

Appointments to Energy Advisory Committee announced

The Government today (July 13) announced that Mr Jimmy Kwok has been re-appointed as Chairman of the Energy Advisory Committee, while 19 community personalities have been appointed as members. The appointments are for a term of two years with effect from July 15, 2018 and will be published in the Gazette on July 20.

The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, thanked the Chairman and members for their valuable contributions to the work of the Committee. "Under the sterling leadership of Mr Jimmy Kwok, the Committee has tendered invaluable advice to the Government on important energy-related matters, in particular as we chart our way forward in combating climate change. Looking ahead, we will continue to work closely with the Committee on various energy policy matters, including further promotion of the development of renewable energy as well as energy efficiency and conservation in the community," he said.

Mr Wong also expressed his gratitude to the 10 retiring members, Mr Victor Cheung Chi-kong, Ms Susanna Chiu Lai-kuen, Mr Andrew Fung Hau-chung, Mr Christopher Law Kin-chung, Mr Alfred Lee Tak-kong, Dr Guy Look, Dr Luk Bing-lam, Dr Billy Mak Sui-choi, Mr Stanley Wong Yuen-fai and Dr William Yu Yuen-ping, for their support and service in the past years, and welcomed 10 new members to the Committee, namely Dr Andrew Chan Chi-fai, Ms Natalie Chan, Dr Vincent Cheng Sai-yau, Dr Cheung Chi-wah, Ms Linda Ho Wai-ping, Mr Ellis Lau Ying-tung, Ms Ivy Lee Siu-wing, Ms Christina Tang Pik-han, Mr Conrad Wong Tin-cheung and Mr Ryan Yeung Shun-cheung.

The Committee advises the Government on energy policy, including policy matters concerning energy supply and demand, energy conservation and efficiency, and other related matters.

The full membership of the Committee is as follows:

- * Mr Jimmy Kwok Chun-wah (Chairman)
Professor Andrew Chan Chi-fai
- * Ms Clara Chan Yuen-shan
Ms Natalie Chan
Dr Vincent Cheng Sai-yau
- * Ms Vena Cheng Wei-yan
Dr Cheung Chi-wah
- * Professor Fung Tung
Ms Linda Ho Wai-ping
- * Mr Wilson Kwong Wing-tsuen
- * Mr James Lam Yat-fung
Mr Ellis Lau Ying-tung
Ms Ivy Lee Siu-wing
- * Ms Rerina Or Siu-ching

- Ms Christina Tang Pik-han
 - * Mr Cliff Tang Wing-chun
 - * Mr Luther Wong Lok-tak
 - Mr Conrad Wong Tin-cheung
 - * Mr Thomas Jefferson Wu
 - Mr Ryan Yeung Shun-cheung
 - * Permanent Secretary for the Environment/Director of Environmental Protection or representative
 - * Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services or representative

 - * serving members
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Analytical Accounts of the Exchange Fund

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) released today (July 13) the key analytical accounts of the Exchange Fund at the end of June 2018.

Foreign assets, representing the external assets of the Exchange Fund, decreased during the month by HK\$0.5 billion to HK\$3,539.5 billion.

The Monetary Base, comprising Certificates of Indebtedness, Government-issued currency notes and coins in circulation, the balance of the banking system and Exchange Fund Bills and Notes issued, amounted to HK\$1,652.1 billion.

Claims on the private sector in Hong Kong amounted to HK\$212.9 billion.

The analytical accounts of the Exchange Fund are released in accordance with the International Monetary Fund's Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) and are referred to as the Analytical Accounts of the Central Bank under SDDS (Annex).

At present, four press releases relating to the Exchange Fund's data are issued by the HKMA each month. Three of these releases are issued to disseminate monetary data in accordance with the SDDS. The fourth press release, on the Exchange Fund's Abridged Balance Sheet and Currency Board Account, is made in accordance with the HKMA's policy of maintaining a high level of transparency. For the month of July 2018, the scheduled dates for issuing the press releases are as follows:

July 6 (Issued)	SDDS International Reserves (Hong Kong's Latest Foreign Currency Reserve Assets Figures)
July 13	SDDS Analytical Accounts of the Central Bank (Analytical Accounts of the Exchange Fund)
July 31	SDDS Template on International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity
July 31	Exchange Fund Abridged Balance Sheet and Currency Board Account

Draft Mong Kok Outline Zoning Plan amended

The Town Planning Board today (July 13) announced amendments to the draft Mong Kok Outline Zoning Plan (OZP).

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The Board's decisions on two representations were the subjects of judicial reviews (JRs). According to the Court's ruling on one of the JRs, the Board's decisions on the related representation had to be remitted to the Board for consideration. The Board has reviewed the development restrictions, including building height restrictions and requirements of non-building area, and setback and building gap for various development zones, taking into account the implications of various building and design guidelines, permissible development intensity, as well as planning, air ventilation and urban design aspects to provide flexibility for future redevelopments.

