

**Confirmed Minutes of the 268<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
of the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE)  
on 7 April 2025 at 2:30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Prof John CHAI, BBS, JP (Chairman)  
Prof Kenneth LEUNG, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Mr CHEUNG Chi-wah  
Ms Linda HO  
Ms Grace KWOK  
Prof Dennis LEUNG  
Mr Simon NG  
Prof QIU Jian-wen  
Mr Albert SU, MH, JP  
Prof WONG Kam-bo  
Mr Jonathan WU  
Dr William YU  
Mr Alan LO, JP (Secretary)

**Absent with Apologies:**

Ms Ada FUNG, BBS  
Mr Eric HO  
Mr Alex KWAN  
Dr Theresa KWONG  
Prof Alexis LAU, JP  
Mr Daryl NG, SBS, JP  
Dr Raymond YAU

**In Attendance:**

*Environment and Ecology Bureau (EEB)*

Miss Mavis HUI	Chief Information Officer
Ms Karen CHEK	Chief Executive Officer (CBD)
Ms Cynthia LAU	Executive Officer (CBD) 1
Miss Glory CHONG	Executive Officer (CBD) 2

*Environmental Protection Department (EPD)*

Dr Samuel CHUI, JP	Director of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Mr Gary TAM	Assistant Director (Environmental Assessment)
Miss Queenie NG	Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Territory South)

*Planning Department*

Ms Johanna CHENG

Assistant Director of Planning / Technical Services

*Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department*

Mr Simon CHAN

Assistant Director (Conservation)

Dr SO Chi-ming

Senior Marine Conservation Officer (Advisory)

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Action

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and informed Members that apologies of absence had been received from Ms Ada Fung, Mr Eric Ho, Mr Alex Kwan, Dr Theresa Kwong, Prof Alexis Lau, Mr Daryl Ng and Dr Raymond Yau.

**Item 1 : Confirmation of the draft minutes of the 267<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 10 March 2025 (Closed-door session)**

2. The draft minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without any proposed amendments.

**Item 2 : Matters arising (Closed-door session)**

3. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

**Item 3 : Report on the 160<sup>th</sup> Environmental Impact Assessment Subcommittee Meeting (ACE Paper 5/2025)**

4. The Chairman invited Members to refer to ACE Paper 5/2025 which reported the recommendations of the Environmental Impact Assessment Subcommittee (EIASC) on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report on Development of Tseung Kwan O (TKO) Area 137 (TKO 137) and Associated Reclamation Sites.

5. There was no declaration of interest by Members.

*(Post-meeting notes: At the EIASC meeting held on 17 March 2025, Prof Kenneth Leung declared that he worked closely with the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) on the research and promotion of eco-shoreline. While a few collaboration projects were ongoing, they were irrelevant to the current project.)*

**Presentation cum Question-and-Answer Session (Open session)**

6. Mr Gary Tam briefed Members on the EIA project, according to the ACE-EIA Paper 1/2025 and ACE Paper 5/2025, including the project description and key project benefits with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

7. At the Chairman's invitation, the EIASC Chairman reported the EIASC's recommendations on the EIA report at its meeting held on 17 March 2025.

*Conservation of Marine and Terrestrial Organisms*

8. A Member was pleased that the project proponent was receptive of Members' suggestions and had addressed some comments made by Members during the EIASC meeting. Taking coral conservation as an example, the Member shared that the project proponent had accepted to adopt new measures such as the micro-fragmentation approach for the translocation of some coral species which were listed as vulnerable by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). As for the preservation of Small Persimmons which were also classified as critically endangered species by the IUCN, the conservation arrangements proposed by the project proponent were satisfactory. The Member considered that the project proponent had provided clear information on the project, and the conditions and recommendations proposed by the EIASC were meant to supplement the details to ensure that the proposed compensation and conservation measures would be duly executed.

9. Noting the difficulties in the translocation of large coral reefs, a Member opined that the amount of corals involved and the cost-effectiveness issue should also be taken into consideration. Sharing his expertise in aquatic biodiversity, he said that there would be natural growth of coral reefs if the area concerned was a suitable habitat. The Member agreed that micro-fragmentation should be adopted for the translocation of vulnerable coral species. He estimated that the quantity of such corals involved in the project areas would not be large.

10. A Member supplemented that there was less than 10% of coral coverage in both TKO Area 132 (TKO 132) and TKO 137 and the quantity of coral reefs involved was not large. While the EIA report had stated that corals attached on moveable substrate with diameter less than 50 cm with health condition suitable for translocation would be translocated, the EIASC had proposed the adoption of other measures such as micro-fragmentation to increase the transplantation rate, in particular for those of higher ecological value.

*Concrete Batching Plants (CBPs) and Community Liaison Groups*

11. A Member indicated that while the project proponent had shared information on clean operation of new CBPs, EIASC Members had reminded the project proponent of the importance of maintaining close communication with the local residents to alleviate their concerns on the operation of the CBP in TKO 132. Another Member underscored the importance of continuous communication with residents given that the whole development project would stretch over a long period of time after the first population intake. The Member was glad that the project proponent was supportive of setting up community liaison groups through which it could communicate with residents and follow up promptly any issues of concern.

