



香 港 公 民 協 會
HONGKONG CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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ADDENDUM to HKCA 10 April 2007 letter to Committee on Governance of Political Development of the Strategic Development Commission.

The Civic Association letter of 10 April 2007 to the Committee on Governance and Political Development outlined a number of suggestions for the Legislative Council election in 2012.

We believe our proposals are in accordance with the Basic Law "in the light of the actual situation in the HKSAR and in accordance with the principle of gradual and orderly progress". (Basic Law Article 45).

While Article 45 has to do with the method for selecting the Chief Executive, we are at the same time convinced that this same principle of gradual and orderly progress equally applies to electing the Legislative Council within the context of the Basic Law.

2012 CHIEF EXECUTIVE ELECTION

Our association's views on the nomination and election of the Chief Executive are generally in line with the proposals of the Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong.

Should there clearly be an insufficient consensus on electing the Chief Executive by universal suffrage one-man-one vote in 2012, another option plan would be:

2012 – (a) Set up a Nominating Committee of 800;

(b) The same election franchise that selected the Nominating Committee of 800, could elect the Chief Executive on a one-man-one-vote basis.

2017 – (a) Set up a Nomination Committee of 800;

(b) From among the candidates nominated by the Nomination Committee to elect the Chief Executive by universal franchise, one-man-one-vote.

2012 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION

Our association broadly shares similar views as the Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong regarding the bicameral legislature model as being suitable for enhancing sustainable economic and social progress for the HKSAR. Therefore the bicameral legislature system should not be ruled out as a viable option for the future.



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In our letter of 10 April 2007, we proposed:

- a) Setting up a representative Nominating Committee (not exceeding 100 members) for smaller compatible functional constituencies which have been combined into a larger group functional constituency. This would enlarge the electorate base of the regrouped smaller functional constituencies.
- b) Giving each Legislative Council voter two votes, one for the geographic constituency and another vote for his/her selected functional constituency. This would be a unique way to enlarge the voter's interest and participatory role in community affairs.

A voter could have direct access to his/her own geographically elected Legislative Councillor, and additionally to be able to seek access to:

- (1) the functional constituency Councillor who he/she voted for; and
- (2) any other functional constituency Councillor regarding issues of a public nature falling within the responsibility of that functional constituency Councillor.

Time and again, the argument has been put forward that functional constituency Councillors are limited by too narrow sectional interests and cannot speak up effectively for the wider public good.

If in 2012, smaller functional constituencies can be integrated into larger functional group constituencies, could that not create more synergy and interaction towards further economic growth and social progress?

To sum up, our association looks forward to having by:

2012 – a) implementation of changes to the Legislative Council as proposed in our letter of 10 April 2007, and

2016/2020 – b) a Green Paper outline on achieving by 2016/2020 voting by universal franchise.

Political reform is a never ending process: you keep on reviewing, you keep on planning, you take action, and hopefully there is progress.

(Signed)

2 May 2007

Hilton Cheong-Leen
President