

Advisory Committee on Water Supplies (2024-2026)
Minutes of First Meeting

Date: 5 September 2024 (Thursday)

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Room 4819, Water Supplies Department, 48/F, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Present

Prof KWAN Kai Cho, Joseph	Chairman
Prof CHE Chi Ming	Member
Dr CHENG Kam Wah, Edmond	Member
Mr CHEUNG Hau Wai	Member
Ms CHOW Ka Wing, Rachel	Member
Ms CHUNG Lai Kam, Kathy	Member
Dr DUAN Huan Feng	Member
Ms HO Wai Ping, Linda	Member
Mr LAM Tsz Kai, Charles	Member
Mr LAM Yat Fung, James	Member
Prof LEUNG Kwok Hi, Michael	Member
Mr LI Kam Wong, Arthur	Member
Prof LOCK Fat Shing, Louis	Member
Dr NG Ying Sim, Angie	Member
Prof SHANG Chii	Member
Prof SHIH Kaimin	Member
Prof TSE Lap Ah, Shelly	Member
Sr WONG Kwok Leung, Paul	Member
Mr YAU Kam Wing, Kelvin	Member
Mr WONG Yan Lok, Roger	Member (Water Supplies Department)
Mr TANG Kai Yan, Alan	Member (Development Bureau)
Ms HO Kit Yee, Kitty	Member (Architectural Services Department)
Mr CHUI Si Kay, Peter	Member's Representative (Drainage Services Department)
Mr LUI Hok Leung, Michael	Member (Environmental Protection Department)
Dr AU Wing Yee, Winnie	Member (Department of Health)
Ms WONG Kam Wah	Member (Housing Department)
Mr LAM Chun Ngai, Avery	Secretary (Water Supplies Department)

Water Supplies Department Representatives in Attendance

Mr MA Hon Wing, Wilson	Assistant Director
Mr CHOY Tak Yip	Chief Chemist

Mr YIP Ka Chun, Gary	Chief Engineer
Mr LAW Yiu Yip, Charles	Senior Engineer
Mr CHENG Tin Tak	Engineer
Mr TSOI Tik Hung	Chemist
Ms SIN Pui Yee, Grace	Engineer (Note-Taker)

Absent with Apologies

Ir TANG Ming Sum, Michelle	Member
Mr YIU Ming, Jeff	Member
Dr YU Yuen Ping, William	Member

Item

1. Opening Remarks

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed all Members and representatives of Water Supplies Department (WSD) to the first meeting of Advisory Committee on Water Supplies (ACWS) for the term of 2024 - 2026.
- 1.2 The Chairman informed that Prof CHE Chi Ming, Prof SHANG Chii, Ms CHOW Ka Wing, Rachel and Mr LAM Tsz Kai, Charles would attend this meeting online, while Ir TANG Ming Sum, Michelle, Mr YIU Ming, Jeff and Dr YU Yuen Ping, William were unable to attend the meeting and had sent in their apologies.
- 1.3 The Chairman greeted the new Members, Ms HO Wai Ping, Linda, Mr LAM Tsz Kai, Charles, Prof LEUNG Kwok Hi, Michael, Prof LOCK Fat Shing, Louis and Dr NG Ying Sim, Angie joining the ACWS.

Agenda Items

2. Terms of Reference and Proposed Changes in the New Term

- 2.1 The Chairman briefed the Terms of Reference of the ACWS as follows:

To keep under review and to advise the Government of the HKSAR through the Director of Water Supplies on matters relating to water supplies including water resources, network management, regulation and control of inside service,

water conservation and other operation matters.

- 2.2 The Secretary advised that the Working Group (WG) on Operational Matters, WG on Government Network and Inside Service and WG on Water Conservation and Education in the previous terms were proposed to be discontinued. Members noted and the meeting endorsed the proposal.
- 2.3 The Secretary advised that a work plan for the new term would be formulated in consultation with Members, and Members would be invited to propose topics for discussion before each meeting. Members noted and welcomed the proposal.
- 2.4 The Secretary remarked that Members were also welcomed to suggest ideas for technical visit(s) in addition to visit to Dongjiang (DJ) water supply system.
- 2.5 The Chairman reminded Members of the requirement in respect of declaration of interests as stipulated in the guidelines: “Declaration of Interests by Members of Public Sector Advisory and Statutory Bodies – Guidelines for a One-tier Reporting System”, which had been dispatched to Members by email on 2 September 2024. Members noted.
- 2.6 Mr LI Kam Wong, Arthur declared the potential conflict of interest between his company’s service on automatic meter reading and the agenda item on “Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) for Water Supplies in Hong Kong”. In view that the presentation on AMI mainly involved general information of its application at new development areas and the technical aspects whilst sensitive matters related to procurement and tendering would not be discussed, the Committee decided that Mr LI Kam Wong, Arthur did not have to be excused from the meeting.

