

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)3108/02-03
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by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/HA

Panel on Home Affairs

**Minutes of special meeting
held on Tuesday, 29 July 2003 at 9:00 am
in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present** : Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo (Chairman)
Hon IP Kwok-him, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon NG Leung-sing, JP
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, SBS, JP
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP
Dr Hon LO Wing-lok
Hon MA Fung-kwok, JP
- Members absent** : Dr Hon David CHU Yu-lin, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon Andrew WONG Wang-fat, JP
Hon WONG Yung-kan
Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBS, JP
Hon CHOY So-yuk
Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong, JP
Hon Henry WU King-cheong, BBS, JP
Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon WONG Sing-chi
- Public Officers attending** : Mr Leo KWAN, JP
Acting Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr Eddie POON
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs
(Recreation and Sports)

Mr Alan SIU
Deputy Director of Leisure and Cultural Services
(Leisure Services)

Mr William NG
Chief Leisure Manager (Sports Review)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Attendance by invitation : Head Coaches and Coaches, Elite Training of the Hong Kong Sports Institute

Mr SHEN Jin-kang
Head Cycling Coach

Mr Tony CHOI Yuk-kwan
Head Squash Coach

Representatives of staff from the Hong Kong Sports
Development Board

Ms TAM Mei-ling
Representative

Mr SHE Ka-kon
Representative

Hong Kong Tenpin Bowling Congress Ltd

Mrs Vivien FUNG, JP
Chairman

Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally
Handicapped

Mrs Laura LING
Chairperson

Ms Fay HO
Executive Director

The Hong Kong Tai Chi Association

Ms CHAN Lai-ping
Chairman

Mrs MAK Lai-han
Supervisor

Hongkong Ice Hockey Association

Mr LI Guang-jing
President

Mr LU Shuo
Coaching-in-charge

Hongkong Skating Union

Ms Eva H FENG
President

Ms WONG Sze-tai
Vice-President

Hong Kong Automobile Association

Dr Laurence HOU
Vice-President

Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association

Mr Ronnie WONG Man-chiu, JP
Hon Secretary

Dr WONG Yat-sun
Vice President

Volleyball Association of Hong Kong, China

Mr CHEUNG Chi-wai
Hon Secretary

Mr KWOK Kin-chuen
Sports Executive

Windsurfing Association of Hong Kong

Mr Cowen CHIU
President

Mr Dennis CHAU
Director (Administration)

Sai Kung District Sports Association Limited

Mr CHU Kwok-wai
Chairman

Mr CHUNG Man-wah
Vice-Chairman

Hong Kong Hockey Association

Mr Roger NISSIM
President

Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation

Mr Silas CHIANG
Secretary-General

Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong,
China

Mr PANG Chung
Hon Secretary General

Hong Kong Weightlifting and Powerlifting Association

Mr POK Kim-won
Hon Secretary

Hong Kong Badminton Association Limited

Ms KAM Kwok-fong
Hon Vice-President

Mr CHENG Wing-ki
Executive Committee Member

Hong Kong Ladies Football Association

Ms Veronica CHAN Yiu-kam
President

Hong Kong Billiard Sports Control Council Co Ltd

Mr TONG Chi-keung
Chairman

Tuen Mun Sports Association

Mr LEE Kam-kong
Vice-Chairman

Mr NG Wai-fai
Taekwondo Division Head

Hong Kong Canoe Union

Mr LI Tze-wan
Hon Treasurer

Hong Kong Swimming Coaches Association

Mr TAM Ka-po
Hon Treasurer

Hong Kong Tennis Association

Mr Kenneth TSUI
President

Dr David HO
Vice-President

Hong Kong Hiking Association, China

Mr CHOW Kwok-keung
Chairman

Mr LAU Hong-shuen
Vice-Chairman

Hong Kong Chinese Chess Association

Mr WONG Shu-kai
Vice-President

Mr Robin LAI
Vice-President

Hong Kong Association of Sports Medicine and Sports
Science

Mr Lobo LOUIE
Hon Secretary

Hong Kong Table Tennis Association

Mr Tony YUE Kwok-leung
Chairman

Miss Echo CHIU
Executive Director

Hong Kong Golf Association

Mr F Iain VALENTINE
Chief Executive

Ms Dolla CHUI
Personal Assistant to Chief Executive

Hong Kong Kart Club

Mr Terrence WONG
Vice-Chairman

Hong Kong Sports Association for the Physically
Disabled

Ms Alison WONG
Executive Director

Hong Kong Shooting Association

Mr TAM Wai-cheong
Chief Executive

Hong Kong Triathlon Association

Mrs Ingrid EADIE
President

Ms Louise DORMAN
Executive Committee Member

Hong Kong, China Rowing Association

Mr Robert WILSON
President

Victoria Recreation Club

Mr Frank PFEIFFER
Hon Secretary

Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association

Mr KWAN Kee
Vice-Chairman

Hong Kong Squash

Mr David Y Y MUI
Chairman

Hong Kong Amateur Fencing Association

Miss Alice SIN Mei-yee
Senior Sports Executive

Hong Kong Basketball Association

Mr Samuel HO Wai-hing
Senior Sports Executive

Mr Raymond LEUNG
Development Director

The Gymnastics Association of Hong Kong, China

Mr Albert NG
Senior Sports Executive

Individual

Mr LAM Kit-sing
Member of Islands District Council

Clerk in attendance : Miss Flora TAI
Chief Assistant Secretary (2)2

Staff in attendance : Miss Lolita SHEK
Senior Assistant Secretary (2)7

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I. New administrative structure for sports development

Meeting with deputations and Administration

The Chairman welcomed representatives of deputations and the Administration to the meeting. Members agreed that since there was a lack of a quorum at that time, meeting would be conducted in the form of an informal briefing to receive views from deputations, and that a formal meeting would commence as soon as there was a quorum.

