

Advisory Committee on Water Supplies
Minutes of Meeting No. 7

Date: 13 April 2018 (Friday)

Time: 3:00 p.m.

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

Present

Ir Dr CHAN Hon Fai	Chairman
Prof KWAN Kai Cho, Joseph	Vice-Chairman
Prof CHAN Yan Keung, Thomas	Member
Prof CHU Wai	Member
Prof WONG Wing Tak	Member
Prof WU Xun	Member
Dr HO Shu Kwong, Raymond	Member
Dr WONG Siu Wing, Eric	Member
Ir NG Chun Keung	Member
Mr LAU Che Feng, Edwin	Member
Mr TAM Kwok Wing, Ivan	Member
Mr WONG Bay	Member
Ms WONG Chi Shun, Carol	Member
Mr WONG Kwun Kit, William	Member
Mr YEUNG Wai Sing	Member
Mr WONG Chung Leung	Member (Water Supplies Department)
Dr FUNG On Yee, Connie	Member (Department of Health)
Mr CHAN Yiu Keung, Oliver	Member (Housing Department)
Mr MAK Ka Chun	Member (Architectural Services Department)
Mr LAW Yuk Fat, Robin	Secretary (Water Supplies Department)

Water Supplies Department Representatives in Attendance

Mr CHAU Sai Wai	Assistant Director, Water Supplies Department
Mr CHUNG Siu Wing, Joseph	Chief Engineer, Water Supplies Department
Mr LAU Cheuk Fung Calvin	Senior Engineer, Water Supplies Department
Mr LAW Tak Chi, George	Senior Engineer, Water Supplies Department
Mr LEE Kwun Chung, Johnson	Senior Engineer, Water Supplies Department
Mr TSANG Chung Man, Alex	Senior Engineer, Water Supplies Department
Mr YU Man Tat	Senior Chemist, Water Supplies Department
Ms LAW Ming Chu Cecilia	Engineer, Water Supplies Department (Notes Taker)

Absent with Apologies

Prof CHENG Man Chung, Daniel	Member
Prof CHIU Pauline	Member
Dr LAU Wai Neng, Michael	Member
Dr WONG TAAM Chi Woon, Vivian	Member
Ms KAM Kin	Member
Miss LEE Pik Yee, Peggy	Member
Mr NG Vitus	Member (Development Bureau)
Mr WONG Tak Wai, David	Member (Environmental Protection Department)

Item

Opening Remarks

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed all the Members and representatives of Water Supplies Department (WSD) to the first meeting of Advisory Committee on Water Supplies (ACWS) for the term of 2018-20.
- 1.2 The Chairman informed the meeting that Prof CHENG Man Chung, Daniel, Prof CHIU Pauline, Dr LAU Wai Neng, Michael, Dr WONG TAAM Chi Woon, Vivian, Ms KAM Kin, Miss LEE Pik Yee, Peggy, Mr NG Vitus and Mr WONG Tak Wai, David had sent in their apology for not being able to attend the meeting.
- 1.3 The Chairman advised the meeting that the Director of Water Supplies would not be the Vice Chairman of ACWS but would remain as an official member of the Committee in this term. The Secretary for Development had appointed Prof KWAN Kai Cho, Joseph as the Vice Chairman of ACWS for this term.
- 1.4 The Chairman also welcomed the nine new Members joining the ACWS, including Prof CHU Wai, Prof WU Xun, Dr HO Shu Kwong, Raymond, Ir NG Chun Keung, Ms KAM Kin, Mr LAU Che Feng, Edwin, Miss LEE Pik Yee, Peggy, Ms WONG Chi Shun, Carol and Mr WONG Kwun Kit, William.
- 1.5 The Chairman also informed the meeting that Dr FUNG On Yee, Connie and Mr CHAN Yiu Keung, Oliver were representatives of Department of Health (DH) and Housing Department (HD) respectively as official members of ACWS. Besides, Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) had been invited to join ACWS as official member and their representative was Mr

- 1.6 The Chairman then gave an introduction to the background and the work of the ACWS.