The Board has now made amendments to the OZP as outlined in the Schedule of Amendments. The amendments mainly involve revisions of building height restrictions for various development zones; rezoning of the government sites at Sai Yee Street mainly from "Government, Institution or Community" and "Other Specified Uses" ("OU") annotated "Multi-storey Car/Lorry Park" to "Commercial (4)"; amendment to the development requirements for a site at the junction of Shanghai Street and Soy Street; and incorporation of "Art Studio (excluding those involving direct provision of services or goods)" as a Column 1 use in Schedule II of the "OU" annotated "Business" and "Residential (Group E)" zones and corresponding amendment to replace "Place of Recreation, Sports or Culture" under Column 2 by "Place of Recreation, Sports or Culture (not elsewhere specified)". Opportunity is also taken to amend the Notes and Explanatory Statement of the OZP to reflect the above amendments and to update the general information on various land use zonings and the planning circumstances, where appropriate.

The draft Mong Kok OZP No. S/K3/31, incorporating the amendments, is now available for public inspection during office hours at the Secretariat of the Board, the Planning Enquiry Counters of the Planning Department in North Point and Sha Tin, the Tsuen Wan and West Kowloon District Planning Office, and the Yau Tsim Mong District Office.

Any person may make written representation in respect of the amendments to the Secretary of the Board on or before September 13. Representations made to the Board will be available for public inspection.

Copies of the draft Mong Kok OZP are available for sale at the Map Publications Centres in North Point and Yau Ma Tei. The electronic version of the OZP can be viewed at the Board's website (www.info.gov.hk/tpb).

Appointment to Advisory Committee on Post-service Employment of Civil Servants

The Government announced today (July 13) that the Chief Executive has appointed Mr Thomas Ho On-sing as a member of the Advisory Committee on Post-service Employment of Civil Servants (ACPE) for a term of two years from July 17, 2018 to July 16, 2020.

The Chief Executive has also re-appointed Professor Wong Sze-chun and Mr Stanley Wong Yuen-fai as members of the ACPE for a term of two years from September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2020.

The Government expressed its sincere appreciation to the retiring member, Mrs Jean Au Yeung Lui Miu-kwan, for her invaluable contributions to the work of the Committee.

The ACPE advises the Government on matters relating to the post-service employment of civil servants. It is chaired by Mr Vincent Lo Wing-sang. Other serving members are Mr Walter Chan Kar-lok, Mr Francis Mok Gar-lon, Mrs Ava Ng Tse Suk-ying, Mr Herbert Tsoi Hak-kong and Ms Melissa Wu. Its secretariat support is provided by the Joint Secretariat for the Advisory Bodies on Civil Service and Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service.

Second Troupe of China National Peking Opera Company to stage "A Showcase of Cheng School Classics"

The Second Troupe of the China National Peking Opera Company will perform in the final highlight of the Chinese Opera Festival, "A Showcase of Cheng School Classics".

The Cheng school was founded by one of the "Four Great Actors in 'Dan' (female) Roles" in Peking opera, Cheng Yanqiu. The singing art of the Cheng school is highly distinctive and is particularly skilful in singing with a tone projected from the back of the head. The singing style fully highlights the contrasts of high and low, and between strong and weak, creating a soulful appeal.

The year 2018 marked the 60th anniversary of the passing of Cheng Yanqiu. In order to commemorate this virtuoso, the Second Troupe of the China National Peking Opera Company is bringing three full-length plays to audiences. All three plays are headlined by Li Haiyan, a renowned "qingyi" (virtuous female) role actress of the Cheng school and a winner of the Plum Blossom Award for Chinese Theatre. She presents the uniquely stylish vocal style, visual expressions, stylised movements, footwork, hand gestures, sleeve movements and more of the Cheng school fully on stage.

The programme includes the beautifully sung "Consort Mei" created by Cheng in 1925. The work has not been presented on a Hong Kong stage for a long time. Different from the well-known story of Imperial Concubine Yang Yuhuan and Emperor Xuanzong of Tang presented by the Mei school, this repertoire depicts the sad emotions between Consort Mei and the Emperor through the interpretation of the Cheng school. "The Unicorn Pouch" is a classic play of the Cheng school and is characterised by sophisticated singing and a variety of "ban" patterns. It is a classic that demonstrates the vocal style and the art of stylised movements of the Cheng school. "Anecdotes about Empress Wu Zetian" is a grand production written by Li Shiji in the 1990s. Li was a disciple of Cheng and received personal training from the master. Li Haiyan has inherited the art and received personal supervision from the late Li Shiji in her rehearsal of the play, and she is currently the only Cheng school bearer of this repertoire.

Details of the performances are as follows:

August 10 (Friday): "Consort Mei"

August 11 (Saturday): "The Unicorn Pouch"

August 12 (Sunday): "Anecdotes about Empress Wu Zetian"

All performances will be staged at 7.30pm at the Grand Theatre of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Tickets priced at \$150, \$250, \$350 and \$450 are

now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk).

For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7325 or visit www.cof.gov.hk.

A Meet-the-Artists session entitled "Boundless Ideas of the Cheng School – A Tribute to My Great Mentor Madam Li Shiji" (in Putonghua) featuring Li Haiyan and with Chinese opera researcher Chan Chun-miu as moderator will be held at 7.30pm on August 9 (Thursday) at AC2, Level 4, Administration Building, Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Admission is free. Limited seats will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.