

Country and Marine Parks Board
Confirmed Minutes of the 87th Meeting

Date : 30 May 2025 (Friday)

File Ref: AF CPA 01/1/0

Time : 3 p.m.

Venue : Room 701, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) Headquarters

PRESENT

Chairman

Professor LING Kar-kan, SBS

Members Attending in Person

Mr CHEUNG Siu-keung, BBS, MH

Professor LI Xin

Mr LO Pui-lam

Professor QIU Jianwen

Mr SHUM Si-ki

Mr Henry YAU Yik-chung

Mr Mickey LAI Kin-ming, JP

Director, AFCD

Mr YAU Sai-yuen

Chief Leisure Manager (Management), Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Desmond WU Chia-chun

Principal Assistant Secretary (Nature Conservation), Environment and Ecology Bureau

Members Attending via Zoom Video Conferencing

Miss Natalie CHUNG Sum-yue

Professor Desmond HUI Cheuk-kuen

Dr Caroline LAW Man-yee	
Mr Ian LEUNG Kin-wai	
Dr Angie NG Ying-sim	
Mr Alex WONG Lap-kei	
Mr Randy YU Hon-kwan, MH, JP	Assistant Director (2), Home Affairs Department
Ms Vriko YU Pik-fan	Assistant Director (Specialist 2) (Lands Administration Office/Headquarters), Lands Department
Ms Jenny CHAN Wai-man, JP	Senior Engineer/Planning Policy 1, Water Supplies Department
Miss Sapphire LO Pui-yiu	
Mr CHIU Man-fat	Senior Engineer/Planning Policy 1, Water Supplies Department
Mr Brandon HUNG Chi-wai	Town Planner/New Territories District Planning Division Headquarters 2, Planning Department
Mr JIANG Guifu	General Manager/Operations, Marine Department

Secretary

Ms Lily CHEUNG Man-lee	Assistant Secretary (Boards)1, AFCD
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IN ATTENDANCE

AFCD

Dr Jackie YIP Yin	Assistant Director (Country Parks)
Dr Jim CHU Chun-wa	Assistant Director (Fisheries and Marine Conservation)
Ms Aidia CHAN Sin-wai	Senior Country Parks Officer (Ranger Services)1
Ms Louise LI Wai-hung	Senior Marine Parks Officer
Ms Anna SITU Ying-yi	Senior Marine Conservation Officer (East) (Acting)
Ms Karen PO Ka-wai	Country Parks Ranger Services Officer (Special Projects)2

For Agenda II Only

AFCD

Mr Simon CHAN Kin-fung	Assistant Director (Conservation)
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Dr Flora MOK Siu-yan	Senior Conservation Officer (Biodiversity)
Dr Fiona WONG Ka-yu	Conservation Officer (Biodiversity)3

ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES

Dr Apple CHUI Pui-yi	
Dr Jeffrey HUNG Oi-shing	
Mr Patrick LAI Chuen-chi	Deputy Director, AFCD

OPENING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

29/25 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

30/25 The Chairman informed Members that, as an established practice, audio recording would be made during the meeting to facilitate the taking of minutes. It would be destroyed after the confirmation of the minutes.

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Confirmation of Minutes of the 86th Meeting held on 26 February 2025

31/25 The minutes of the 86th meeting held on 26 February 2025 were confirmed without amendments.

**II. Implementation Progress and Update of the Hong Kong Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
(Working Paper: WP/CMPB/5/2025)**

(Mr Simon CHAN Kin-fung, Dr Flora MOK Siu-yan and Dr Fiona WONG Ka-yu joined the meeting at this juncture.)

32/25 With a PowerPoint presentation, Dr Flora MOK Siu-yan introduced the implementation progress of the Hong Kong Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) and the updates.

33/25 A Member considered that the wild pig population on Lantau Island was excessive and could threaten the survival of other wildlife if left uncontrolled. He enquired whether the BSAP included specific measures to proactively address the wild boar issue.

34/25 A Member noted that the use of native plant species in urban greening was proposed in the BSAP back in 2015, but their actual implementation over the past decade was limited. She asked whether the Government would promote the use of native plant species and suggested making reference to the overseas policy on “no-net-loss of biodiversity”, which required restoration to the original ecological condition after project completion. She also expressed concern about whether the relevant items under BSAP had received funding support from the Government.

35/25 A Member suggested that the AFCD assume a leading role in setting the specific targets for habitat restoration in Hong Kong, including the sites to be restored and their area, and foster cross-sector collaboration. She also enquired whether the AFCD would collaborate with local think tanks or enterprises in exploring the application of green technology and green finance, and suggested incorporating biodiversity conservation into the requirements and guidelines for environmental impact assessments.

36/25 Mr Simon CHAN Kin-fung said that the AFCD had implemented measures to capture wild pigs for humane dispatch since 2021, and was studying the formulation of a systematic wild animal management programme, focusing on wild pigs and monkeys. He emphasised that biodiversity mainstreaming required joint participation of various government departments and the community. Currently, the Government had been co-operating with a number of organisations in integrating the biodiversity guidelines into different areas. In addition to bidding for funds from the appropriate channels, he suggested mobilising social resources to support the relevant work in accordance with the recommendations of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), including exploring the possibility of introducing innovative financial mechanisms such as sustainable bonds so as to channel funds into biodiversity projects.

37/25 A Member suggested consolidating the views collected into a checklist, formulating a priority action plan and specific measures and providing a quantitative method to

evaluate the effectiveness, upon the completion of the two-month public consultation. He suggested that the AFCD lead collaborative projects with various organisations, such as fish restocking exercises in collaboration with the Airport Authority Hong Kong. He also suggested making reference to Singapore and establishing a natural history museum to showcase precious biospecimen.

