

**Commission on Poverty (CoP)**  
**Meeting held on 27 March 2006**  
**Gist of Discussion**

The Commission on Poverty held its eighth meeting on 27 March 2006.

**Item (1) Budget Initiatives (CoP Paper 4/2006)**

2. Members were updated on the initiatives relating to employment assistance and social enterprise development, as well as the additional funding in helping the disadvantaged in the Budget 2006/07.

**Item (2) Work Incentives for Working Poor – Transport Support For Those Living in Remote Areas (CoP Paper 5/2006)**

3. Members discussed the major considerations and the possible implications in providing transport support for the working poor living in remote areas and having to work across districts. They suggested that the Administration should consider how to provide longer-term travelling support to low-income employees living in remote areas. It was also agreed that in the short-term, the Administration would consider suitable pilots within the financial year 2006/07. In the long run, the CoP would consider the policy interface with other existing support to working poor. In this regard, the Health, Welfare and Food Bureau would do a presentation on disregarded earnings arrangement at the next meeting.

**Item (3) District Study on Employment Assistance (CoP Paper 6/2006)**

4. Members were briefed on the discussion of the Task Force on District-based Approach on the Report on District Study on Employment Assistance. There was broad consensus among Members on the key objectives and key directions set out in the Report, especially on strengthening service interfaces and district networks. As a next step, the CoP Secretariat would follow up with relevant agencies on the recommendations and report progress to the CoP after six months' time. The Report would also be sent to Members of the Legislative Council and 18 District Councils for reference.

**Item (4) LegCo's Report on Working Poverty (CoP Paper 7/2006)**

5. Members took note of the response of the Administration to the LegCo's Report on Working Poverty and noted that there was consensus between the Administration and the Legislative Council on the direction and broad measures to support the working poor.

Commission Secretariat  
March 2006