

Fisheries Enhancement Fund
Meeting of the Management Committee
held on 14 November 2023 at 2:30 pm

Notes of the Meeting

The fifteenth meeting of the Management Committee (MC) of the Fisheries Enhancement Fund (FEF) was held on 14 November 2023. The meeting was commenced at 2:30 pm and ended at 4:10 pm.

Present:

Prof Jonathan WONG	(FEF MC Chairperson)
Mr Jonathan CHAN	(FEF MC member)
Mr Siu Keung CHEUNG	(FEF MC member)
Mr Loby HAU	(FEF MC member)
Ms Ka Ling PO	(FEF MC member)
Dr Patsy WONG	(FEF MC member)
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)])
Dr Jasmine NG	(Secretariat [ERM-Hong Kong, Limited (ERM)])

Absent with Apologies:

Mr King Hang CHUI	(FEF MC member)
Dr James FANG	(FEF MC member)
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin	(FEF MC member)
Mr Hon Wah KWOK	(FEF MC member)

In Attendance:

Ms Amy WONG	(Secretariat [AA])
Ms Naomi YU	(Secretariat [AA])
Ms Sherrie FUNG	(Secretariat [ERM])
Ms Jessica YAU	(Secretariat [ERM])

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Agenda Item 1 – Matters arising from Last Meeting

1. 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 2023. No members raised any concerns. The Chairperson concluded that there were no matters arising from the last FEF MC meeting.
2. 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 25 September 2023. 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

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 2021/22)

4. The Secretariat briefed Members on the status and outcomes of the completed funded projects for Year 2021/22, including FEF2020009/009A – Development of a High-protein Fish Feed enriched with Selenium and FEF2021003 – Study on the Detoxification Function of Hong Kong Pearl Oyster (*Pinctada imbricata*) Powder.

Agenda Item 3 – Application for Project Extension (Multiple-year Projects)

5. The Secretariat summarised the application for the Project Extension (Multiple-year Projects) to Members and reported that the total approved annual budget for FEF applications for Year 2023/24 was HK\$14.04M.

6. The Chairperson concluded Members' comments and the application was approved with conditions.

Agenda Item 4 – Assessment of FEF Applications (Year 2023/24 – 2nd Round)

7. The Secretariat briefed Members on three new applications received for the 2nd round of applications for Year 2023/24. Summaries of the new project applications were presented to the Members for reference.
8. 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.
9. After Members' discussion on all the new applications, the Secretariat concluded that there was one application approved with conditions. The Secretariat would contact and follow up with the successful and unsuccessful applicant according to the discussion outcomes of the meeting and Members' comments.

Agenda Item 5 – Funding Theme for Year 2024/25 Application

10. The Chairperson led the discussion with Members on the funding theme for Year 2024/25. The Secretariat introduced the current direction of the fund and the funding theme for Year 2024/25 was "Increasing fishermen active participation; Facilitating the upgrade and transition of fishing industry". The Chairperson suggested incorporating the term "modernisation of the fisheries industry" into the funding theme in response to the policy address. After discussion, all Members agreed the funding theme for Year 2024/25 as "Increasing fishermen active participation; Facilitating the modernisation of the fisheries industry".

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 2024 and the project would commence on 1 January 2024. Application for new projects for Year 2024/25 was anticipated to be opened from 1 December 2023. New applications received on or before 31 January 2024 would be considered in the assessment for the 1st round of application which would be conducted from April to May 2024. Progress/Completion Reports of the ongoing funded projects would be collected from January to February 2024. The Secretariat also mentioned about the anticipated dates for the next FEF MC and Steering Committee (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 2024. The key objectives of the meeting would be to approve MC Approved Funding from approved Budget of Year 2024/25; 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 presented the minor enhancement on the FEF operation documents suggested by the Secretariat to streamline the funding process, and asked Members for agreement on the revision. All Members agreed.
14. The Chairperson confirmed with Members that there was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.



(Chairperson's Signature)