

**Advisory Committee on Water Supplies (2022-2024)**  
**Minutes of First Meeting**

**Date:** 15 June 2022 (Wednesday)

**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
Mr LAM Yat Fung, James	Member
Mr LAU Che Feng, Edwin	Member
Mr LI Kam Wong, Arthur	Member
Prof SHANG Chii	Member
Prof SHIH Kaimin	Member
Ir TANG Ming Sum, Michelle	Member
Prof TSE Lap Ah, Shelly	Member
Dr WANG Peng	Member
Sr WONG Kwok Leung, Paul	Member
Mr YAU Kam Wing, Kelvin	Member
Mr YIU Ming, Jeff	Member
Dr YU Yuen Ping, William	Member
Ms YUEN Yan Ling, Elaine	Member
Mr LO Kwok Wah, Kelvin	Member (Water Supplies Department)
Mr SEN Hok Bunn, Paul	Member's Representative (Development Bureau)
Ms HO Kit Yee, Kitty	Member (Architectural Services Department)
Mr LAU Shing Cheong, Edwin	Member (Drainage Services Department)
Mr CHEN Che Kong	Member (Environmental Protection Department)
Dr CHOW Chor Yiu, Tony	Member (Department of Health)
Mr YEUNG Wong Pan, Antony	Member's Representative (Housing Department)
Mr FUNG Cheuk Pong, Ronald	Secretary (Water Supplies Department)

**Water Supplies Department Representatives in Attendance**

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

Mr LEUNG Chi Hung, Simon	Chief Engineer
Mr YIP Ka Chun, Gary	Chief Engineer
Mr YUEN Tik Hong	Senior Engineer
Mr LAU Cheuk Fung, Calvin	Senior Engineer
Mr LEE Hong Nin, Kevin	Senior Engineer
Ms LO Wing Yin	Chemist
Ms FUNG Bo Yin, Anthea	Engineer (Note-Taker)

### **Absent with Apologies**

Ir NG Chun Keung	Member
Mr WONG Kwun Kit, 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 2022-24.
- 1.2 The Chairman informed the meeting that Ir NG Chun Keung and Mr WONG Kwun Kit, William were unable to attend the meeting and had sent in their apologies.
- 1.3 The Chairman greeted the new Members joining the ACWS and expressed thanks to the retired Members including, Prof WONG Wing Tak, Mr TAM Kwok Wing, Ivan, Ms WONG Chi Shun, Carol, Mr AU YEUNG Chi King, Artur, Prof CHAN Yan Keung, Thomas, Prof Pauline CHIU, Prof CHU Wei, Dr WONG TAAM Chi Woon, Vivian and Prof WU Xun for their contributions over the years.
- 1.4 The Chairman reminded Members of the requirements in respect of declaration of interests 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 sent to Members by email on 10 June 2022. Members noted.

## **Agenda Items**

### **2. Election of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for Working Groups**

- 2.1 The Chairman advised that there were three working groups (WGs) viz. **WG on Operational Matters**, **WG on Government Network and Inside Service** and **WG on Water Conservation and Education** under ACWS for the term 2022-2024. The Secretary then gave a brief introduction on the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the WGs, as follow:-

#### **WG 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.

#### **WG 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.

#### **WG 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.

- 2.2 The Chairman invited nominations from Members for the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the WGs. After discussion, the Meeting agreed on the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the WGs as follow: -

	<b>WG on Operational Matters</b>	<b>WG on Government Network and Inside Service</b>	<b>WG on Water Conservation and Education</b>
<b>Chairman</b>	Mr CHEUNG Hau Wai	Ir NG Chun Keung	Mr LAU Che Feng, Edwin
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	Ir TANG Ming Sum, Michelle	Dr CHENG Kam Wah, Edmond	Mr LAM Yat Fung, James

### 3. **Membership of Working Groups**

- 3.1 The Chairman invited the Secretary to brief Members on the enrolment of the WGs. 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 this meeting WSD to invite Members to join the WGs. 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.

### 4. **Water quality data of Dongjiang water received at Muk Wu Pumping Station for the period of April 2021 to March 2022**

- 4.1 The Chairman invited Ms LO Wing Yin of WSD to brief Members on the water quality data of the Dongjiang water received at Muk Wu Pumping Station for the period of April 2021 to March 2022.
- 4.2 Mr LAU Che Fung, Edwin enquired whether there were any additional parameters related to pharmaceutical residues and chemicals being monitored in raw water as there was additional use of medicine and disinfectants by the general public during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr CHOY Tak Yip of WSD advised that apart from the Environmental Quality Standards for Surface Water GB3838-2002, WSD had established a watch list for keeping in view of the international development and parameters, including chemicals and microbiological agents, with their potential health risk not yet fully established scientifically. Pharmaceutical residues such as antibiotics had been included in the watch list and they were checked regularly by snapshot testing. The snapshot testing results of antibiotics in Dongjiang water were below 50 ng/L which are, according to World Health Organization (WHO), more than 1000-fold less than the minimum therapeutic dose, and the risk to human health is minimal.

- 4.3 Prof SHIH Kaimin expressed that majority of the disinfection could be achieved with hypochlorite diluted according to the Department of Health's recommendation in 1:99. As hypochlorite had already been used in the disinfection process of drinking water treatment, the increased usage of disinfection products by the general public during the COVID-19 pandemic should not affect the water quality. Disinfection by-products generated during the process would usually be more of an interest. Prof SHANG Chii advised that disinfection by-products were induced by the organic matter in water and the process would not have much deviation due to the pandemic. It was understood that there were drinking water quality parameters from WSD to monitor the disinfection by-products. Mr LO Kwok Wah, Kelvin of WSD supplemented that there were 57 chemical parameters in the HKDWS and the total sum ratio of trihalomethanes was included to monitor the disinfection by-products. Mr CHOY Tak Yip of WSD supplemented that as hypochlorite was being occasionally used in the treatment process, other disinfection by-products namely chlorate, chlorite, perchlorate and bromate would also be monitored. These disinfection by-products had been included in the HKDWS and, according to the latest water quality monitoring data, their levels in drinking water complied with the HKDWS and the guideline values recommended by WHO.
- 4.4 Members agreed that the water quality data for the concerned period was satisfactory. The meeting endorsed the water quality data. WSD would upload the data onto WSD's website.

## **5. Any Other Business**

- 5.1 The Secretary advised that the ACWS meetings would usually be held every four months and the next meeting would be in October/November 2022 subject to confirmation.
- 5.2 There being no other business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.