3. Water Quality Data of Dongjiang Water Received at Muk Wu Pumping Station for the Period of April 2023 to March 2024

- 3.1 The Chairman invited Mr TSOI Tik Hung of WSD to brief Members on the water quality data of the Dongjiang (DJ) water received at Muk Wu Pumping Station for the period of April 2023 to March 2024.
- 3.2 Prof LOCK Fat Shing, Louis enquired the number of samples taken for

dissolved oxygen (DO) measurement. Mr TSOI Tik Hung of WSD replied that 97 samples were collected for DO measurement during the concerned period and only 2 were below the respective standard value, probably due to seasonal increase in water temperature. The annual average of DO still complied with the respective standard value for Type II waters in GB3838-2002.

3.3 In response to the enquiry from Prof SHIH Kaimin on monitoring of emerging contaminants in DJ water, Mr CHOI Tak Yip of WSD advised that WSD has been monitoring the quality of DJ Water to ensure compliance with the national standard for Type II waters in GB3838-2002 specified in the DJ water supply agreement. In addition, WSD had established a mechanism to monitor emerging contaminants in DJ water for review of the Hong Kong Drinking Water Standards (HKDWS). Mr WONG Yan Lok, Roger of WSD supplemented that apart from the HKDWS parameters, other parameters included in the Surveillance List and Watch List, including the emerging contaminants, were also being monitored for trend analysis, and the results would be checked against the latest scientific development.

3.4 Members agreed that the water quality data for the concerned period was satisfactory and endorsed the water quality data. WSD would publish the data onto WSD's website.

4. Advanced Metering Infrastructure for Water Supplies in Hong Kong

4.1 The Chairman invited Mr LAW Yiu Yip, Charles and Mr CHENG Tin Tak of WSD to brief Members on "Advanced Metering Infrastructure for Water Supplies in Hong Kong".

4.2 Prof LEUNG Kwok Hi, Michael enquired whether the water consumption data collected by the AMI would be adopted to facilitate analyzing the personal consumption pattern such as the water usage for shower, flushing toilets, washing clothes, etc. Mr LAW Yiu Yip, Charles of WSD advised that a trial study in collaboration with the University of Hong Kong had been conducted at Tai O district in 2023 for gauging the water savings achieved by individual customers upon receiving more water consumption data and consumption pattern from the smart water meters and back-end system with artificial intelligence (AI) analytical features.

4.3 Ms HO Wing Ping, Linda suggested WSD to take into account the household

size when conducting benchmarking exercise in the above-mentioned studies. WSD welcomed to the suggestion and Mr YIP Ka Chun, Gary of WSD supplemented that a Smart-water Taskforce would be set up to investigate the water usage of selected ultra-high consumption customers using smart technologies. WSD will alert the customers of their ultra-high consumption behaviour taking account of the household size and provide the specific advice for the customers on the workable measures to reduce their consumption.

4.4 Mr YAU Kam Wing, Kelvin suggested to include other sectors with ultra-high consumption such as hotel and catering in the study. Mr YIP Ka Chun, Gary of WSD advised that the Smart-water Taskforce would also include customers from non-domestic sectors of ultra-high consumption.

4.5 The Chairman appreciated the fruitful discussions on this topic and suggested further in-depth discussion on this topic in the coming meetings if and when appropriate.

5. **Celebration of 60th Anniversary of Dongjiang Water Supply to Hong Kong**

5.1 The Secretary briefed Members on “Celebration of 60th Anniversary of DJ Water Supply to Hong Kong”.

5.2 Dr CHENG Kam Wah, Edmond suggested WSD to collaborate with the Education Bureau (EDB) in enhancing student’s understanding of the DJ water supply to Hong Kong by arranging regular visits and including the topic in the school curriculum. Mr YIP Ka Chun, Gary of WSD replied that WSD has been collaborating with schools on water conservation initiatives and provided teaching kits under the programme “Cherish Water Campus” which have incorporated content related to DJ water supply. Mr WONG Yan Lok, Roger of WSD supplemented that as part of the events to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of DJ water supply to Hong Kong, WSD has further enriched the said teaching kits with more focus on DJ water supply and worked with EDB to enhance the itinerary of mainland study tours for primary and secondary students with more visits to DJ water supply systems.

5.3 Ms CHUNG Lai Kam, Kathy advised that the curriculum of primary and secondary schools have included topic on DJ water supply to Hong Kong. Ms CHUNG Lai Kam, Kathy suggested that in addition to the DJ water supply

themed seminars, schools would also welcome roving exhibition truck which enables more interactions with students. As traffic to High Island Reservoir is restricted, Ms CHUNG Lai Kam, Kathy inquired if WSD could consider issuing permit to school buses to facilitate the arrangement of school visit. Mr WONG Yan Lok, Roger of WSD undertook to explore the feasibility as appropriate.

- 5.4 Mr LAM Yat Fung, James suggested that educational messages about water supply system from source to tap, national water infrastructure projects and importance of water security as a national security issue should be conveyed in the celebration events. Mr CHEUNG Hau Wai supplemented that global water scarcity and our nation's water resources planning should also be covered. Mr WONG Yan Lok, Roger of WSD undertook to incorporate in the celebration events as appropriate.

6. Any Other Business

- 6.1 The Secretary informed that visit to Dongjiang water supply system for ACWS members would be conducted in late November 2024. The exact date and itinerary would be provided upon confirmation with the Guangdong Authorities.
- 6.2 There being no other business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.