Agenda Items

2. Terms of Reference and Nomination of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for Working Groups

- 2.1 The Chairman advised that the proposed Terms of Reference (ToR) of the ACWS and the three proposed Working Groups (WG) for the term 2018-2020 were circulated to Members on 13 March 2018.
- 2.2 The Chairman remarked that the ToR of the ACWS had been slightly adjusted and the WGs of ACWS had been restructured to avoid overlapping with the ToR of the Drinking Water Safety Advisory Committee established under Development Bureau on 1 January 2018 and to address the concerns of the public on some issues of water supplies such as the water quality monitoring programmes, water loss in government network and inside services, water conservation etc. Since the work of the Task Group on Water Safety in Buildings (TG on WSB) had been substantially completed, the Chairman advised the TG would not be established in this term and any work relevant to water safety in buildings would be followed up by one of the WGs if necessary.
- 2.3 The Chairman invited the Secretary to give a brief introduction on the proposed ToR of the ACWS and the three proposed WGs. The Secretary advised that the three proposed WGs were **WG on Operational Matters**, **WG on Government Network and Inside Service** and **WG on Water Conservation and Education**. He then briefed the meeting on the proposed ToR of the ACWS and the three proposed WGs as follow:-

Advisory Committee on Water Supplies

To keep under review and to advise the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region 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

operational matters.

Working Group on Operational Matters

To keep under review and advise on:

- a. Various operational matters related to water supplies including compliance with relevant legislation standards and requirements;
- b. Operation of the water quality monitoring programmes; and
- c. Regulation and control of plumbing materials and plumbing installations.

Working Group on Government Network and Inside Service

To keep under review and advise on

- a. Government network management, in particular, its preventive maintenance, repair, rehabilitation and water loss management;
- b. Smart water initiatives in government network; and
- c. Regulation and control of inside service, in particular, its maintenance and water loss.

Working Group on Water Conservation and Education

To keep under review and advise on:

- a. Public engagement and education programme to promote water conservation;
- b. Youth participation in water conservation;
- c. Collaboration with Green Groups/NGOs/Schools on water conservation;
- d. Water conservation initiatives; and
- e. Promotion on use of Water Efficiency Labeling Scheme (WELS) products including implementation of mandatory WELS.

2.4 Members agreed with the proposed ToR of the ACWS and the three proposed WGs.

2.5 The Chairman advised that Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the WGs had to be elected before the coming meetings of WGs scheduled in May/June 2018. The Chairman then invited nomination of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for the WGs.

Working Group on Operational Matters

- 2.6 Prof KWAN Kai Cho, Joseph nominated Prof WONG Wing Tak to be the Chairman of the WG on Operational Matters in view of his expertise in public health and industrial hygiene. Prof Joseph KWAN nominated Mr WONG Bay to be the Vice-Chairman of the WG in view his expertise in building maintenance and surveying and facility management. Prof KWAN remarked that Prof WONG Wing Tak and Mr WONG Bay were the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the WG on Water Quality respectively in the past term and were conversant with the operational matters of WSD. Members unanimously agreed Prof WONG Wing Tak and Mr WONG Bay to be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the WG on Operational Matters respectively.

Working Group on Government Network and Inside Service

- 2.7 Prof KWAN Kai Cho, Joseph nominated Mr TAM Kwok Wing, Ivan to be the Chairman of the WG on Government Network and Inside Service in view of his past experience as Vice-chairman of the TG on WSB in the past term as well as his well-connected network in property management trades which were important in dealing with issues related in inside service. The Chairman proposed Ir NG Chun Keung to be the Vice-Chairman of the WG as he was the President of Hong Kong Institute of Utility Specialists and would be able to provide expert advice on network management and smart water initiatives in government network. Members unanimously agreed Mr Ivan and Ir NG to be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the WG on Government Network and Inside Service respectively.

