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ACE Paper 4/2023

For information on 20 March 2023

Optimising the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance Process

Background Note

PURPOSE

This paper provides background information on *ACE Paper 3/2023* on “Optimising the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) Process” prepared by the Environment and Ecology Bureau and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) for discussion at the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) meeting on 20 March 2023.

BACKGROUND

2. The Chief Executive has announced in the 2021 Policy Address that the Government will review the existing statutory and administrative procedures related to the development, including the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process under the EIAO. The EPD conducted an extensive consultation exercise on the overall approach and scope for the review of the EIA process to collect views and suggestions from stakeholders and the public between March and June 2022 as well as the ACE Members at the ACE meeting on 7 March 2022.

3. Taking into account the comments and suggestions received from the consultation exercise, four major enhancement initiatives are proposed and summarised in *ACE Paper 3/2023*. The relevant paper and minutes of the previous ACE meeting on this subject are appended below -

Relevant ACE Meeting	Relevant paper / minutes
The 252 nd ACE meeting on 7 March 2022 to discuss the paper on “Optimising the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance Process”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● ACE Paper 2/2022● Confirmed Minutes of Meeting

**ACE Secretariat
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