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, representatives of the deputations presented their views on the new administrative structure for sports development as summarized in paragraphs 3 to 43 below.

Head Coaches and Coaches, Elite Training of the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI)

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)2907/02-03(03) and CB(2)2830/02-03(01)]

3. Mr SHEN Jin-kang, Head Cycling Coach, Elite Training of HKSI presented the views of the Head Coaches and all elite Coaches of HKSI on the new administrative structure for sports development with the aid of a powerpoint presentation. The Head Coaches and Coaches had expressed in their submissions grave concerns and reservations about the effectiveness of the proposed new structure in promoting sports development in Hong Kong. They also considered that HKSI should not be downgraded to an incorporated body and that HKSI should be allowed to retain the use and management of all its facilities which were an integral part of an elite training base for comprehensive and long-term development.

(Post-meeting note: the powerpoint presentation materials were issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2925/02-03(03) on 30 July 2003.)

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Representatives of staff from the Hong Kong Sports Development Board (SDB)
[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)2911/02-03(01) and CB(2)2830/02-03(02)]

4. Ms TAM Mei-ling and Mr SHE Ka-kon, representatives of staff from SDB, highlighted the salient points in the submissions provided by staff from SDB. They expressed grave concerns and anxiety about the uncertainty facing them in the dissolution of SDB and the establishment of the new administrative structure, and queried the effectiveness of the latter over SDB in promoting sports development. They also considered it not appropriate to place the outdoor facilities of HKSI under the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD).

Hong Kong Tenpin Bowling Congress Ltd

5. Mrs Vivien FUNG, Chairman of Hong Kong Tenpin Bowling Congress Ltd informed members that the Congress was supportive of the new administrative structure for sports. She summarized the views of the Congress as follows –

- (a) the Government should be able to address the concerns and anxiety of staff of SDB which was a problem during the transitional period;
- (b) representatives from national sports associations (NSAs) should be appointed to the new Sports Commission (SC) and its Committees;
- (c) elite training should not be affected by the restructuring exercise; and
- (d) the Government should provide more assistance to athletes with a view to providing them with a better prospect after retirement.

Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2911/02-03(02)]

6. Mrs Laura LING, Chairperson of Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped, introduced the submission provided by the Association. She said that the Association was supportive of the new administrative structure for sports. Ms Fay HO, Executive Director of the Association added that the Government should invest more resources on improving the prospect of athletes after retirement.

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The Hong Kong Tai Chi Association
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2907/02-03(01)]

7. Ms CHAN Lai-ping, Chairman of the Hong Kong Tai Chi Association, informed members that the Association was supportive of the new structure. Mrs MAK Lai-han, Supervisor of the Association, then briefed members of the submission provided by the Association.

8. The Chairman declared that since there was a quorum for a meeting, the formal meeting of the Panel commenced at this juncture.

Hongkong Ice Hockey Association
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2907/02-03(02)]

9. Mr LI Guang-jing, President of Hongkong Ice Hockey Association, presented the joint submission from the Association and the Hongkong Skating Union.

Hongkong Skating Union
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2907/02-03(02)]

10. Ms Eva FENG, President of Hongkong Skating Union, said that the Union was supportive of the restructuring exercise. She, however, urged that the communications between NSAs and SC should be enhanced and suggested that questionnaire should be distributed to NSAs to collect their views and suggestions on sports development.

Hong Kong Automobile Association
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2907/02-03(07)]

11. Dr Laurence HOU, Vice-President of Hong Kong Automobile Association, introduced the submission provided by the Association. He added that the allocation of subvention to NSAs should not be determined by the performance of athletes in international competitions. Resources should also be allocated to new and less developed sports to facilitate their development. He urged that this issue should be addressed and the funding allocation to NSAs be reviewed under the new administrative structure.

Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association

12. Mr Ronnie WONG, Honorary Secretary of Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association, informed members of the views of the Association on the new administrative structure for sports as follows –

- (a) the Association was supportive of the new structure;

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- (b) since details of the membership of SC were not given in the Legislative Council (LegCo) Brief issued by the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) in July 2003, the Government should consult NSAs on this issue;
- (c) HKSI should not have been placed under SDB at the very beginning;
- (d) HKSI's contribution towards elite training was recognized by NSAs and it should continue to operate the high-performance athlete training programmes under the new structure;
- (e) the Government should raise the salary of coaches so as to attract experienced coaches from overseas; and
- (f) the Government should provide adequate sports venues for NSAs.

Volleyball Association of Hong Kong, China
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2911/02-03(03)]

13. Mr CHEUNG Chi-wai, Honorary Secretary of Volleyball Association of Hong Kong, China, highlighted the salient points in the submission provided by the Association. Mr CHEUNG said that the Association was supportive of the new administrative structure.

