professionals had been designated as professional members to the Working Group on District Minor Works Projects (Working Group on DMW Projects) under DFMC to advise on matters in their respective fields.

61. Mr TSUI Yuen-wa generally agreed with Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN's view. He said that if the Chairman was concerned about the number of co-opted members exceeding the number of SDC Members upon the designation of co-opted members to DFMC, the quota of co-opted members on each Committee could be adjusted downward from five to two or three. He also opined that the designation of professionals as co-opted members could bring about net benefits to the operation of the Committees.

62. The Chairman responded that the total number of co-opted members was not his concern. However, due consideration had been given to the case as mentioned by Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH that professionals had been designated to the Working Group on DMW Projects to advise on matters in their respective fields. He continued that professionals had also been designated as advisors to participate in the discussion of the Focus Group on SDSP, but these professionals did not have the right to vote. In this connection, he suggested that Members might explore in detail the feasibility of different options during the discussion in the workshop.

63. Mr TSUI Yuen-wa said that he would keep an open mind to the question of whether professionals designated on the Committees had the right to vote. However, he considered that flexibility should be maintained at this stage and the possibility of any options should not be ruled out.

64. Mr LO Kin-hei opined that in fact, the different views raised by Members

were not contradictory. At this stage, the meeting might leave open the possibility of the different options, and let the Committees to make autonomous decisions about the designation of co-opted members having regard to their future operation needs.

65. The Chairman suggested that further deliberation would be made in the workshop.

66. Members had no objection.

67. In closing, the Chairman concluded that SDC endorsed the establishment of CATC, DDHC, T&TC, DFMC and the Focus Group on SDSP, as well as the adoption of the TOR as given at Annexes 2(A) to (E) to the SDC paper. A Chairman and a Vice Chairman would be designated on the above five Committees, and their members would serve the respective Committees for a term of two years. Later on, a workshop would be organised to discuss the provisions of the Standing Orders and arrangements for the designation of co-opted members. The Secretariat would inform Members of details of the workshop accordingly.

[Post-meeting note: The workshop for discussion of the provisions of the Standing Orders and arrangements for the designation of co-opted members would be held on 3 February 2016.]

68. Members unanimously agreed to the above arrangements.

69. The Chairman reminded Members that agenda item 7 of this meeting would deal with the election of the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the Committees under SDC. The staff of the Secretariat would distribute the membership application form of the respective Committees at the meeting, and Members should return their forms duly completed as soon as possible.

70. The Chairman announced a 10-minute break.

**Agenda Item 5: Schedule of Meetings for SDC and its Committees in 2016**  
**(SDC Paper No. 3/2016)**  
**[3:33 p.m. - 3:51 p.m.]**

71. Further to the resolution on agenda item 4, the Chairman invited Members to consider approving the proposed schedule of meetings for 2016 at Annex.

72. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN agreed in general to the proposed dates of meeting. However, he pointed out that two of the Committees had been scheduled for meeting within the Easter break of school holidays. This arrangement was not convenient for the government representatives, staff of the Secretariat, interpreters and Members. Therefore, he suggested changing the dates of these two meetings.

73. The Chairman responded that the two meetings of T&TC and DFMC mentioned by Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN would be held on 29 and 31 March 2016 respectively. He asked Members to consider whether the above two sessions should be rescheduled for 5 April (Tuesday) and 7 April 2016 (Thursday) respectively.

74. Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH said that meanwhile, she was unable to confirm whether she would be able to attend the rescheduled meetings.

75. Mr LO Kin-hei suggested that approval should be given to the proposed schedule of meetings at Annex first. If necessary, the Secretariat would be tasked to coordinate on the matter and revise the schedule accordingly. Besides, he suggested that the meetings of SDC and its Committees should be advanced earlier in the morning, so as to enable government representatives to attend these meetings during office hours, which could in turn enhance the efficiency of SDC in its operation.

