Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the Consultation Panel of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

Date: 19 January 2016 (Tuesday)
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Venue: Board Room, West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, 29/F, Tower 6, The Gateway, 9 Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon

Members Present:
Chairman
Prof John LEONG Chi-yan, S.B.S., J.P.

Members
The Honourable Ronald ARCUILLI, G.B.M., G.B.S., J.P.
Mr. CHOW Yick-hay, BBS, JP
Mr. Derek HUNG Chiu-wah
Ms. KO Po-ling, B.B.S., M.H., J.P.
Prof Lena LEE
Mr. Ng Cheuk-yin
Ms. Yolanda NG Yuen-ting, MH
Mr. TANG Shu-wing
Mr. Coleman WAI Ching
Ms. Ada WONG Ying-kay, J.P.
The Honourable Wayne YIU Si-wing

Secretary:
Ms. Bonny WONG Director, CEO’s Office

In Attendance:
Home Affairs Bureau (HAB)
Ms. Angela LEE Chung-yan Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2)
Mr. Eric CHENG Siu-fun Principal Assistant
Consultation Panel
of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

Secretary (WKCD)
Miss Bernadette LAM King-tung
Assistant Secretary (WKCD)

West Kowloon Cultural District Authority
Mr. Duncan PESCOD, G.B.S., JP
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Dr. CHAN Man-wai
Executive Director, Project Delivery
Mr. Louis YU
Executive Director, Performing Arts
Ms. Tina PANG
Curator, Hong Kong Visual Culture, M+ & Exhibition Centre
Ms. Stella FONG
Lead Curator, Learning & Interpretation, M+ & Exhibition Centre

Absent with Apologies:
Dr. the Honourable Allan ZEMAN, G.B.M., G.B.S., J.P.
Mr. CHING Cheung-ying, MH
Mr. LAM Ying-kit
The Honourable Charles Peter MOK

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members to the 18th meeting of the Consultation Panel (CP).

Agenda Item (1) Confirmation of the Minutes of the 17th Consultation Panel Meeting
2. The Chairman informed Members that the Secretariat had received proposed amendments to the minutes, which were tabled at the meeting. Members had no other comments and the minutes of the 17th meeting were confirmed.

**Agenda Item (2) Matters Arising**

*Site Visit to Nursery Park*

3. The Chairman reminded Members that a site visit to the Nursery Park was arranged for Members after the meeting.

*Update on the progress of Culture Mixer*

4. The Chairman updated Members that the detailed progress of the Culture Mixer would be reported in agenda item 4.

**Agenda Item (3) Update on the Progress of the West Kowloon Cultural District Development**

*Update on the progress of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) Development (including hardware and software, and the future direction of the M+ and the performing arts venues, as well as major plans/events)*

*Development of hardware*

5. By way of a Powerpoint presentation, Dr. CHAN Man-wai provided an overview of the WKCD development to Members, including the geographic location and recent photos of the main works of the Xiqu Centre, M+, M+ Pavilion, and the Park, as well as the foundation work for the interfacing Carpark. He also reported on the latest progress of the design and construction works of various facilities as summarized below:

   **A. Xiqu Centre**
   - The main theatre steel structure was successfully lifted to mid-
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height last week and would be lifted to its final position in Q1 2016. The four reinforced concrete core structures had also been substantially completed. The construction programme remained on schedule.

B. M+, M+ Pavilion and Interfacing Carpark

- **M+:** The main structure works had commenced and were progressing well. A façade mock-up was set up at the WKCD site which Members would be able to examine during a site visit to the Nursery Park after the meeting;

- **M+ Pavilion:** The construction of the building structure was completed in November 2015. The associated works and internal finishing work were progressing well, with the target of full completion by mid-2016 on time and on budget;

- **Interfacing Carpark:** The foundation works for the interfacing Carpark located between M+ and the Park were completed in accordance with schedule.

C. Park

- The main works contract for construction of the Park had been issued with tender submission by end-March 2016. Phase One of the construction works was targeted for completion in Q4 2017.

D. Public Infrastructure Works (PIW) Main Works

- The essential PIW, including site utilities and at grade road, were underway.

6. **Dr. CHAN Man-wai** reported the safety statistics and informed Members that one minor but reportable accident was recorded for the Xiqu Main Works.

7. **Mr. Derek HUNG** informed Members of the concern of some residents of the Kowloon Station development over the possible nuisance caused by the façade of the M+ building. He suggested West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCD) should monitor the materials to be used for the façade and the LED screen to avoid “light nuisance” and “light pollution”. **Mr. Duncan PESCOD** explained that projection screen of the building would be designed to face toward the harbour and assured that the risk of causing “light nuisance” or “light pollution” to the adjacent
residential areas was low.