Working Group on Water Conservation and Education

- 2.8 Prof KWAN Kai Cho, Joseph nominated Mr LAU Che Feng, Edwin and Ms WONG Chi Shun, Carol to be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the WG on Water Conservation and Education respectively. Prof Joseph KWAN remarked that Mr Edwin LAU was the Founder and Executive Director of the Green Earth and would be able to provide expert advice on water conservation and education from the perspectives of green groups. Prof Joseph KWAN remarked that Ms Carol WONG was a kindergarten educationalist and would be able to provide expert advice on the promotion of water conservation initiatives in kindergartens and schools. Members unanimously agreed Mr Edwin LAU and Ms Carol WONG to be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the WG on Water Conservation and Education respectively.

3. Membership of Working Groups

3.1 The Chairman invited the Secretary to brief the meeting on the enrollment as WG members. The Secretary advised that Members could join any WGs on a voluntary basis. WG meetings would be held on a regular basis and non-WG members would be welcome to attend the WG meetings.

3.2 The Secretary advised that the secretariat would send an email after the meeting to the Members inviting them to join the WGs as WG members. He added that co-opt/ad-hoc members might also be invited to join the WG meetings on need basis to contribute to the work of WGs. WSD

4. Schedule of Meetings and Site Visits

4.1 The Chairman advised that the forthcoming ACWS meetings would be usually held every four months on the last Wednesday afternoon of the month. The next two meetings had been tentatively scheduled for 2:00pm on 27 June 2018 and 31 October 2018. The Chairman reminded Members to reserve the above time slots. The Chairman also reminded WG Chairmen to hold the WG meetings before each ACWS meeting.

[Post-meeting notes: The coming meeting has been rescheduled for 5 July 2018]

4.2 The Secretary advised that group photos for all ACWS Members would be taken on the date of next meeting at about 1:30pm on 48/F of Immigration Tower.

4.3 The Chairman advised that ACWS would conduct visit to the Dongjiang Water Supply System annually usually in the fourth quarter of each year. The Chairman advised that Members could also propose other technical visits for ACWS and the WGs.

5. WSD Work Plan on Water Supplies

5.1 The Chairman invited Mr CHAU Sai Wai of WSD to present WSD's strategic work plan on water supplies.

- 5.2 In response to the Civic Exchange's Report entitled "The Illusion of Plenty: Hong Kong's Water Security, Working towards Regional Water Harmony", the Chairman advised that the previous term of ACWS had written to the Director of Water Supplies giving some recommendations to WSD to enhance water demand and supply management. The Chairman considered that WSD's strategic work plan on water supplies had incorporated ACWS' recommendations.
- 5.3 The Chairman asked about the water loss management for private mains. Mr WONG Chung Leung of WSD replied that WSD was installing bulk meters and master meters at housing estates to monitor if there was water loss in their private water mains. Technical advice would be provided to property owners and management agents of housing estates identified with water loss in their private water mains in carrying out field investigation and leak detection to locate leaks in the private mains for repair.
- 5.4 The Chairman encouraged WSD to adopt more innovative technologies in water management. Mr WONG Chung Leung of WSD shared Chairman's view and advised that there was a Research and Development Committee in WSD to explore local and overseas innovative technologies for application in water supplies.
- 5.5 Prof CHAN Yan Keung, Thomas suggested WSD to hold regular meetings with green groups to allow them to understand the work of WSD. Mr CHAU Sai Wai of WSD replied that there were regular meetings with green groups under the WG on Water Conservation in the previous and the meetings with green groups would be continued in the current WG on Water Conservation and Education.
- 5.6 Prof WU Xun opined that water conservation was a behavioral science and education was important to change people's mindset. Mr CHAU Sai Wai of WSD shared Prof WU's view and advised that water consumption records of the customer had been included in his/her water bills as one of the measures to raise the public's awareness on water conservation.

6. Any Other Business

- 6.1 The Chairman thanked WSD for preparing a booklet outlining the work of WSD for Members' reference.
- 6.2 There being no further items raised, the Chairman thanked Members for attending the meeting and adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.