76. The Chairman opined that it would be more appropriate for Members to approve the schedule of meetings as agreed at the meeting, so that the Secretariat could inform all relevant government representatives of the confirmed dates of meetings after this meeting.

77. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung pointed out that the Easter holidays designated by the schools did not necessarily fall within the same period. Therefore, it would be difficult to make special arrangements for the schedule of meetings to coincide with holiday schedules of all schools.

78. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN said that the Easter holidays of all local schools which accounted for over 90% of the students in Hong Kong fell within the period of 25 March to 4 April 2016, and the Easter break of international schools was even longer. In this regard, he deemed it necessary to defer the meetings concerned.

79. Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH supplemented that if the Committee meetings concerned were to be rescheduled for 5 and 7 April 2016 respectively, she

would be able to attend the meeting.

80. Mr AU Lap-sing, MH said that quite a lot of people would travel abroad during the Easter break of school holidays. Hence, he supported the rescheduling of the Committee meetings concerned for 5 and 7 April 2016 respectively.

81. The Chairman asked Members whether they approved the proposal on the revised schedule of meetings, i.e. the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of T&TC and DFMC would be rescheduled for 5 April (Tuesday) and 7 April 2016 (Thursday) respectively.

82. Members had no objection.

83. The Chairman asked Members to give their views on Mr LO Kin-hei's proposal on advancing the commencement of meetings in the morning.

84. Mr AU Lap-sing, MH did not support the above proposal.

85. Mr CHAI Man-hon opined that reference could be made to the flexible scheduling of the Legislative Council meetings, i.e. the starting time of a meeting would depend on the number of agenda items, and the meeting would be advanced earlier if a relatively large number of agenda items were involved. He pointed out that the earlier commencement of a meeting could avoid the conducting of a meeting till the evening, which could improve the quality of discussions at the SDC meeting and facilitate media interviews and reporting.

86. Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying said that in the past 16 years, all meetings of SDC started at 2:30 p.m., and this was a well-established arrangement.

87. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN supported Mr CHAI Man-hon's view. He opined that it was indeed unfair for Members, government representatives and the Secretariat staff to work overtime and sacrifice their personal time owing to the numerous agenda items for discussion. Hence, if there were a relatively large number of agenda items, the meeting should start earlier. Otherwise, the meeting could still start at 2:30 p.m.

88. Mr LO Kin-hei supported the views of Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN and Mr CHAI Man-hon. He said that he would not insist on the commencement of meetings in the morning, but agreed that a flexible approach should be adopted having regard to the number of agenda items. He pointed out that in the past, the

meetings started at 2:30 p.m. However, the first agenda item was often designated for the meeting with the heads of departments and the matters raised by policy bureaux/departments. The very lengthy briefing made by the heads of departments and representatives of policy bureaux/department had seriously affected the efficiency of SDC in its operation, which was of no benefit to the SDC operation.

89. Mr CHAI Man-hon revealed that in the past, an electronic media had intended to cover a later agenda item; nevertheless, owing to the lengthy discussion of the earlier agenda items, the media was unable to complete their work by the evening. As a result, the footage could only be broadcast on the late news, which was relatively difficult to draw the public's attention. In this regard, he hoped that SDC could adopt a flexible approach in adjusting the starting time of meetings having regard to the number of agenda items.

90. Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH said that she was not a full-time district councillor and had to perform her duties as a principle at the same time. Should the meetings of SDC have to start earlier, she hoped that adequate notice could be provided.

91. In closing, the Chairman concluded that SDC approved in principle the commencement of the meetings of SDC and its Committees at 2:30 p.m. If there were a relatively large number of agenda items raised for discussion at individual meetings, the meetings could start earlier provided that at least one week's advance notice would be given to Members.