**Performing Arts (PA)**

8. Mr. Louis YU reported on the latest development of various aspects of PA, such as programmes for audience building, which included an innovative double bill of genre-twisting productions — “The Ghost Seller” by the GuoGuang Opera Company of Taiwan and “His Butterflies (Version 80)” by the Utopia Cantonese Opera Workshop of Hong Kong. Invitations had been sent to secondary schools to invite students to attend a daytime performance on The Ghost Seller. Tours would be arranged before and after the performance with a target to attract around 500 students and school teachers.

9. He also reported that Freespace Happening now took place twice a month on the second and fourth Sundays starting from December 2015. The next Freespace Happening would be held on 24 January 2016. Freespace Happening was not only bringing various types of PA programmes to the public, but had also attracted street performers performing at designated areas, families picnicking on the lawns, as well as pet owners bringing their pets to enjoy the open space at the WKCD. Freespace Happening had already built up a brand for the WKCD and attracted different audiences to the events, with a maximum of around 10,000 and a minimum of around 1,500 attendees recorded for individual events since August 2015. The last event of Freespace Happening for this cycle would end in March 2016 and the next cycle would begin in September 2016.

10. Mr. Coleman WAI suggested that it might be the right time to design and produce some unique merchandise bearing the brand of Freespace Happening, which would be suitable for youth and the public. This would help strengthen the brand for the WKCD in the long run.

11. Mr. Louis YU reported on another audience building programme, Rising Stars of Cantonese Opera to be held in August 2016 and February 2017, and other capacity building programmes, such as the International Workshop Festival of
Theatre, New Works Forum and Xiqu Cultural Exchange Programme.

12. In addition to audience and capacity building programmes, 24 interns had participated in the PA Internship Programme since 2014. Ten official engagement meetings had been held since January 2015 to collect views from stakeholders in drama, dance, music and xiqu disciplines.

13. Prof Lena LEE drew members’ attention to the discussion held at the last CP meeting and requested WKCDA to share the PA artistic strategy with Members. She also expressed concern about the operating principle of the WKCD PA venues. Mr. Louis YU replied that the PA artistic strategy would be discussed at the Board meeting in the afternoon and he would be pleased to share it with CP in the next meeting. In response to the Chairman’s question, Mr. Duncan PESCOD replied that the Authority was planning to recruit an Artistic Director.

\[M+\]

14. Ms. Tina PANG and Ms. Stella FONG reported on the latest developments of various aspects of M+, including:

A. **Museum Collection**
   - An analysis of acquisitions by disciplines of the Museum Collection and an analysis by geographic areas were presented to Members.

B. **Exhibition**
   - Mobile M+: Live Art (4 to 20 December 2015);
   - M+ Screenings: Visible Places (15 to 17 January 2016);
   - M+ Matters (upcoming);
   - Tsang Kin-Wah: 56th Venice Biennale Response Exhibition (August 2016), would be held at M+ Pavilion.

C. **Learning**
   - M+ Internship programme: Spring (February to May 2016),
Autumn (September 2016 – February 2017);
- M+ Rover (March to July 2016);
- M+ Summer Camp 2016 (July to August 2016);
- M+ Mediator Programme (upcoming).

15. Responding to Mr. CHOW Yick-hay’s enquiry, Ms. Stella FONG explained that the M+ Rover was specially designed to accommodate 25-30 students interacting with artists. For those schools which were not able to accommodate the M+ Rover, the Authority would encourage them to form a partnership with nearby schools so that more students could participate in the programme. The Authority also planned to park the M+ Rover in community spaces around Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories during weekends so as to provide more people with the opportunity to participate in the programme.

16. Ms. Stella FONG explained to the Chairman that the M+ Rover was built as a 20-foot container with the flexibility of its sides being opened to expand its usable area. This flexibility allowed the M+ Rover to transform into a mini-cinema, mini-exhibition centre, mini-stage or workshop, and would provide a different learning experience to students.

17. Ms. KO Po-ling commended the M+ Rover initiative for proactively bringing arts and culture into the community. She suggested to expand the programme and reach out to groups other than youths after the schools trial-run so as to fully utilize the resources of the M+ Rover. Mr. Duncan PESCOD agreed and supplemented that the Authority’s intention was to start the project with schools but that the M+ Rover would be parked in the WKCD during holidays so as to reach more members of the public.

18. Prof Lena LEE echoed the commendation for the hard work and creativity of the M+ team in audience development. In response to her enquiry, Ms. Tina PANG replied that the collection strategy was governed by the Interim Acquisition Committee (IAC). Ms. Tina PANG welcomed Members to join the coming IAC meeting scheduled in March 2016 for an update on the collection strategy.
19. Prof Lena LEE also reminded Members that according to the World Health Organization, the age classification of “youth” had been extended to age 65.