38/25 A Member opined that each strategic area was rich in content and suggested setting work priorities and the related key performance indicators upon completion of the consultation. He suggested carrying out publicity and promotion through different channels to allow the public to have a full understanding of the achievements made during the implementation of the BSAP.

39/25 Noting that the marine resources were depleting gradually, a Member enquired whether the AFCD had employed technology to restore the natural environment and suggested that the Government set clear work directions with its partners and explore the feasibility of involving fishermen in relevant conservation work.

40/25 A Member supported the establishment of a natural history museum and suggested interconnecting the three major topics of “nature-based solutions”, biodiversity conservation and climate change covered in the KMGBF with a view to enhancing public education.

41/25 The Chairman enquired how to promote biodiversity in the urban area and how to foster cross-sector collaboration. He supported the establishment of a natural history museum or biodiversity museum managed by the AFCD in the Northern Metropolis as the base for nature conservation and environmental education.

42/25 Mr Simon CHAN Kin-fung responded that in the first phase of the BSAP, a proposal had been put forward to study the establishment of a natural history museum. In view of the complexity of the preparatory work, the feasibility of the proposal would continue to be explored in the updated BSAP. He said that the updated BSAP would include specific actions and effectiveness assessments, with adjustments enabled according to actual circumstances. The achievements yielded in the first phase of the BSAP were mainly reported to the Advisory Council on the Environment. Moving forward, the AFCD would enhance the publicity of the BSAP through different channels. The AFCD had commenced the mainstreaming of biodiversity within the Government in the first phase of the BSAP. In the next phase, it would deepen cross-sector collaboration and extend mainstreaming effort to

different sectors of society, with a view to implementing the directions proposed in the KMGBF and the China National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (2023-2030).

43/25 The Chairman suggested fostering cross-boundary collaboration in areas such as Shenzhen Bay, Robin's Nest, Mirs Bay and the marine protected area around the airport and invited Members to provide further comments to the AFCD at any time.

(Mr Simon CHAN Kin-fung, Dr Flora MOK Siu-yan and Dr Fiona WONG Ka-yu
left the meeting at 4:07 p.m.)

III. Accessible Routes in Country Parks
(Working Paper: WP/CMPB/6/2025)

44/25 With a PowerPoint presentation, Ms Karen PO Ka-wai briefed Members on the existing and new accessible routes in country parks.

45/25 A Member said that the existing facilities were not easily accessible to baby strollers. She suggested that consideration should be also given to the needs of those who use baby strollers in future barrier-free improvement works.

46/25 A Member enquired whether barrier-free access would be provided for other physically-challenged persons in addition to wheelchair users, such as those visually impaired. He suggested that the AFCD co-operate with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and invite them to try using the new facilities so as to enhance the publicity and promotion of these facilities.

47/25 A Member believed that more signage for wheelchair users was needed to provide information such as directions to the routes and the expected duration.

48/25 A Member mentioned that there were many monuments in country parks, and opined that the provision of barrier-free access would facilitate wheelchair users' visits to such monuments.

49/25 The Chairman supported people-oriented measures and pointed out that, since there were more cyclists riding at higher speed in the vicinity of the dam of Plover Cove Reservoir in Tai Mei Tuk, it was necessary to clearly indicate barrier-free access facilities in

order to protect the safety of users. He suggested indicating the length and the approximate duration of the routes, designing new signage to remind users to walk slowly and mark clearly the access for wheelchair users and strollers, providing rest areas, as well as incorporating educational elements into the routes, such as introducing visitors to the geological features and flora, to enhance their enjoyment. He also suggested launching accessible routes at Long Valley Nature Park.

50/25 Ms Aidia CHAN Sin-wai said that NGOs dedicated to the welfare of wheelchair users had been consulted on the designs of the accessible routes and trials had been conducted. The routes were suitable not only for wheelchair users but also for families and the elderly. The AFCD would actively collaborate with NGOs to promote the accessible routes, while continuing to identify suitable routes and scenic spots for developing accessible routes, and incorporate barrier-free elements into its facilities.

**IV. Summary Report of the Country Parks Committee
(Working Paper: WP/CMPB/7/2025)**

51/25 Mr LO Pui-lam, Chairman of the Country Parks Committee (CPC), briefed Members on Working Paper WP/CMPB/7/2025, which provided a summary of the issues discussed at the CPC meeting held on 6 March 2025. Members noted the report.

**V. Summary Report of the Marine Parks Committee
(Working Paper: WP/CMPB/8/2025)**

52/25 Professor QIU Jianwen, Chairman of the Marine Parks Committee (MPC), briefed Members on Working Paper WP/CMPB/8/2025, which provided a summary of the issues discussed at the MPC meeting held on 13 May 2025. Members noted the report.

**VI. Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report
(Working Paper: WP/CMPB/9/2025)**

53/25 Dr Jackie YIP-yin presented the Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report for the period from 1 January to 30 April 2025 (Working Paper: WP/CMPB/9/2025).

54/25 A Member expressed concern that the number of cases of illegal camping was higher than that of other illegal activities in country parks, and enquired how the AFCD would address the issue.

55/25 Dr Jackie YIP-yin pointed out that the situation regarding illegal camping in country parks had improved as compared with several years ago. The AFCD would continue to conduct inspections and take enforcement action at hot spots of illegal camping, while continuing to undertake public education initiatives.

VII. Any Other Business

(a) Vote of Thanks

56/25 This was the last regular meeting of the current term (1 September 2023 – 31 August 2025). Mr Mickey LAI Kin-ming, JP thanked the Chairman and members for their enthusiastic support of the work of the Board. The Chairman also expressed gratitude to Members for their contributions.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

57/25 The Chairman informed Members that the Secretary would notify them of the date of the next meeting in due course.

58/25 The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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