**Agenda Item 6: Financial Report of SDC Funds and Matters Relating to Allocation of Funds**  
**(SDC Paper No. 4/2016)**  
**[3:51 p.m. - 3:54 p.m.]**

92. The Chairman asked the Secretary to brief Members on the contents of the paper.

93. The Secretary briefed Members on the contents of the paper as follows:

- (i) according to the *Manual on the Use of District Council Funds* issued by HAD, a DC might, in the final year of its term, commit funds for projects to be carried out in the first three months of the new DC term if necessary.

However, it was proposed that the projects to be commenced during such period and the related allocation were subject to the endorsement of the new DC term;

- (ii) the last SDC term had ended on 31 December 2015 with all meetings suspended since 2 October the same year. To enable local organisations to launch their projects in early 2016, the last term of SDC had already approved funding applications for those community involvement (CI) projects to be commenced between January and March 2016, with details at Annex 1;
- (iii) the Financial Report of SDC Funds as at 31 December 2015 was given at Annex 2; and
- (iv) meanwhile, the Secretariat had drawn up the tentative schedule of deadlines for the submission of funding applications for the implementation of CI projects from April 2016 and April 2017, which would be considered at the meetings of SDC or CATC under SDC as specified. Details were given at Annex 3.

94. The Chairman asked Members to note the contents of Annexes 1 to 3, and consider endorsing the projects recommended for funding by the last term of SDC as given in Annex 1 and the disbursement of advance payments made thereunder, as well as approving the arrangements for the submission of funding applications for projects to be implemented between April 2016 and April 2017 as set out in Annex 3.

95. SDC endorsed the projects and the related advance payments as given at Annex 1, and approved the arrangements for the submission of funding applications as provided in Annex 3.

**Agenda Item 7 (Part 1): Election of Chairmen and Vice-chairmen of the Committees under SDC**  
**[3:54 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.]**

96. The Chairman said that SDC had endorsed the formation of five Committees and the election of Chairmen and Vice-chairmen of the Committees would follow. The membership lists of the Committees had been distributed at the meeting. Members were not allowed to take part in all of the procedures for election

of Chairman and Vice-chairman of a Committee if they did not join that Committee. He reminded the Members concerned to remain silent during the election.

97. The Chairman briefly introduced the election procedures as follows:

- (i) The manner and procedures of election were basically the same as those of the election of Chairman and Vice-chairman of SDC held just then, only that nomination would be made verbally;
- (ii) Each Member could only nominate or second one candidate for the office of Chairman and one candidate for the office of Vice-chairman. Members could not nominate or second themselves;
- (iii) Each nomination had to be seconded by at least two other Members. The nominee had to indicate his or her consent to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he or she was nominated;
- (iv) If there was only one candidate, he or she could be treated as having been elected for the office concerned; and
- (v) If there was more than one candidate, secret ballots would be held. Any Member absent from the meeting would not be allowed to appoint another Member to vote on his or her behalf.

#### **Community Affairs and Tourism Development Committee (CATC)**

98. The Chairman said that a total of 16 Members had joined the Committee, and called for nomination for the office of Chairman.

99. Mr CHU Lap-wai nominated Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH, which was seconded by Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH and Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying.

100. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which she was nominated.

101. The Chairman announced that since there was only one candidate, Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH was elected uncontested as the Chairman of CATC.

102. The Chairman called for nomination for the office of Vice-chairman.

103. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung nominated Ms CHAN Judy Kapui, which was seconded by Ms YAM Pauline and Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH.

104. Ms CHAN Judy Kapui consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which she was nominated.

105. The Chairman announced that since there was only one candidate, Ms CHAN Judy Kapui was elected uncontested as the Vice-chairman of CATC.

### **District Development and Housing Committee (DDHC)**

106. The Chairman said that a total of 17 Members had joined the Committee, and called for nomination for the office of Chairman.

107. Mr AU Lap-sing, MH nominated Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH, which was seconded by Ms CHAN Judy Kapui and Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH.

108. Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he was nominated.

109. The Chairman announced that since there was no further nomination, Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH was elected uncontested as the Chairman of DDHC.