Windsurfing Association of Hong Kong

14. Mr Cowen CHIU, President, and Mr Dennis CHAU, Director (Administration) of Windsurfing Association of Hong Kong, informed members of the views of the Association as follows –

- (a) the Association was supportive of the new structure;
- (b) representatives from NSAs should be appointed to the new SC;
- (c) detailed arrangements of the new structure could be further improved, and NSAs, coaches, and athletes should be consulted to facilitate the transition;
- (d) more emphasis should be put on the cooperation with schools so as to facilitate the recruitment of potential elite athletes from among the students;
- (e) it was not clear which Committee under SC would oversee the training of potential elite athletes and from where the required funding would be obtained;

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- (f) LCSD should improve its bureaucratic style of management of sports funding, and coaches should be allowed greater flexibility in the disbursement of funds for athlete training; and
- (g) the Government should provide more support to improve the prospect of retired athletes.

Sai Kung District Sports Association Limited

15. Mr CHU Kwok-wai, Chairman of Sai Kung District Sports Association Limited, presented the views of the Associations as follows –

- (a) the role of district sports associations (DSAs) in the new administrative structure was not clear; and
- (b) the training of athletes at the community level should be enhanced.

Hong Kong Hockey Association

16. Mr Roger NISSIM, President of Hong Kong Hockey Association, summarized the views of the Association on the new administrative structure for sports as follows –

- (a) the existing administrative structure had not given rise to serious problems that warranted the restructuring exercise;
- (b) the Government should ensure that sufficient resources would continue to be allocated for sports development;
- (c) since Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA) would become the chairman of the new SC and LCSD become the only department responsible for the execution of sports policy, a mechanism of check and balance had to be put in place so as to ensure that SC would be accountable to the sports community and the community at large;
- (d) an expert in sports, instead of a Government official, should be appointed as the chairman of SC;
- (e) NSAs should be duly represented in SC and its Committees; and
- (f) more resources should be dedicated to the development of team sports which should be overseen by a forth committee to be set up under SC.

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Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2907/02-03(04)]

17. Mr Silas CHIANG, Secretary-General of Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation, introduced the submission provided by the Federation. He added that the Government should put in more resources in organizing large international sports events in Hong Kong.

Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC)

18. Mr PANG Chung, Honorary Secretary General of SF&OC, briefed members of the views of SF&OC as follows –

- (a) SF&OC had been monitoring the work of SDB and considered that the latter should not have disbursed Government funds on expenditure items other than those directly related to athletes and coaches;
- (b) SF&OC was supportive of the new administrative structure; and
- (c) HKSI should continue to be responsible for elite training.

Hong Kong Weightlifting and Powerlifting Association
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2907/02-03(05)]

19. Mr POK Kim-won, Honorary Secretary of Hong Kong Weightlifting and Powerlifting Association, presented the views of the Association as detailed in its submission.

Hong Kong Badminton Association Limited

20. Mr CHENG Wing-ki, Executive Committee Member of Hong Kong Badminton Association Limited, informed members of the views of the Association as follows –

- (a) the Association was supportive of the new administrative structure; and
- (b) individuals with knowledge and experience in sports, especially athletes who had achieved remarkable results in international competitions, should be appointed to SC.

Hong Kong Ladies Football Association

21. Ms Veronica CHAN, President of Hong Kong Ladies Football Association, summarized the views of the Association as follows –

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- (a) the Association was supportive of the new structure;
- (b) SC should be composed of representatives from NSAs and experts in sports instead of Government officials; and
- (c) soccer should be included as a "focus" sport in the elite training programmes.

Hong Kong Billiard Sports Control Council Co Ltd

22. Mr TONG Chi-keung, Chairman of Hong Kong Billiard Sports Control Council Co Ltd, presented the views of the Council as follows –

- (a) the Council was supportive of the new administrative structure; and
- (b) although SDB had been very successful in its elite training programme, its administrative costs were too high. More Government funds should be spent directly on elite training under the new structure.

Tuen Mun Sports Association

23. Mr LEE Kam-kong, Vice-Chairman, and Mr NG Wai-fai, Taekwondo Division Head of Tuen Mun Sports Association, informed members of the views of the Association as follows –

- (a) the Association was supportive of the new structure;
- (b) DSAs should be allowed to participate in the planning and organization of large sport events; and
- (c) the Government should announce the detailed arrangements for the formation of SC and its three Committees as soon as possible.

Hong Kong Canoe Union

[LC Paper No. CB(2)2907/02-03(06)]

24. Mr LI Tze-wan, Honorary Treasurer of Hong Kong Canoe Union, introduced the submission provided by the Union. He said that the Union was supportive of the new administrative structure.

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Hong Kong Swimming Coaches Association

25. Mr TAM Ka-po, Honorary Treasurer of Hong Kong Swimming Coaches Association, said that the Association was supportive of the new structure. It also considered that the Government should consult the sports community on its sports policy in future.

Hong Kong Tennis Association

[LC Paper No. CB(2)2911/02-03(04)]

26. Mr Kenneth TSUI, President of Hong Kong Tennis Association, informed members that the Association was in general supportive of the new structure. He then briefed members of the views of the Association as set out in its submission.

Hong Kong Hiking Association, China

27. Mr LAU Hong-shuen, Vice-Chairman of Hong Kong Hiking Association, China, said that the Association was supportive of the new administrative structure for sports. He added that the Community Sports Committee of SC should provide more support to develop hiking as a community sport.

