

## **COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD**

### **Summary Report of the Marine Parks Committee**

#### **1. Purpose**

1.1 This paper aims to inform members of the major issues discussed at the Marine Parks Committee (MPC) meeting held on 15 July 2021.

#### **2. Hong Kong Marine Classroom - Education and Publicity Activities in 2021**

2.1 The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) briefed members on its public education programmes on marine biodiversity in 2021.

2.2 During the discussion session, members made a number of suggestions concerning the public education programmes. Regarding the content of the programmes, members suggested strengthening the promotion of the effectiveness of marine parks in conserving marine biodiversity and raising public awareness of the marine litter issue. They also suggested organizing courses for fishermen during the fishing moratorium to enhance their knowledge of marine parks and marine conservation. Besides, members supported AFCD to continue to promote citizen scientist programmes to engage the public in scientific studies on marine biodiversity and further deepen their knowledge of the subject. To review the effectiveness of the public education programmes, members suggested that the participants should be invited to evaluate the programmes and suggest areas of improvement. AFCD noted members' suggestions.

#### **3. Hoi Ha Visitor Centre - Operational Phase**

3.1 AFCD briefed members on the work progress of the Hoi Ha Visitor Centre (the Centre), which was officially opened on 8 June 2021. AFCD's contractor for

providing service on the management and operation of the Centre, World Wide Fund for Nature - Hong Kong (WWF-HK), elaborated on the operation of the Centre, education services and other activities under planning.

3.2 During the discussion session, AFCD and the representative of WWF-HK answered members' questions concerning the profile of visitors, and the cooperation between the Centre and other local ecotourism venues, including the Jockey Club HSBC WWF Hong Kong Hoi Ha Marine Life Centre. Members suggested that AFCD could design tours and activities specifically targeted at families and children, as well as those providing an in-depth coverage of the marine environment and history of Hoi Ha Wan for adults. To enrich visitors' experience in Hoi Ha, members recommended that the Centre could suggest different hiking routes to visitors of varying background and interests. AFCD noted members' suggestions.

#### **4. Presentation**

4.1 This paper is prepared for members' information.

Country and Marine Parks Authority  
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