110. The Chairman called for nomination for the office of Vice-chairman.

111. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH nominated Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH, which was seconded by Mr CHU Lap-wai and Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying.

112. Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which she was nominated.

113. The Chairman announced that since there was no further nomination, Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH was elected uncontested as the Vice-chairman of DDHC.

### **Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC)**

114. The Chairman said that a total of 17 Members had joined the Committee, and called for nomination for the office of Chairman.

115. Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH nominated Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH, which was seconded by Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH.

116. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he was nominated.

117. The Chairman announced that since there was no further nomination, Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH was elected uncontested as the Chairman of TTC.

118. The Chairman called for nomination for the office of Vice-chairman.

119. Mr CHU Lap-wai nominated Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, which was seconded by Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying.

120. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which she was nominated.

121. The Chairman announced that since there was no further nomination, Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung was elected uncontested as the Vice-chairman of TTC.

#### **District Facilities Management Committee (DFMC)**

122. The Chairman said that a total of 16 Members had joined the Committee, and called for nomination for the office of Chairman.

123. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung nominated Mr CHU Lap-wai, which was seconded by Dr MAK TSE How-ling, MH and Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH.

124. Mr CHU Lap-wai consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he was nominated.

125. Mr TSUI Yuen-wa nominated Mr CHAI Man-hon, which was seconded by Mr AU Nok-hin and Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN.

126. Mr CHAI Man-hon consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he was nominated.

127. The Chairman said that as there was more than one nomination, the meeting would be adjourned for the Secretariat to make arrangements for voting.

128. Mr TSUI Yuen-wa enquired whether an arrangement could be made for the two candidates to introduce to Members their working experiences, capabilities and visions, and even undergo a debate, before the meeting was adjourned.

129. Mr CHU Lap-wai and Mr CHAI Man-hon agreed to make an introduction.

130. Mr CHAI Man-hon made the introduction as follows:

“I would like to solicit Members’ support for my election as Chairman of the Committee of the current term in the capacity of Vice-chairman of the Committee of the last term. I am familiar with the operation of the Committee. During my last term of office, I have made a number of innovative suggestions. For example, I always wish to enhance the efficiency of government works and am opposed to adhering to the current establishment of works teams of the HAD, i.e. there is only one team of works staff for Hong Kong and Kowloon as a whole, unlike the New Territories where dedicated teams can be set up for different districts. In addition, as HAD has cancelled the arrangement of job rotation for works staff of different districts, the flexibility of managing works projects has been reduced. I, if elected as the Chairman, wish to put in more efforts to address the inadequacy of the current establishment, so that the works projects of different districts can be implemented more efficiently in future. I have also proposed a more detailed division of duties among the working groups under the Committee, such as setting up separate working groups for the management of libraries and community halls, with a view to facilitating the working groups to handle district affairs in a more focused manner.”

131. Mr CHU Lap-wai made the introduction as follows:

“Even though my qualification is not comparable to that of Mr CHAI Man-hon, I did attend all meetings of the Committee during the last term. I wish to lead the Committee to enhance work efficiency in this term. I also agree that the resources allocated by and the complementary work of HAD for district works projects are not satisfactory. During this term of

office, I wish to put in more efforts to improve the management of district works projects and facilities under the purview of HAD.”

132. The Chairman thanked the two candidates for their introductions and declared the meeting adjourned for five minutes.

(The meeting was adjourned from 4:07 p.m. to 4:12 p.m.)

