Fisheries Enhancement Fund Meeting of the Management Committee held on 13 November 2024 at 2:30 pm

Notes of the Meeting

The seventeenth meeting of the Management Committee (MC) of the Fisheries Enhancement Fund (FEF) was held on 13 November 2024. The meeting was commenced at 2:30 pm and ended at 5:00 pm.

Present:

Prof Jonathan WONG (FEF MC Chairperson) Mr Siu Keung CHEUNG (FEF MC member) Mr King Hang CHUI (FEF MC member) Dr Loby HAU (FEF MC member) (FEF MC member) Ms Ka Ling PO Dr Wing Kwong YAU (FEF MC member) Mr Sheung Chun YEUNG (FEF MC member) Mr Lawrence TSUI (FEF MC member) Mr Peter LEE (Secretary-General [Airport Authority (AA)])

(Secretariat [ERM-Hong Kong, Limited (ERM)])

Absent with Apologies:

Dr Jasmine NG

Mr Pok Chi CHAN	(FEF MC member)
Dr James FANG	(FEF MC member)
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin	(FEF MC member)
Mr Hon Wah KWOK	(FEF MC member)
Dr Patsy WONG	(FEF MC member)

In Attendance:

Ms Amy WONG (Secretariat [AA])
Ms Naomi YU (Secretariat [AA])
Ms Monique YIP (Secretariat [ERM])
Ms Clary Lau (Secretariat [ERM])

Agenda Item 1 – Matters arising from Last Meeting

- The Chairperson welcomed all the Members to the meeting. The Chairperson asked if Members had any concerned matters arising from the previous FEF MC meeting held on 16 May 2024. No members raised any concerns. The Chairperson concluded that there were no matters arising from the last FEF MC meeting.
- The Chairperson mentioned that the Secretariat circulated the draft minutes
 of the last meeting to all Members for review and the minutes were
 subsequently accepted on 12 November 2024. The Chairperson had
 signed the finalised meeting minutes and the minutes would be uploaded
 onto the dedicated website.

Agenda Item 2 – Discussion of existing FEF Funded Projects

a. Overview of FEF Funded Projects (Year 2021/22 to 2024/25)

3. The Secretariat briefed Members on the status of ongoing funded projects and reminded Members of the anticipated dates for reviewing the Progress and Completion Reports. The Secretariat also stated that those Reports would be sent to the Members without conflict of interest for review.

b. Completed Funded Projects (Year 2022/23)

4. The Secretariat briefed Members on the status and outcomes of the completed funded projects for Year 2022/23, including FEF2022001– Study on Antioxidant Function of Hong Kong Pearl Oyster (*Pinctada imbricata*) Powder.

Agenda Item 3 – Assessment of FEF Applications (Year $2024/25 - 2^{nd}$ Round)

- 5. The Secretariat briefed Members on nine new applications received for the 2nd round of applications for Year 2024/25. Summaries of the new project applications were presented to the Members for reference.
- 6. The Chairperson stated that the order of discussion would be in ascending

order of application reference numbers and the Secretariat had provided the anonymous assessment scores to all Members before the meeting for discussion purpose. Prior to the discussion of each project application, the Secretariat would recap the comments of assessors for Members' reference. Members with potential conflict of interest were invited to leave the meeting room prior to the discussion of the respective applications.

7. After Members' discussion on all the new applications, the Secretariat concluded that there was one application approved, and two applications approved with conditions. The Secretariat would contact and follow up with the successful and unsuccessful applicants according to the discussion outcomes of the meeting and Members' comments.

Agenda Item 4 – Review of Funds Programme and Operation

- 8. The Secretariat presented the arrangement of the abolishment of multipleyears applications from FY25/26 onward proposed by the Secretariat and the corresponding updates on the FEF operation documents.
- 9. After discussing with Members, the Chairperson concluded Members' comments and agreed that the arrangements of multi-year projects would be abolished. The final decision of the FEF MC meeting would be reviewed and approved in the Steering Committee (SC) meeting to be held in mid-December this year.

Agenda Item 5 – Funding Theme for Year 2025/26 Application

10. The Chairperson led the discussion with Members on the funding theme for Year 2025/26. The Secretariat introduced the current direction of the fund and the funding theme for Year 2024/25 was "Increasing fishermen active participation; Facilitating the modernisation of the fisheries industry". A Member suggested modifying the theme to "Increasing fishermen active participation; Facilitating the technological innovation of the fisheries industry". All Members agreed.

Agenda Item 6 – Anticipated Timeline of Activities for the Next Half-year Period

11. The Secretariat explained to Members about the anticipated timeline of activities for the next half-year period and mentioned that the funding agreement for the newly approved application would be signed before January 2025 and the project would commence on 1 January 2025. Due to the need to seek approval of the SC on the updated funds programme and operation in the SC meeting to be held in mid December 2024, the next round of application was anticipated to be opened from 16 December 2024. The assessment for the new applications received on or before 15 February 2025 would be conducted from April to May 2025. Progress/ Completion Reports of the ongoing funded projects would be collected from January to February 2025. The Secretariat also mentioned about the anticipated dates for the next FEF MC and SC meetings.

Agenda Item 7 – Tentative Schedule of Next Meeting

12. The Secretariat mentioned that the next FEF MC meeting would be held in April / May 2025. The key objectives of the meeting would be to approve MC Approved Funding from approved Budget of Year 2025/26; to consider each application and recommend to SC; to prepare the FEF MC Recommended Funding Application to SC; and to discuss collated Progress Reports from project leaders.

Agenda Item 8 – Any Other Business

- 13. The Secretariat introduced to Members the publicity events that AA would conduct next year for the designation of the North Lantau Marine Park at the end of year 2024 and other fisheries enhancement measures.
- 14. The Chairperson confirmed with Members that there was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

(Chairperson's Signature)