Hong Kong Chinese Chess Association

[LC Paper No. CB(2)2907/02-03(08)]

28. Mr WONG Shu-kai, Vice-President of Hong Kong Chinese Chess Association, briefed members of the submission provided by the Association. Mr WONG said that the Association was supportive of the new structure. It also urged the Government to recognize chess as a sport and allocate resources to facilitate its development.

Hong Kong Association of Sports Medicine and Sports Science

[LC Paper No. CB(2)2911/02-03(05)]

29. Mr Lobo LOUIE, Honorary Secretary of Hong Kong Association of Sports Medicine and Sports Science, highlighted the salient points of the submission provided by the Association as follows –

- (a) HKSI should be allowed the exclusive use of all its facilities for elite training;
- (b) support in sports medicine and sports science should be provided to not only elite athletes but also athletes in the community; and
- (c) sports in schools should further be promoted.

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Hong Kong Table Tennis Association
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2911/02-03(06)]

30. Mr Tony YUE Kwok-leung, Chairman of Hong Kong Table Tennis Association, presented the views of the Association as follows -

- (a) the Association was supportive of the new structure;
- (b) the Administration should clarify the "new partnership relationship" in sports which SC would initiate with different sectors of the community mentioned in paragraph 9 of the LegCo Brief, and how SC would establish its partnership with NSAs;
- (c) NSAs should be allowed more flexibility in the utilization of government subvention; and
- (d) HKSI should continue to be responsible for elite sports training.

Hong Kong Golf Association

31. Mr Iain VALENTINE, Chief Executive of Hong Kong Golf Association, said that the Association was supportive of the new administrative structure. Mr VALENTINE also urged the Government to provide more golf facilities in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Kart Club

32. Mr Terrence WONG, Vice-Chairman of Hong Kong Kart Club, informed members that the Club was supportive of the new administrative structure. It also requested the Government to provide a venue for kart competitions.

Hong Kong Sports Association for the Physically Disabled
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2911/02-03(07)]

33. Ms Allison WONG, Executive Director of Hong Kong Sports Association for the Physically Disabled, highlighted the salient points of the submission provided by the Association. She said that the Association was supportive of the new administrative structure for sports.

Hong Kong Shooting Association

34. Mr TAM Wai-cheong, Chief Executive of Hong Kong Shooting Association, summarized the views of the Association as follows -

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- (a) the Association was supportive of the new structure;
- (b) the Government should tackle the problem of insufficient sports venues in Hong Kong, especially for shooting;
- (c) the selection of athletes should be centralized; and
- (d) more resources should be provided to coaches.

Hong Kong Amateur Fencing Association

35. Miss Alice SIN, Senior Sports Executive of Hong Kong Amateur Fencing Association, briefed members of the views of the Association as follows -

- (a) the Association was supportive of the new structure;
- (b) individuals from different sectors of the community, especially the education sector, should be appointed to SC; and
- (c) SC should allocate Government funds to NSAs with flexibility.

Hong Kong Basketball Association
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2925/02-03(02)]

36. Mr Raymond LEUNG, Development Director of Hong Kong Basketball Association, presented the views of the Association as detailed in the submission provided by the Association. Mr LEUNG said that the Association was supportive of the new structure. However, the Association considered that the Administration should ensure that NSAs should be allowed to retain their own systems of administration, finance, coaches, and judges, and that there would be opportunities for NSAs to develop their professionalism.

The Gymnastics Association of Hong Kong, China

37. Mr Albert NG, Senior Sports Executive of the Gymnastics Association of Hong Kong, China, informed members of the following views of the Association -

- (a) SC should cooperate with the Education and Manpower Bureau in providing support to students with potentials in sports to receive appropriate training to further develop their potentials while receiving formal school education; and
- (b) SC should provide on-the-job training to staff of NSAs to enhance their professionalism and expertise.

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Mr LAM Kit-sing, member of Islands District Council (DC)

38. Mr LAM Kit-sing, member of Island DC, said that he was supportive of the restructuring exercise. However, he pointed out that the Government had not provided sufficient support to DSAs. He urged that additional resources should be allocated to sports events at the district level and to districts to develop sports with their own characteristics.

Hong Kong Triathlon Association

39. Mrs Ingrid EADIE, President of Hong Kong Triathlon Association, said that the Association welcomed the new administrative structure for sports. She added that the Association was of the view that the facilities of HKSI should continue be used and managed by the Institute.

Hong Kong, China Rowing Association
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2921/02-03(01)]

40. Mr Robert WILSON, President of Hong Kong, China Rowing Association, briefed members of the views of the Association as follows -

- (a) the Association was opposed to the new administrative structure for sports and considered it a retrograding step to replace SDB with SC which would be an advisory body with no executive powers;
- (b) overseas experience had proved that this new administrative structure would not be conducive to the development of sports;
- (c) Hong Kong should make reference to the experience of overseas countries, especially those in Scandinavia, where sports activities and facilities were organized and managed by community sports clubs and NSAs with resources provided by the government. These countries had achieved good results in international competitions and high level of public participation in sports;
- (d) an independent executive body composed of experts in sports should be established to oversee sports policy and sports development. This body should be given the control of Government funds and sports facilities; and
- (e) an independent review of the administrative structure for sports in Hong Kong should be conducted by sport experts from countries mentioned in paragraph 40(c) above.

