

Legislative Council in 2012  
Method of Formation – Discussion paper by Eric K C Li

## **I. Objective**

This paper explores a possible way forward without having to pre-determine a final model for the future Legislative Council.

## **II. Number of Seats**

I support the addition of 10 new seats. However, the political talents to be nurtured should be trained to proficiently serve a wide electorate. With regard to the 5 newly created FCs, these should follow the “Last in First out” (LIFO) rule as and when FCs are being abolished or modified to make way for direct elections.

## **III. Composition of New 10 Seats**

Naturally, 5 GCs + 5FCs. Propose the 5 FCs to be allocated as follows: 2 to District Councils; 1 each to employers; employees and the self engaged (including self employed + students + housewives etc.).

## **IV. Delineation and Size of the Electorate of New FCs**

**1. District Councils:** as previously proposed to include appointed members.

**2. Employers:** all registered directors/partners on public records of limited companies, statutory bodies and trades with fully paid business registration certificates for the last 3 years.

**3. Employees:** all employees participating in a recognized MPF scheme.

**4. Self engaged:** taking this novel concept to its logical extremes, this could be all eligible voters not already registered in the existing 28 + the above 2 newly established FCs.

## **V. Right of Abode**

The “One Country Two System” concept is unique. Hong Kong is unique with its highly cosmopolitan characters. In reality, we probably still have well over a million of our key middle class sector holding right of abode in foreign countries. We would win their support and that of the international community to be consistently broad-minded whilst still in transition. A change is both counter productive and unnecessary at this half way stage.

## **VI. Design Results**

1. Instead of tinkling with numerous existing FCs, simple designs to establish just 3 bold FCs can satisfy not only all known demands but goes way beyond. Nevertheless, the overall package still maintains a measure of political neutrality;
2. The design provides each eligible voter a chance to immediately claim two votes and at the same time accomplished the maximum possible size of FC electorates in one stroke;

- 3. This could be the path for the least political resistance as controversies are likely to be focused on the 3 new FCs;**
- 4. The new structure enables future evolution in many broad directions. The new FCs are destined to elapse on a LIFO basis but candidates who had experience in running for or elected by the new widely based FCs should have less problems adapting to other forms of direct elections.**
- 5. Since all voters have already two votes, the evolution of future FCs might just be a re-allocation exercise of these votes (with or without an intermediary nomination committee). An orderly disenfranchisement of the next generation of evolved FCs will then make way to full direct elections.**