WOMEN'S COMMISSION Hong Kong 2030: Planning Vision and Strategy

INTRODUCTION

This paper invites Members' comments on the key strategic planning issues and evaluation criteria for the Hong Kong 2030: Planning Vision and Strategy Study (HK 2030 Study).

BACKGROUND

- 2. Four stages of public consultation are planned for the Hong Kong 2030 Study. The stage one consultation, on planning objectives and key study areas, was completed in April 2001 and a Public Consultation Report was released in November 2001.
- 3. This is the stage two consultation, covering nine strategic planning issues that are important to the formulation of a range of development options for Hong Kong in the run-up to 2030 and the assumptions and criteria that should be used to construct and evaluate the development options.

Stage Two Consultation Documents

- 4. The nine strategic planning issues that have been identified for this consultation are:
 - (a) How should we plan for a more mobile population resulting from closer socio-economic integration with the Mainland?
 - (b) A land bank for special economic activities?
 - (c) Re-use of obsolete industrial buildings for non-industrial purposes?
 - (d) Where should new development areas be located, and what should be the development density?

- (e) How can we provide more jobs closer to homes?
- (f) How can the planning system better facilitate information technology industries?
- (g) How should we better plan for essential but unwelcome facilities?
- (h) How should we better plan for waterfront uses?
- (i) Permitting well-managed recreation and sporting activities in our reservoirs?

The evaluation will be subject to five streams of assessment: economic, environmental, land use planning, social and transport. The evaluation criteria of development option as set out in the Stage Two Consultation Digest are as follows:-

Economic

- (a) To enhance Hong Kong's potential for economic growth and ensure efficient use of resources
 - enhance GDP
 - strengthen the economic base
 - maximize benefit-to-cost ratio
 - provide more land for economic activities

Environmental

- (b) To enhance environmental quality and conserve natural and heritage resources
 - minimise air pollutant emissions to improve overall air quality
 - minimise exposure to roadside air pollution
 - minimise noise exposure
 - minimise exposure to potentially hazardous installations
 - minimise impacts on the quality of fresh and marine waters
 - minimise impacts on areas with ecological, heritage and landscape values
 - minimise use of greenfield sites and reclaimed land
 - minimise construction and demolition materials production

Land Use Planning

- (c) To ensure an optimized land use pattern which can meet various land requirements
 - adequate provision of living quarters to meet housing demand
 - adequate provision of land to meet various other development needs
 - balanced distribution of employment and housing land
 - adequate provision of infrastructure facilities to meet various development needs
 - foster socio-economic linkage with the Mainland

Social

- (d) To ensure access to major facilities and to foster community bonds
 - optimise population density
 - minimise the impacts and the number of persons affected by urban renewal and clearance
 - increase employment opportunities

Transport

- (e) To ensure a safe, reliable, efficient, economically viable and environmentally friendly transport system to enhance mobility within Hong Kong and across the boundary
 - enhance the safety, reliability and efficiency of the transport system
 - minimise adverse vehicle-related environmental impacts
 - minimise travel distance and time
 - promote the usage of public transport services
 - promote walking for short distance travel
 - promote better use of railways

A copy of the consultative document is at Annex.

Study Approach

5. Hong Kong 2030 Study aims to provide a framework under which we will address systematically how much, what type and where land for development should be provided. The Study adopted an integrated approach to embrace social, economic and environmental considerations. We seek to promote sustainable development so as to achieve most desirable and satisfactory

outcomes for all sectors of our society.

6. Members may note that a gender-neutral approach has been adopted for the Study. The Study intends to provide a broad strategic planning framework, under which the detailed planning and design will address the needs of women. Planning Department always adopts a people-oriented approach in planning for the community and be sensitive to the needs of different sectors in our society.

ADVICE SOUGHT

- 7. Members are invited to:-
 - (a) note the contents of the Planning Department on Hong Kong 2030: Planning Vision and Strategy Study Stage 2 Public Consultation Digest and Supplementary Note; and
 - (b) consider and comment on the key strategic planning issues and evaluation criteria on the Study.

Planning Department January 2002