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Victoria Recreation Club

41. Mr Frank PFEIFFER, Honorary Secretary of Victoria Recreation Club, presented the views of the Club as follows -

- (a) community sports, which were the nursery of potential elite athletes, should be further developed;
- (b) NSAs should be allowed full control of their own sport activities as well as access to sufficient sport facilities; and
- (c) training for referees/judges should be enhanced.

Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association

42. Mr KWAN Kee, Vice-Chairman of Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association, informed members of the views of the Association as follows -

- (a) the Association was supportive of the new administrative structure;
- (b) elite sports training programmes should be continued and NSAs should be given the opportunities to participate in the planning for the programmes; and
- (c) field events, swimming and gymnastics, which were considered as basic sports should be emphasized and included in school curriculum.

Hong Kong Squash

[LC Paper No. CB(2)2925/02-03(01)]

43. Mr David MUI, Chairman of Hong Kong Squash, highlighted the salient points of the submission provided by Hong Kong Squash on the new administrative structure for sports.

Discussion

[LC Paper No. CB(2)2911/02-03(08)]

The role of the Government and sports community in the administrative structure for sports

44. Referring to the submission and views provided by Hong Kong, China Rowing Association, Ms Emily LAU said that the Association had also presented its views to the Panel on the same subject at its special meeting held on 22 June 2002. Ms LAU noted that the Association had considered the new

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administrative structure for sports to be adopted by the Government a retrograding step in sports development. The Association had also pointed out that according to the experience in overseas countries, this structure would not be successful in developing sports in Hong Kong. Ms LAU opined that since a lot of Government funds would be spent on sports development annually, LegCo Members should ensure that Government resources would not be channeled to a policy which was bound to fail. She requested the Association to further elaborate its views on this issue.

45. In response, Mr Robert Wilson, President of Hong Kong, China Rowing Association, informed members that the Scandinavian countries had adopted a very superior administrative structure for sports. These countries had achieved outstanding results in international sport events as well as a high public participation in sports activities. In these countries, sports activities and facilities were organized and managed by community sports clubs and NSAs instead of by the government. In Denmark, sports activities in schools were not organized by the latter but by the sports clubs. Mr Wilson pointed out that under this structure, the participation in sports by students would not be interrupted by the latter's graduation or dropping out from schools. He added that in the Scandinavian countries, sports policy and funding were overseen by an independent executive body composed of sports experts instead of government officials. Mr Wilson explained that the sports authority would suffer from a lack of expertise and continuity if it was governed by government officials who would be transferred to different posts on a regular basis.

46. Mr Robert Wilson supplemented that the establishment of SDB had been a right approach in the development of sports. However, SDB had been deprived of the control of sports facilities and as a result, its function in promoting sports development in Hong Kong had been greatly undermined. Mr Wilson urged the Government to invite sports experts from overseas to conduct an independent comprehensive review on the sports system in Hong Kong before making decisions on the administrative structure for sports.

47. The Chairman noted from the response from the Administration to his questions [LC Paper No. CB(2)2911/02-03(08)] that out of the 380 submissions received by HAB during the public consultation in 2002, only 57 commented on the proposed new administrative structure for sports. He pointed out that the Government had decided to replace SDB with SC despite the fact that the majority of the views received had not indicated support for this option. The Chairman sought clarification why the Government had not adopted other suggested options such as the Scandinavian model advocated by the Hong Kong, China Rowing Association. He also requested the Administration to provide an analysis of the 380 submissions received, including those not supporting the new structure.

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48. In reply to the concerns expressed by members and deputations about the effectiveness of the new administrative structure in facilitating sports development in Hong Kong, Acting Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (PSHA(Ag)) explained that under the new administrative structure, SC and its Committees would advise on the formation of sports policy as well as the optimum use of annual allocation of more than \$2 billion and the public sports venues for the development of sport in Hong Kong. He pointed out that SDB was an independent sports authority and the public was aware of its performance. This indicated that an independent sports authority might not necessarily be the best administrative structure for sports development in Hong Kong. PSHA(Ag) said that the Administration was confident that resources for sports would be better utilized under the leadership of SC, the members of which would be recruited from the sports community, the education field, as well as other community sectors.

49. As regards the role of the Government in sports development, PSHA(Ag) informed members that the Government agreed that sport activities should mainly be organized by the sports community. The Government also acknowledged the fact that many sport activities were provided by NSAs at present. Government policy would therefore be devised to complement these community efforts, especially through inter-sectoral cooperation. DD(LS)/LCSD quoted as an example the National Squad Training Centre Scheme which were implemented by LCSD to facilitate the training activities of NSAs. Under this scheme, different NSAs were accorded priority booking for specific sport venues.

50. PSHA(Ag) added that Mr Michael Scott, Director of Australian Institute of Sport, who visited Hong Kong recently, had commented that the best administrative structure for a particular place was the one which suited it best. Different places therefore had their own different circumstances and situations to consider in determining the most suitable system for themselves.