133. The Chairman introduced the following procedures set out in Schedule 5 to the District Councils Ordinance:

- (i) A candidate who received an absolute majority of votes would be elected. “An absolute majority of votes” meant that the candidate received more than half of the valid votes cast excluding abstentions;
- (ii) The election was to be conducted by one or more secret ballots held amongst those present and entitled to vote at the meeting and according to Schedule 5 to the District Councils Ordinance. Therefore, any Member absent from the meeting would not be allowed to appoint in writing another Member to vote on his or her behalf;
- (iii) The same person could be nominated for both offices of Chairman and Vice-chairman. Under such circumstances, the election of Chairman was to take place first and then the election of Vice-chairman. If a person nominated for both offices was elected the Chairman, that person would be taken to have withdrawn from the election of Vice-chairman when the result of the first election was declared;
- (iv) If the same person was nominated for the offices of Chairman and Vice-chairman and no other person was nominated for either of the offices, that person was to be treated as having been elected Chairman;
- (v) Subject to item (iv) above, if only one candidate was nominated for the office of Chairman, the candidate should be treated as having been elected Chairman. If only one candidate was nominated for the office of Vice-chairman, the candidate should be treated as having been elected Vice-chairman;

- (vi) If there were two or more candidates for the office of Chairman or Vice-chairman (either initially or after elimination ballots) and each received an equal number of votes, a further ballot was to be held;
- (vii) If, either in relation to the election of Chairman or Vice-chairman, a further ballot was held under item (vi) above and the candidates for the Chairman or Vice-chairman received an equal number of votes, the candidates should draw lots to determine which candidate was elected for the office of Chairman or Vice-chairman; and
- (viii) If there were two or more candidates for the office of Chairman or Vice-chairman and no candidate received an absolute majority of votes, the candidate who received the least number of votes retired and a further ballot would be held for the remaining candidates; if two or more candidates received an equal number of votes and that number was the least number of votes for a candidate, a separate ballot would be held for those candidates, and the candidate who received the least number of votes retired. However, if the same candidates received an equal number of votes, the candidates should draw lots to determine who retired following which a further ballot would be held for the remaining candidates.

134. The Chairman went on to brief Members on the ballot paper, as well as the procedures and arrangements for the issue of ballot paper and voting as follows:

- (i) The names of all candidates were in the order of their Hong Kong Identity Card Number. In the current election, Mr CHAI Man-hon was candidate number 1, while Mr CHU Lap-wai was candidate number 2;
- (ii) A Member should affix a “√” chop on a ballot paper against the name of candidate of his or her choice in the space on the right hand side. The ballot paper should not be marked by other means, or it would be invalidated;
- (iii) A Member might vote if he or she was present at the election before the ballot was closed. The ballot would be limited to 15 minutes, or be closed after the last Member had voted, whichever was the earlier. Any Member arriving after the ballot was closed could not vote for that round of ballot. If there was a further ballot, the Member could then vote;

- (iv) During the election, the Secretary would issue a ballot paper to each of the Members present at the meeting. Each ballot paper would bear the SDO chop on the back;
- (v) The Secretary would record the number of ballot papers issued;
- (vi) A plastic board with the “√” chop would also be provided to each Member when he or she was issued with the ballot paper;
- (vii) A Member could stamp the ballot paper in his or her seat or a voting compartment set up in the meeting venue;
- (viii) Members should not take the ballot papers away from the meeting venue;
- (ix) Before inserting the ballot paper into the ballot box, a Member should show me or the Secretary the folded ballot paper and the SDO chop on its back for proof of authenticity;
- (x) A Member should return the plastic board with the “√” chop to the Secretary;
- (xi) If a Member had to leave the meeting venue before the ballot, the blank ballot paper received should be returned to the Secretary, who should then put it on record. The Member who had left should return to the meeting venue and collect the ballot paper within the specified voting time in order to vote, and would not be entertained if he or she returned to collect the ballot paper or vote after the specified voting time;
- (xii) A Member could choose whether to use the voting compartment to be set up in the meeting venue or not; and
- (xiii) A Member should insert the ballot paper into the ballot box immediately after the ballot paper was stamped. Where circumstances required, Members should line up to insert their ballot papers into the ballot box.

135. The Secretariat staff showed Members the inside of the ballot box, and Members confirmed that it was empty.

136. The Secretary distributed the ballot papers and the plastic boards with the “√” chops to all Members.

137. The Chairman declared that the ballot began at 4:19 p.m.

138. Ms YAM Pauline said that as she did not yet have a thorough understanding of the work of DFMC, nor know the two candidates very well, she chose not to vote.