12. A Member added that the tightened control under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (APCO) together with the adoption of new technology would help ensure the performance of the CBP in TKO 132. He said that the setup of community liaison groups to facilitate communications and enquiry handling on environmental issues related to the project was one of the conditions proposed by the EIASC.

13. In response to the Chairman's enquiry, Dr Samuel Chui explained that the Air Pollution Control (Amendment) Ordinance 2025 would come into effect on 11 April 2025 to update the Air Quality Objectives and strengthen the control of unlicensed specified process (SP) operations. Dr Chui shared that two non-compliant CBPs in Yau Tong which were charged with conducting illegal cement works without a valid SP licence and contravening the APCO had pleaded guilty to the relevant summonses and was fined for the charges. The new regulations would enhance regulation of CBP operation.

#### *Nature-based Solution Guidelines*

14. Noting that a rather comprehensive set of nature-based solution guidelines were set up for the development project in San Tin, a Member enquired whether similar guidelines could be adopted for the current project. Mr Simon Chan understood that CEDD was still working on the guidelines which were yet to be published. He believed that the project proponent would take the matter into consideration including the EIASC's recommendation on the design of eco-shoreline which was a nature-based solution.

15. The Chairman expected that CEDD would follow the guidelines as appropriate in the current project given that the guidelines were under its own purview. A Member highlighted that out of the five proposed recommendations, two involved nature-based solutions, i.e. eco-shoreline design and planting native species for greening.

16. Members expressed support to the proposed project in view of the associated benefits. Having regard to the findings of the EIA report and the additional information provided by the project proponent, the ACE unanimously agreed to endorse the EIA report with three conditions and five recommendations as set out in paragraph 9 of *ACE Paper 5/2025*.

*(Post-meeting notes: A Member joined the meeting after the open session. The ACE's comments on the EIA report at Annex were submitted to DEP on 11 April 2025.)*

**Item 4 : Any other business (Closed-door session)**

*EIA Report not selected by EIASC for submission to ACE*

17. The EIASC Chairman reported that since the last ACE Meeting, the EIASC received the Executive Summary of the EIA report on “Expansion of Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter – Investigation, Design and Construction” which had been circulated to EIASC Members. Members were advised to provide their comments, if any, on the EIA report directly to DEP within the respective public inspection period. Given that the EIA report had not been selected by the EIASC for presentation and discussion, the EIASC Chairman informed Members that EPD would take that the ACE had no comments on the EIA report under section 8(3)(b) of the EIA Ordinance.

18. There was no other business for discussion at the meeting.

**Item 5 : Date of next meeting (Closed-door session)**

19. The next ACE meeting was scheduled for 12 May 2025. Members would be advised on the agenda in due course.

20. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

**ACE Secretariat  
May 2025**



33/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong  
香港灣仔告士打道 5 號稅務大樓 33 樓

11 April 2025

Director of Environmental Protection  
(Attn: Mr TAM Cheuk-wai, Gary)  
27/F., Southorn Centre  
130 Hennessy Road  
Wan Chai  
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Tam,

**Environmental Impact Assessment Report on  
“Development of Tseung Kwan O Area 137 and Associated Reclamation Sites”**

The Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) agreed that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report on “Development of Tseung Kwan O Area 137 and Associated Reclamation Sites” (the Project) could be endorsed with the following conditions and recommendations –

**Conditions of Endorsement**

The Project Proponent shall –

- (i) in consultation with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), submit a Coral Translocation and Enhancement Plan (CTEP) to the Director of Environmental Protection for approval no less than three months before commencement of marine works of the relevant parts of the Project. The CTEP shall provide details on the results of the pre-construction coral survey, coral translocation methodology, location and suitability of the coral recipient site(s), the post-translocation monitoring programme, the implementation details of the proposed coral enhancement measures (such as collection of bodies of unmovable corals, and coral fragments for coral plantation, etc.) and the overall implementation programme;

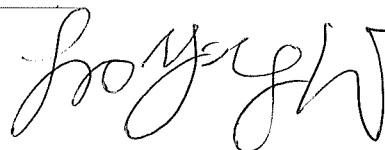
- (ii) prepare a Tree Management and Enhancement Plan (TMEP) covering individual trees that would be affected by the Project, proposed compensatory planting and enhancement measures, and maintenance and monitoring programme. The TMEP shall be deposited with the Director of Environmental Protection no less than one month before commencement of construction of the relevant parts of the Project involving tree felling works; and
- (iii) set up community liaison group(s) comprising representatives from the concerned and affected parties to facilitate communication and enquiries handling on all environmental issues related to the Project.

### **Recommendations**

The Project Proponent is recommended to –

- (i) explore the feasibility to adopt eco-shoreline design with a wave-like structure (i.e. not a straight shoreline) to provide diverse habitats for marine organisms;
- (ii) explore the use of construction methods and materials with low carbon emission to reduce carbon emission of the Project as technically and economically feasible and practicable;
- (iii) consider climate resilience in the seawall design to prevent flooding at the proposed development of the Project;
- (iv) consider planting native species for greening to enhance ecological connectivity and urban biodiversity; and
- (v) enhance waste reduction, reuse and recycling during construction and operation phases of the Project.

Yours sincerely,



( Alan Lo )

Secretary

Advisory Council on the  
Environment

c.c. ACE Chairman and Members