51. As regards the public opinions received during the consultation in 2002, PSHA(Ag) explained that seven different issues had been included in the consultation paper with the future administrative structure being one of them. Some of the submissions received had not included comments on this particular issue. He said that the Administration had already sent copies of the 380 submissions received to the LegCo Secretariat. PSHA(Ag) added that the overwhelming support provided by most deputations from the sports community to the new administrative structure at the present meeting had indicated that the Government had taken the right step in adopting the new structure. He assured members that the Government would continue to liaise with the sports community and enlist its support in the establishment of the new structure.

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(*Post-meeting note:* The Administration has loaned the 380 submissions received during the consultation exercise on sports policy review in 2002 to the LegCo Secretariat and these submissions have been returned to the Administration after the meeting.)

Adm

52. The Chairman remained of the view that the Administration should provide a detailed analysis of the views presented in the 380 submissions for members' reference. He requested the Administration to provide the analysis before the introduction of the Bill to LegCo to repeal the Hong Kong Sports Development Council Ordinance (Cap. 1149) in October/November 2003.

53. Referring to the suggestion that sports activities and facilities should be organized by community sports clubs and NSAs, Mr Kenneth TSUI, President of Hong Kong Tennis Association, said that the Association had supported the new administrative structure instead since it considered that the control of Government funding on sports should be vested with a central body instead of NSAs or DSAs so as to prevent abuse of public funds. In addition, since there were not sufficient public sports venues for NSAs, it would be more appropriate for all the public facilities to be administered centrally. Moreover, the involvement of NSAs in the formulation of sports policy would be enhanced under the new administrative structure which, the Association believed, would be crucial to the success of the development of sports in Hong Kong.

54. Mr Kenneth TSUI added that the Hong Kong Tennis Association was of the view that the existing arrangements in elite sports training could be further improved. The Association suggested that NSAs should be involved in high-performance athlete training programmes. In addition, to enable young athletes to obtain the necessary academic qualifications, virtue learning or distance learning programmes should be included in the elite training programmes.

55. Referring to the views expressed by Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation and Hong Kong Association of Sports Medicine and Sports Science, Ms Emily LAU said that she shared the concerns of both associations that sports in school had not been mentioned in the LegCo Brief. PSHA(Ag) replied that the subject would be overseen by the Community Sports Committee of SC.

56. Ms Emily LAU, however, was of the view that the Administration should accept the suggestion of Hong Kong, China Rowing Association that sport activities for students should be organized by NSAs and sports clubs instead of by schools. PSHA(Ag) explained that NSAs had been involved in the organization of student sports. He added that under the existing administrative structure, there was not a forum for the sports community and sectors to exchange views on the development of sports. The new structure would provide such a forum.

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New SC and its Committees

57. Ms Emily LAU noted that both the Hong Kong Hockey Association and Hong Kong Ladies Football Association had suggested that representatives from NSAs and sport experts instead of Government officials should be appointed the chairmen and members of SC and its Committees. She said that there were also comments that the Government had intended to centralize powers through the establishment of the new administrative structure. She sought further views from the deputations on this issue. Mr MA Fung-kwok also invited the deputations to comment on the two-tier structure which consisted of SC and its Committees, as well as on the election of members to latter.

58. Sharing the concerns expressed by some deputations that the new administrative structure might result in the non-professionals leading the professionals, the Chairman sought the views from the deputations on the effectiveness of the new structure in solving the problems under the existing structure. He also invited them to comment on whether it would be a better alternative to retain SDB which was a statutory body while upgrading its status and authority by legislative amendments and improving its funding mechanism.

59. In response, Mr Roger NISSIM, President of Hong Kong Hockey Association, reiterated that sport activities and policies should be overseen by sportsmen while Government officials should provide support to them. Dr Lawrence HOU, Vice-President of Hong Kong Automobile Association, opined that members of SC and its Committees might be led by SHA as the chairman of SC but the majority of them should possess knowledge in sports and should therefore be appointed from the sports community. Dr HOU added that the chairmanship of SC should be assumed by a person who could command respect from NSAs.

60. Sharing similar views, Mr SHEN Jin-kang, Head Cycling Coach, Elite Training of HKSI, considered that the chairman of SC should possess knowledge in sports as well as executive powers so that SC could allocate resources to the sports community fairly under his leadership. The existing problems and conflicts over unfair allocation of sports resources could then be prevented.

61. Both Mr Ronnie WONG, Honorary Secretary of Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association and Mr POK Kim-won, Honorary Secretary of Hong Kong Weightlifting and Powerlifting Association, considered that the chairman of SC should be a sport expert. Mr POK suggested that Mr Timothy FOK, President of SF&OC, be appointed the chairman of SC. Mr Ronnie WONG pointed out that at present, most of the work of SDB was handled by its executive director instead of the chairman. He expressed concern that similar

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situation might recur if SHA was to assume the chairmanship of SC. Mr WONG was of the view that if the chairman of SC was knowledgeable in sports and could dedicate more time and efforts to the work of the Commission, the new administrative structure could be operated successfully and contribute towards the sports development in Hong Kong. He added that since its members were elected by NSAs, SF&OC might represent the sports community in making recommendations for the appointment of some of the members of SC and its Committees.

62. Echoing the views of Mr Ronnie WONG on the role of SF&OC, Mrs Vivien FUNG, Chairman of Hong Kong Tenpin Bowling Congress Ltd, expressed concern that the role of SF&OC and NSAs in the new administrative structure was not mentioned in the LegCo Brief. She suggested that SF&OC might nominate suitable candidates from NSAs for appointment to SC and its Committees. She considered that such arrangement might prevent the non-professionals from leading the professionals.