**Agenda Item (4) Youth Engagement Activities of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCD/CO/01/2016)**

20. Ms. Bonny WONG briefed Members on the paper (ref. WKCD/CP/01/2016). In addition to the youth-related programmes organised by PA and M+ reported under agenda item 3, she informed Members of the Nursery Park Tree Tour and Workshop and Culture Mixer.

21. She reported that several Working Group meetings had been held since its establishment in January 2015. After discussions at these meetings, Members agreed to engage Junior Achievement Hong Kong to assist with the coordination of the Culture Mixer. The first cycle of Culture Mixer was completed, with the Workshop and the WKCD Xperience Day held on 10 October and 27 November 2015 respectively. A tour to Freespace Happening was also organised on 8 November 2015 for those students who had signed up for the Xperience Day. The next cycle of the Culture Mixer was planned to be held between March and May 2016.

22. Ms. Bonny WONG briefed Members on the background and objective of the proposed initiative. Ms. Ada WONG continued the presentation and explained that it was the aim of CP to motivate the public to participate in the WKCD project, especially seeking support for and appreciation of the WKCD from young people as well as the community. The proposed initiative would engage District Councils (DCs), Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and arts organizations to work together and generate new ideas. The Working Group proposed to run three pilot programmes in 2016/17, partnering with DCs in Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories.

23. Ms. Ada WONG invited comments from Members and asked the
Authority for financial support to carry out the programmes. Ms. Bonny WONG replied that HKD500,000 had been budgeted for each of the programmes.

24. Mr. TANG Shu-wing shared his views with Members after attending a recent retreat organized by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Four areas were discussed at the retreat, namely i) development of youth and children theatre; ii) how to celebrate local artists; iii) development and possible position of Hong Kong as a culture hub; and iv) the relationship with audiences. The conclusion of the discussions was that youth and children theatre was very important for the development of a city or country because what this group of children and young people learnt would determine their views on themselves and the society later on in life. How to encourage them to develop a sense of ownership of the society and provide them with a prospect to develop their career in the arts and cultural sector was of the utmost importance. He questioned the difference between the proposed initiative and the existing programmes run by other organisations and how to attract them to participate in the Authority’s programmes instead of others.

25. The Chairman commented that the visibility of the WKCD was advantageous and the Government had already invested considerable resources with the vision to develop the WKCD as a cultural quarter for Hong Kong. Ms. Ada WONG explained the attractiveness of the programme. It would provide a platform for the youth to interact with each other and give them the opportunity to co-curate a project, which would motivate them to develop a sense of ownership of the project.

26. Mr. CHOW Yick-hay appreciated the effort of the Working Group and wished that the programme would be realised. He agreed with Ms. Ada WONG’s suggestion that a bottom-up approach should be adopted so that the project would be led by young people. He recommended Kwai Tsing DC to participate in one of the pilot programmes.

27. Mr. Derek HUNG agreed with the direction of the proposed initiative. He said that he would brief the Yau Tsim Mong DC at its next meeting and seek their support in participating in the pilot project.

28. Ms. Yolanda NG supplemented that it was advantageous to work with a
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DC as it would help establish a relationship between the WKCD and the community. This would not only help build audience, but also motivate youth and the community to participate in the programme.

29. In response to Mr. Coleman WAI’s question, Ms. Ada WONG explained that although there was no age limitation to participating in the programme, students in senior secondary school might be more suitable for participation in co-curation, programme organisation and event management.

30. Mr. Coleman WAI was of the opinion that as the pilot cycle of the programme would involve three DCs, it might be worthwhile to engage other DCs earlier into the programme planning for the coming cycles. He was also of the view that Kwai Tsing DC or Shatin DC might have more resources and were suitable to carry out the pilot programme for the New Territories.

31. Mr. Duncan PESCOD thanked the Working Group for their hard work and confirmed the Authority’s support of the proposed initiative. He commented that it was essential to work with the DCs, schools and the community and he would discuss with the Management team as to how the Authority should further complement the work of CP in this regard.

32. Ms. Ada WONG concluded that it was important to carry out a pilot programme in 2016/17 as a model for other DCs’ reference. She recommended the three pilot programmes to be carried out by Wanchai DC, Yau Tsim Mong DC and Kwai Tsing DC as each DC had a representative Member in CP. A detailed plan would be prepared for CP’s review in the next meeting after discussions with the three DCs.

33. Members had no further comments and the recommendation of the paper was endorsed.

Agenda Item (5) Any Other Business
34. The Chairman said that it was the last meeting of the current membership term. He thanked Members for their contributions to CP.

35. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to coordinate the date of the next CP meeting within the next three months.

36. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.