

**Summary of the views expressed in
the First Meeting of
the Committee on Social Development and Quality of Life
of the Commission on Strategic Development
held on 1 December 2005**

The Committee should discuss long-term strategic issues at a macro level and from a forward-looking and anticipatory perspective. The discussions should take place at the early stage of policy formulation and should not overlap with the work of other advisory committees, the Executive Council or the Legislative Council, which were to be consulted on specific policy proposals.

2. Emphasis should be placed on balanced social development at the levels of the entire society, the local community and the individual, and the core values that should be promoted. Hong Kong needs to keep abreast of international trends in this rapidly changing era of information age and globalization, help its people to adapt to both local and external environments and adjust their expectations. The roles of the Government, the business and Third Sector should be defined.

3. Very often well-intended policies failed to achieve their original objectives, caused much resentment against the Government, and were seen as divisive by the community, mostly due to poor execution and inadequate communication and articulation. And there was not enough positive spin to the policies and measures adopted by the Government. There was a need for better institutional arrangements, involving also non-government parties, to ensure that policies are implemented effectively and according to plan. It was also necessary to have a better mechanism to collect and analyze public opinions.

4. Given the numerous and diverse issues that might need to be tackled, one way to prioritize was to address first the challenges and possible crises facing Hong Kong. The community and Members themselves had high expectations of the Committee, and would want to see early results or responses from the Government to the views and discussion of the Committee.

5. Specific topics suggested for discussion by the Committee:

I. Population Policy

- demographic changes
- challenges and opportunities arising from an ageing population
- fertility rate
- social mobility
- admission of Mainland and overseas talent, and education and training of local talent
- welfare policy and sustainability of the social security system

II. Town Planning and Community Development

- use of land in the New Territories
- town planning and policy for utilization of public space
- community building policy
- attracting talent at the community level

III. Civil Society

- development of civil society
- development of social capital
- corporate social responsibility
- national and civic education, and sense of belonging

IV. Quality of Life

- minimum wage and standard working hours
- income inequality and poverty
- family-friendly working environment
- public health
- family value and support for the family
- harmony in the community
- environmental protection

6. Specific views on the mode of operation of the Committee:

- The Secretariat should suggest a priority list of strategic issues that should be tackled for the Committee's discussion.

- The Committee itself was too large to have useful exchanges of views on specific subjects and working groups should be set up to study and discuss the selected priority topics, and report to the Committee for plenary discussion.
 - The observations and reports presented to the Committee should be supported by facts and figures to facilitate Members' consideration of the issues in question.
7. The Chief Secretary for Administration's comments:
- This Committee should study strategic issues from a macro, long-term, high level perspective at the early stage of policy formulation, to endeavour to provide some broad direction for the relevant policy bureaux to formulate specific policies. The Committee's discussions should focus on the key issues but not the specifics of policy formulation. This first meeting was to review the pressing issues and problems facing Hong Kong, and try to identify strategic issues that should be discussed by the Committee as a matter of priority.
 - The suggestion to set up working groups to study and discuss the selected priority topics would be considered.
 - The identification and promotion of core values was important to our social development.
 - After the meeting, the Secretariat would carefully consider and consolidate Members' views and prepare a paper suggesting a list of priority issues that should be tackled by the Committee for discussion at the next meeting on 13 February 2006.
8. An attendance list is attached.

Secretariat to the Commission on Strategic Development
December 2005

策略發展委員會
社會發展及生活質素委員會第一次會議
二零零五年十二月一日

**First Meeting of
the Committee on Social Development and Quality of Life
of the Commission on Strategic Development
1 December 2005**

出席人士

Attendance List

主席 :

Chairman :

The Chief Secretary for Administration

政務司司長

官方委員 :

Official Members :

Head, Central Policy Unit

Director, Chief Executive's Office

中央政策組首席顧問

行政長官辦公室主任

非官方委員 :

Non-Official Members :

Dr CHAN Kin-keung, Eugene

Mr CHAN Siu-hung

Ms CHAN Yu

Dr CHAN WONG Lai-kuen, Anissa, M.H.

Mr CHENG Wai-sun, Edward, J.P.

Prof CHIU Wing-kai, Stephen

Mr DING Wai-chuen, Raphael

Mr HEUNG Cheuk-kei, Daniel, S.B.S., J.P.

Dr HUI Ka-wah, Ronnie

Ms KAO Ching-chi, Sophia, J.P.

Miss KI Man-fung, Leonie, J.P.

Mr LAI Kwong-tak, Albert

Prof LAM Shun-chiu, Dennis, J.P.

The Hon LAU Kong-wah, J.P.

陳建強醫生

陳紹雄先生

陳瑜女士

陳黃麗娟博士, M.H.

鄭維新先生, J.P.

趙永佳教授

丁偉銓先生

香灼璣先生, S.B.S., J.P.

許家驊醫生

高靜芝女士, J.P.

紀文鳳女士, J.P.

黎廣德先生

林順潮教授, J.P.

劉江華議員, J.P.

Dr LAW Chi-kwong, S.B.S., J.P.
Mr LAW Kin-chung, Christopher
Ms LAW Suk-kwan, Lilian
Mrs LAW SHING Mo-han, Yvonne
Mr LEE Chung-tak, Joseph, B.B.S., J.P.
The Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Dr LO Wing-lok, J.P.
Ms LOH Kung-wai, Christine
Ms MAR Yuet-har, B.B.S., M.H.
Prof NG Ching-fai, G.B.S.
Dr NG Cho-nam, B.B.S.
Mr PUI kwan-kay, M.H.
Mr SHIH Wing-ching, J.P.
Mr SO Kam-leung, Gregory, J.P.
Mr SZE, Kyrán
Mr TAI Hay-lap, B.B.S., J.P.
Ms TAM Siu-ying, Iris, J.P.
Mr TIK Chi-yuen, J.P.
Mr WONG Kwok-keung, Peter, J.P.
Mr WONG Kwok-kin
Mr WONG Sau-ching, M.H.
Mr YUNG Wing-ki, Samuel, M.H.

羅致光博士, S.B.S., J.P.
羅健中先生
羅淑君女士
羅盛慕嫻女士
李宗德先生, B.B.S., J.P.
梁耀忠議員
勞永樂醫生, J.P.
陸恭蕙女士
馬月霞女士, B.B.S., M.H.
吳清輝教授, G.B.S.
吳祖南博士, B.B.S.
貝鈞奇先生, M.H.
施永青先生, J.P.
蘇錦樑先生, J.P.
施家殷先生
戴希立先生, B.B.S., J.P.
譚小瑩女士, J.P.
狄志遠先生, J.P.
王國強先生, J.P.
黃國健先生
黃守正先生, M.H.
容永祺先生, M.H.

列席

In Attendance

Member, Central Policy Unit

中央政策組顧問

因事未能出席

Apologies

非官方委員 :

Non-Official Member :

Prof CHANG Hsin-kang, G.B.S., J.P.
Prof POON Chung-kwong, G.B.S., J.P.
Mr WONG Ying-wai, Wilfred, J.P.

張信剛教授, G.B.S., J.P.
潘宗光教授, G.B.S., J.P.
王英偉先生, J.P.