139. Since all Members had cast their votes, the Chairman declared the ballot closed at 4:26 p.m., and the counting of votes began.

140. The Chairman announced the result of the counting of votes. Mr CHAI Man-hon, candidate number 1, received six votes; Mr CHU Lap-wai, candidate number 2, received nine votes; and one ballot paper was invalidated.

141. The Chairman declared that Mr CHU Lap-wai was elected Chairman of DFMC.

142. The Chairman called for nomination for the office of Vice-chairman of DFMC.

143. Mr LO Kin-hei nominated Mr CHAI Man-hon, which was seconded by Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN and Mr TSUI Yuen-wa.

144. Mr CHAI Man-hon consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he was nominated.

(Mr CHAI Man-hon left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.)

145. Ms CHAN Judy Kapui nominated Mr FUNG Se-goun, Fergus, which was seconded by Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying and Mr CHU Lap-wai.

146. Mr FUNG Se-goun, Fergus consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he was nominated.

147. The Chairman said that as the Secretariat had to make arrangements for voting, he proposed to discuss Agenda Item 8 first and conduct the election of Vice-chairman of DFMC by ballot later.

148. Members unanimously agreed to the above proposal.

**Agenda Item 8: Any Other Business**  
**[4:30 p.m. - 4:38 p.m.]**

**2016 Spring Reception Co-organised with Southern District Office**

149. The Chairman said that every year, SDC would co-organise a spring reception with SDO, in a bid to strengthen communication with local stakeholders and celebrate the festive season together. This year's reception would be held at the Hall, 1/F, Aberdeen Kai Fong Welfare Association Headquarters on 17 February 2016 at 3:00 p.m. He asked Members to make time for the function accordingly.

150. Members noted the above arrangement.

**Declaration of Interest**

151. The Chairman said that under Section 48 of the SDC (2016-2019) Standing Orders, Members should furnish particulars of their interests within one month from the commencement of every DC term, and the registration form on Members' personal interests would also be uploaded to the SDC website for public inspection. Meanwhile, the registration form on Members' interests as provided in Annex 3 to SDC Paper No. 1/2016 had already been distributed at the meeting, and Members should return the duly completed forms to the Secretariat as soon as practicable. The Secretariat would maintain a register of the Members' interests, which would be made available for public inspection any time.

152. Members noted the above arrangement.

**Future Arrangement for Issue of Meetings' Papers**

153. The Chairman said that to support environmental protection, the agendas and papers of meetings of the last term of SDC and its Committees and Working Groups had been uploaded to the SDC website by the Secretariat for Members' downloading, whilst the draft minutes of the meetings would be sent to Members via email. As for the documents (such as drawings of relatively large size or booklets) that could not be released via electronic means, the Secretariat would place them in

the pigeon holes provided by SDO for Members' self-collection. He asked Members whether they agreed to adopt the established arrangement in the last term in order to reduce paper consumption.

154. Members had no objection.

155. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN said that only the printed copies of large-size drawings were required to put into the pigeon holes. Otherwise, the drawings in general could be converted into electronic files, in order to facilitate Members in forwarding such materials to members of the public for inspection.

156. The Chairman noted Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN's view.

### **Distribution of the 2016 SDC Lunar New Year *lai see* packets and couplets**

157. The Chairman said that previously, the Secretariat had, via email, consulted Members on the quantities of the 2016 SDC Lunar New Year *lai see* packets and couplets to be distributed. Subsequently, it was decided that these materials would be distributed on 22 January 2016 (Friday).

158. The Chairman asked Members whether they agreed to distribute the *lai see* packets and couplets at the Southern District Office's Public Enquiry Service Centre and the district councillors' offices simultaneously on the abovementioned date from 9:00 a.m. onwards according to the previous arrangement,

159. Members had no objection.

160. The Chairman advised the meeting that the delivery of the materials concerned was scheduled for 19 and 20 January 2016. The Secretariat would inform Members about the arrangements later on.