63. In response to the concerns of members and deputations about the composition of SC and its Committees, PSHA(Ag) stressed that the partnership relationship between SC and different sectors of the community, in particular the sports sector, would be emphasized and enhanced under the new administrative structure. He clarified that a few Government officials would be appointed to SC and its Committees but most of their members would be appointed from the sports community, and LCSD would only be an executive arm of SC responsible for implementing sports policy and administering funding support to the relevant bodies. PSHA(Ag) further explained that as the chairman of SC, SHA would coordinate Government and private resources and efforts in the promotion of sports development in Hong Kong. He could also facilitate cooperation between the public and private sector in this respect. He said that since SHA was the principal official responsible for the formation and implementation of sport policy, the views and suggestions of SC would reach the relevant policy bureaux and Government departments directly. PSHA(Ag) added that different Government departments might be involved in the development of sports. He quoted as an example the involvement of the Education and Manpower Bureau and the Social Welfare Department in coordinating sports activities for students and the handicapped. As a principal official, SHA would be in a better position to coordinate the joint efforts of the departments concerned. PSHA(Ag) assured members that the views and suggestions of members and deputations would be considered by the Administration.

64. Sharing the concerns expressed by members and deputations on the involvement of NSAs in the new administrative structure, Mr NG Leung-sing requested more information on the role to be played by the heads of NSAs in SC and its Committees. PSHA(Ag) reiterated that representatives from NSAs would be appointed to the Commission and its Committees. In response to a

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further question from Mr NG and Ms Emily LAU on how these representatives would be selected to ensure their representativeness, PSHA(Ag) informed members that the sports community would be consulted on the appointments to SC and its Committees. He assured members that the number of members from the sports community in SC and its Committees would not be smaller than those in SDB.

Elite training and HKSI

65. Ms Emily LAU pointed out that although most deputations had indicated support for the new administrative structure, they had also expressed concerns about the continuation of elite training programmes. She requested the Administration to clarify the arrangements for the programmes under the new structure.

66. In reply, PSHA(Ag) said that the Government recognized the importance of elite training and the contribution of HKSI in this respect. He assured members that HKSI would continue to implement this programme and its function would be further enhanced under the new administrative structure.

67. Mr Tony CHOI, Head Squash Coach, Elite Training of HKSI, however, informed members that both coaches and athletes of HKSI had expressed grave concern that HKSI, which used to be a part of a statutory body, had to be downgraded to become an incorporated body in the new structure. Mr CHOI queried the advantages of such arrangement. He pointed out that if re-constituted to become an incorporated body, HKSI might not be able to retain the commitment and confidence of elite athletes, as well as the trust it had gained from its commercial partners as being part of a statutory body.

68. Mr Tony CHOI also expressed reservation about the proposal to place the outdoor sports facilities of HKSI under LCSD management. He considered that if the Government recognized the importance of elite training, it should allow HKSI the management and exclusive use of both its indoor and outdoor facilities, which were both essential and necessary for the training programmes. The release of the outdoor facilities for public use would inevitably cause disturbance to elite training programmes. Mr CHOI further pointed out that if placed under the management of other parties, the facilities might not be able to meet the training requirements of HKSI. He opined that the development of sports should not be regarded as a business and urged the Government to take into account the long term development of elite training and allow HKSI the exclusive use of its outdoor facilities to facilitate its elite training programmes.

Resource and funding allocation

69. Dr LO Wing-lok noted that the Hong Kong Association of Sports Medicine and Sports Science had suggested that support in sports medicine and

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sports science should be provided to athletes at the community level. Dr LO requested additional information from the Association on the subject.

70. In response, Mr Lobo LOUIE, Honorary Secretary of Hong Kong Association of Sports Medicine and Sports Science, informed members that at present, support in sports medicine and sports science was provided to high-performance athletes only. Moreover, experts in this field had provided their service voluntarily with any remuneration. Except for some talks, there was little support provided to athletes in the community. Mr LOUIE considered that to prevent accidents and to encourage participation in sports, the Government should arrange to provide support in sports medicine and sports science to the community and schools as well.

71. Responding to Dr LO Wing-lok, PSHA(Ag) said that in the new administrative structure, more resources would be allocated to the provision of sports medicine and sports science support to athletes at different levels if the Community Sports Committee so recommended in future.

72. Referring to the request from Hong Kong Hiking Association, China for more support from the Government for the promotion of hiking in Hong Kong, Dr LO Wing-lok pointed out that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department was responsible for the promotion of these activities sport. He sought additional information from the Association on the support it requested from the new administrative structure.

73. Mr CHOW Kwok-keung, Chairman of Hong Kong Hiking Association, China, replied that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department had only provided the hardware such as country parks for hiking. However, he pointed out that hiking, which would facilitate the conservation of the environment as well as the development of personality of hikers, should be promoted as a sport. The Government should therefore provide more resources and assistance towards the development of this sport.

