立法會 Legislative Council

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Tel: 3919 3300

Date: 8 January 2021

From: Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 13 January 2021

Motion to be moved by Hon Starry LEE under Article 75 of the Basic Law

On the recommendation of the House Committee ("HC"), the President has waived the required notice and given permission for Hon Starry LEE, chairman of HC, to move the attached motion under Article 75 of the Basic Law at the above meeting. The motion seeks to adopt the procedure in the Schedule to the motion to enable the relevant committees to conduct virtual meetings by video conference during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. The President has directed that the motion be printed in the terms in which it was handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

(Dora WAI) for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

Motion to be moved by Hon Starry LEE under Article 75 of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China

Wording of the Motion

That with immediate effect until 30 September 2021 or until an earlier date as the Council may by resolution determine, the procedure set out in the Schedule be adopted to enable Panels (or their subcommittees), Bills Committees and subcommittees appointed by the House Committee to continue to meet during the COVID-19 pandemic in the performance of their functions under the Rules of Procedure and the House Rules of the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region while ensuring social distancing.

Procedure for committee meetings conducted by video conference hosted on a platform approved by the House Committee

- (1) Any Panel (or its subcommittee), Bills Committee or subcommittee appointed by the House Committee ("relevant committee") may, as its chairman determines, meet remotely by video conference hosted on a platform approved by the House Committee ("virtual meeting") during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- (2) Where a virtual meeting is held:
 - (a) the chairman of a relevant committee or any other member presiding shall chair the virtual meeting in a venue within the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Complex, while other members and persons invited or summoned to attend the meeting may participate in the meeting remotely pursuant to paragraph (1) above;
 - (b) members of a relevant committee attending a virtual meeting shall be counted as present for the purpose of constituting the quorum for the meeting;
 - (c) voting at a virtual meeting will be conducted by a show of hands via the approved video conferencing platform referred to in paragraph (1) above. Before a matter is voted upon, if the Chairman orders or upon request of a member, members will be notified of the impending voting by a message through the Short Messaging Service subscribed by the LegCo Secretariat. The voting shall be held five minutes after the message has been issued; and
 - (d) virtual meetings of a relevant committee are deemed to be held in public if records of their proceedings are made available to members of the press and of the public by webcast via the LegCo website or a publicly accessible social media platform.
- (3) Members of the press and of the public may observe the proceedings of a relevant committee in a virtual meeting via either the LegCo website or a publicly accessible social media platform.
- (4) Save as otherwise provided above, the existing provisions of the Rules of Procedure and the House Rules applicable to meetings of a relevant committee shall also apply to virtual meetings of that committee where appropriate.