

**Commission on Poverty (CoP)**  
**Meeting held on 25 November 2005**  
**Gist of Discussion**

The Commission on Poverty held its sixth meeting on 25 November 2005.

**Item (1) “Reinforcing the District-Based Approach (CoP Paper 25/2005)**

2. The Meeting discussed ways to reinforce the district-based approach. Members supported that subject to the passage of the relevant legislation implementing the Personalized Vehicle Registration Marks (PVRM) Scheme, part of the PVRM proceeds would be used as additional funding to districts to encourage sustainable poverty alleviation initiatives at district level. Members also endorsed the setting up of a new Task Force (“Task Force”) on District-based Approach to be chaired by Dr. Chi-kwong LAW.

3. The Meeting considered that Task Force should focus on the long-term strategy to implement the district-based approach taking into account the results of the district study, the experience of the three pilot districts and other relevant programmes.

**Item (2) “Indicators of Poverty – An Update” (CoP Paper 26/2005)**

4. Members were briefed on a refined set of poverty indicators developed by the Government Economist. Members generally considered the indicators comprehensive and useful. They noted that the macro indicators would be used to facilitate policy planning and monitoring of the trend. The indicators would be developmental in nature and would be reviewed and revised in accordance with changing needs. They considered that the health data of different social groups and the poverty situation of the elderly poor should be taken into account in future refinement. Members also noted that most of the indicators showed visible improvements in many areas, such as employment,

education level of young people and living condition of children and the elderly, etc.

**Item (3) Summary of Update of Work (February – August 2005) (CoP Paper 27/2005)**

5. The Meeting noted the Progress Report of the CoP, which provided an overview of the progress of work made during the last few months by the CoP, as well as policies and initiatives of relevant bureaux and departments in the aforesaid period. Members were updated in particular on the follow-up actions to promote social enterprises to assist the unemployed to move from welfare to self-reliance. They were also updated on the latest development of "My STEP", a district pilot to tackle the hardcore unemployed youths who have received Comprehensive Social Security Assistance for a long time.

Commission Secretariat

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