74. Ms Emily LAU enquired about the measures to be taken to prevent abuse and at the same time ensure fairness in the allocation of sport resources. PSHA(Ag) responded that funding allocation would be determined by the three Committees under SC. He explained that the principle of fairness would be further upheld under the new structure as compared with mechanisms under which the decisions regarding funding allocation were vested in one organization only. He advised that resources would be allocated to NSAs in accordance with their performance. A business plan would be devised by a NSA according to which funds would then be allocated to the latter. Such arrangement would allow more flexibility for NSAs in the disbursement of Government funds. The performance of the NSAs would then be evaluated in accordance with their business plans at the end of the year. PSHA(Ag) said that LCSD had preliminary discussions with NSAs on this arrangement already

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and the latter were in general supportive of the proposed mechanism. In reply to a further question from Ms Emily LAU, PSHA(Ag) clarified that resources would be allocated to NSAs in future based on their performance in the realization of the goals set in their business plans instead of the performance of their athletes in international competitions.

75. Ms Emily LAU sought further clarification on the criteria to be adopted for the distribution of resources to the three Committees under SC and whether the sports community would be consulted on the matter. PSHA(Ag) replied that since the three Committees had not been formed, the funding criteria were not yet formulated. However, the usual practice of allocating funds by this kind of committees would be adopted. He advised that general funding procedure might be adopted under which NSAs submitted applications to the respective Committees under SC for consideration. Individual Committees would set guidelines and directions for resource allocation in respect of the activities under their purview. PSHA(Ag) said that individual Committees would have a high level of representativeness of the sports community and other sectors. He added that disagreements between the Committees would be resolved by SC.

76. Ms Emily LAU requested for additional information on the amount of Government funds to be allocated to individual Committees under SC, as well as how and by whom the amount was to be determined. PSHA(Ag) advised that the exact amount had not been decided yet. He explained that after the Committees were set up under SC, they would consider and advise the amount of funds they required. If their requests exceeded the total allocation the year before, SC would consider and adjust their funding requests.

77. The Chairman remarked that if the usual practice of fund allocation and past funding procedure would be used under the new administrative structure, it might not be necessary to dissolve SDB. PSHA(Ag) clarified that during the transition, funding criteria comparable to those used at present would be adopted. Moreover, similar amount of allocation would also be approved for NSAs and different sports activities. After the establishment of the three Committees, new sets of funding criteria would be devised by them.

78. Ms Emily LAU opined that the Panel should discuss the distribution of funds among the three Committees when further details were available. She suggested that deputations should also be invited to present their views on the subject. The Chairman supported Ms LAU's suggestion and requested the Administration to revert to the Panel with details of the funding arrangements before introducing the Bill to LegCo to repeal the Hong Kong Sports Development Board Ordinance in October/November 2003.

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Staff implications

79. Mr NG Leung-sing enquired how the Administration would collect views from staff of NSAs who would be affected by the restructuring exercise. In reply, PSHA(Ag) clarified that NSA staff would not be affected by the changes in the administrative structure. Mr NG, however, pointed out that some NSAs had expressed such concern. He quoted as an example the Hong Kong Basketball Association which had specifically requested that NSAs should be allowed to retain their administrative and financial systems. Mr NG therefore considered that the Administration should address their concerns.

80. Ms Emily LAU pointed out that staff of SDB had expressed grave concerns about the uncertainty arising from the restructuring exercise. She urged the Administration to clarify the staffing arrangements in the new administrative structure.

81. In response, PSHA(Ag) clarified that the elite training programmes would continue to operate in the new structure. Therefore, most of the staff of SDB engaged in HKSI-related activities would be retained by the re-constituted HKSI to continue with their present duties. He said that the Administration had already explained the arrangements to the coaches of HKSI and would continue to liaise with them closely on further developments. PSHA(Ag) further explained that some other staff members of SDB could be absorbed by HAB for the secretariat of the new SC while some others especially those who were engaged in administrative work might become redundant. The exact number had yet to be determined pending a detailed assessment of future staff requirements. To ensure a smooth transition, the Administration would endeavour to minimize the number of forced redundancies through re-deployment and re-employment. Reasonable arrangements would also be made for those who would become redundant. Details would be worked out in consultation with SDB and other relevant parties. He assured members that the Administration would expedite the restructuring exercise and finalize staffing arrangements as soon as possible, and staff of SDB would be kept informed of the progress.

Way forward

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82. To conclude, the Chairman requested the Administration to provide the following papers -

- (a) detailed analysis of the 380 submissions received during the public consultation in 2002;
- (b) response to the concerns and issues raised by members and deputations, including the advantages of re-constituting HKSI to become an incorporated body instead of maintaining its statutory

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status, and explanations for not adopting other options of administrative structure for sports proposed by members and deputations;

- (c) the criteria based on which funds were to be allocated to the Committees under SC, and the amount of funds to be allocated to individual Committees; and
- (d) work schedule of the restructuring exercise, with particular reference to those arrangements relating to the financial implications listed in paragraph 20 of the LegCo Brief.

The Chairman added that the response from the Administration to paragraph 82(b) above would be circulated to deputations attending the meeting.

83. The Chairman pointed out that the Bill to be introduced by the Administration in October/November 2003 might cover the dissolution of SDB only but not the detailed arrangements of the new administrative structure. He therefore requested the Administration to provide the additional information listed in paragraph 82 above to members before the introduction of the Bill. The Panel might again invite views from deputations on the funding arrangements under the new structure. The Chairman further remarked that the Administration might need to defer the introduction of the Bill until the Panel had discussed details of the new structure.

II. Any other business

84. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:00 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
3 October 2003