### **2016-17 Cooperation Scheme with District Councils**

161. The Chairman said that the Committee for the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE) would now invite the various DCs to make application for programme plans or recommend local organisations to submit applications as appropriate under the "2016-17 Co-operation Scheme with District Councils" for organising programmes on the promotion of civic education at district level. CPCE would provide an allocation of up to \$200,000 to interested DCs to finance the

implementation of one or more projects on the theme of “Cherish yourself and your family, Love Hong Kong and your country” in each district.

162. The Chairman asked Members whether they agreed to adopt the previous arrangement that the Southern District Committee for the Promotion of Civic Education would be authorised to invite local organisations to submit programme plans and be responsible for the related vetting and resources allocation exercise.

163. Members had no objection.

164. Mr LO Kin-hei supported the above proposal. However, noting that the theme of “Cherish yourself and your family, Love Hong Kong and your country” had been adopted for a number of years; he hoped that CPCE could consider setting a new theme.

165. The Chairman said that Mr LO Kin-hei’s view would be relayed to CPCE accordingly.

### **Nomination for Member of the Regional Advisory Committee of the Hospital Authority**

166. The Chairman said that the Hospital Authority (HA) would like SDC to nominate a member representative for its consideration of appointment to the Hong Kong Regional Advisory Committee for 2016-2018, and the tenure was from 1 April 2016 through 31 March 2018. In the last SDC term, Mr AU Lap-sing, MH was nominated and eventually appointed by HA as a member of the above Advisory Committee.

167. The Chairman asked Members whether they agreed to renominate Mr AU Lap-sing, MH to serve as a member of the above Advisory Committee on behalf of SDC.

168. Members had no objection.

169. Mr AU Lap-sing, MH consented to the nomination.

170. SDC approved the nomination of Mr AU Lap-sing, MH to serve as a member of the HA’s Hong Kong Regional Advisory Committee for 2016-2018 on behalf of SDC.

**Agenda Item 7 (Part 2): Election of Chairmen and Vice-chairmen of the Committees under SDC**

**[5:03 p.m. – 5:07 p.m.]**

171. The Chairman announced that the election of Vice-chairman of DFMC resumed.

172. Mr FUNG Se-goun, Fergus said that after serious consideration, he believed that he would not have time to accept the office of Vice-chairman of DFMC. He thanked Members for their support though he could not run for the election.

173. The Chairman announced that since there was no further nomination, Mr CHAI Man-hon was elected uncontested as the Vice-chairman of DFMC.

**Focus Group on Southern District Signature Projects (the Focus Group)**

174. The Chairman said that a total of 14 Members had joined the Focus Group, and called for nomination for the office of Chairman.

175. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung nominated Mr CHU Ching-hong, JP, which was seconded by Mr AU Lap-sing, MH and Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH.

(As the Chairman was nominated, Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH, the Vice-chairman, took over the chair of the meeting at this juncture.)

176. Mr CHU Ching-hong, JP consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he was nominated.

177. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH announced that since there was no further nomination, Mr CHU Ching-hong, JP was elected uncontested as the Chairman of the Focus Group.

(The Chairman took over the chair of the meeting at this juncture.)

178. The Chairman called for nomination for the office of Vice-chairman.

179. Mr CHU Lap-wai nominated Mr AU Lap-sing, MH, which was seconded by Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH and Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying.

180. Mr AU Lap-sing, MH consented to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he was nominated.

181. The Chairman announced that since there was no further nomination, Mr AU Lap-sing, MH was elected uncontested as the Vice-chairman of the Focus Group.

**Date of Next Meeting**

182. The Chairman informed the meeting that the 2<sup>nd</sup> SDC meeting would be held on 21 January 2016 (Thursday) at 2:30 p.m.

183. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Secretariat, Southern District Council

January 2016