Revised Minutes of the 59th Meeting of the
Business Development Committee held at 2:30 p.m.
on Tuesday, 12 April 2016 in the Boardroom,
2nd Floor, HKPC Building, 78 Tat Chee Avenue, Yau Yat Chuen, Kowloon

Present: 
Chairman – Mr. Stanley Lau Chin-ho, SBS, MH, JP

Members – 
Prof. John Chai Yat-chiu, JP
Mr. Bryan Ha Kwok-fung
Dr. Delman Lee
Mr. Leung Kwong-chuen
Mrs. Agnes Mak Tang Pik-yee, MH, JP
Mrs. Katherine Ngan Ng Yu-ying, MH, JP
Mr. Sunny Tan

Absent with Apologies:
Prof. Helen Meng Mei-ling

In attendance from HKPC:
Dr. Lawrence Cheung 
Mr. Tony Lam
Mr. Gordon Lo
Mr. Jonathan Ho
Mr. Alfonso Tam
Ms. Olivia Poon

Director, Technology Development
Director, Corporate Services
Director, Business Management
General Manager, Corporate Communication
Chief Manager, Council Secretariat
Manager, Council Secretariat

I. Confirmation of Minutes (BDC 22/2015 Revised and BDC 3/2016 Revised)

The Revised Minutes of the 58th Business Development Committee Meeting 
held on 10 November 2015 had been circulated to Members and there were no further requests for amendments. The Revised Minutes were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
II. Matters Arising

III. Strategic Themes (BDC 4/2016)

4. Invited by the Chairman, said that, further to the brainstorming meeting of the Council on 27 February 2016 on HKPC’s strategic framework and positioning, 10 strategic themes were selected for HKPC to pursue in future, as follows:
   (a) Sustainability services/products;
   (b) Re-industrialization;
   (c) Healthcare solutions;
   (d) Novel materials;
   (e) Testing and compliance;
   (f) Smart services/products;
   (g) Cyber security;
   (h) Business transformation;
   (i) Knowledge and innovation management; and
   (j) Retooling.

5. Members noted and supported the proposed service scope, objectives and areas of attention in the next three years under each of the strategic themes.

6. said that in coming up with detailed corporate goals under these strategic themes, industry stakeholders should be consulted and that the impact HKPC would likely create should be clearly defined. Continued stakeholder communication would also be crucial to ensuring that HKPC’s corporate goals and initiatives would closely match the needs and concerns of key stakeholders.

7. In reply, said that strategy formulation would follow a three-stage process, namely identifying strategic themes, formulating corporate goals, and setting measurable outcomes for performance analysis. Based on the areas for attention for the next three years, corporate goals would be developed with defined outcomes the realization of which would encompass the capabilities of HKPC’s different business divisions for integrated one stop support to industry.

8. With regard to stakeholders’ engagement, said that it was HKPC’s standing policy for senior staff to join the committees of industry/trade associations related to their profession and expertise. This was an effective way
for these senior staff members of HKPC to keep pulse of industry views and to promote HKPC’s industry support initiatives. In this connection, HKPC’s regular “Hong Kong Industry Network Cluster” (HK-INC) had served as an effective platform for industry stakeholders to come together, exchange views on specific themes and, more importantly, to discuss how HKPC could assist enterprises in seizing the market opportunities and embracing the challenges and changes ahead. Such process was also a way for HKPC to reshape and reinforce its market positioning in various knowledge domains.

9. said that it would be crucial for HKPC to ensure continued communication with stakeholders to meet their needs, and foster a productive business relationship with them.

10. said that for the theme of “Testing and Compliance”, HKPC should clearly differentiate its service support from those of the other market players, especially support for the under-served markets. In response, explained that essentially HKPC’s testing services were underpinned by its multi-disciplinary consultancy support which was unique in the market. As a standing practice, HKPC would withdraw from a market where a substantial number of service providers had become evident.

11. agreed with that HKPC should always play a role to actively transfer new technologies to industries with a clear focus on their commercial applications. In this connection, HKPC should make reference to the R&D resources of the local universities and identify useful adoption for gainful exploitation by industry.

12. In respect of healthcare solutions, suggested approaching local leading healthcare service providers, such as Po Leung Kuk and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Community Services, to gather insights into industry’s current and foreseeable needs, based on which HKPC could develop solutions for their development and service upgrading in the long run and explore collaboration opportunities.

13. thanked Members for their support. assured that HKPC was committed to ensuring continued two-way communication with industry to provide a basis to address their current and emerging needs. HKPC would also aim at turning competitors into allies, and create enduring partnerships for the common good of Hong Kong industry.
14. After discussion, Members supported the areas of attention identified for the next 3 years with regard to each of the 10 strategic themes. Business development corporate goals would be developed under the 10 strategic themes and they would be incorporated into the Three-year Strategic Plan for 2017/18-2019/20 to be submitted to the Council in July 2016.


15. Invited by the Chairman, introduced the paper and briefed Members on the 2015/16 annual report and 2016/17 annual plan of the APAS Division (APAS) as outlined in the paper BDC 5/2016.

16. Members noted the 2015/16 Annual Report and 2016/17 Annual Plan of APAS for submission to the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC), in line with the funding agreement with the Government.

19. Members also noted that the investigation report on the eBus fire incident had been completed and submitted to ITC.


20. Members noted that between April 2015 and February 2016, 29 projects with HKPC’s involvement had been approved under the respective government funding schemes, as follows:

(a) Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) - 25 projects were approved for $39.5M;
(b) SME Development Fund (SDF) - 9 projects were approved for $14.5M;
(c) CreateSmart Initiative (CSI) - 1 project was approved for $1.7M;
(d) Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) - 1 project was approved for $3.1M; and
(e) The BUD Fund (Organization Support Programme) - 2 projects were approved for $5.7M.

21. Members also noted HKPC’s secretariat support to several government
funding schemes, including:

(a) Enterprise Support Programme (ESP) of the BUD Fund;
(b) Cleaner Production Partnership Programme;
(c) Carbon Audit Pilot Fund of CarbonSmart;
(d) Retail Technology Adoption Assistance Scheme for Manpower Demand Management; and
(e) Recycling Fund.

VI. Final Performance Review of Completed ITF Projects (BDC 7/2016)

23. Members noted the final performance review of 5 completed ITF projects, as follows:

(a) Development of a Novel Biofilm Carrier to Enhance the Performance of the Moving Bed Biofilm Reactor (MBBR) Process for Treating Domestic Sewage and Industrial Wastewater under High Loading Condition;
(b) Development of Advanced and Integrated Motorcycle Electronic Fuel Injection System;
(c) To Develop an Innovative, Cost Effective and Multi-function Textile and Apparel Decoration Machine for Flexible Manufacturing;
(d) Development of Dyeing Natural Textiles in Supercritical Carbon Dioxide; and
(e) Develop a Knowledge Based 3D Shoe Design, Patterning & Mass Customization System to Strengthen the New Product Development Capability of Hong Kong Footwear Industry.

VII. Any Other Business

(A) Impact from Overseas Technology Visits

24. Members noted the progress made in collaboration with R&D institutions in Germany, Britain and Australia after technology trips to these countries in 2013 and 2014, in the areas of:
(a) laser-assisted sheet metal progressive forming – an ITF project with the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology (IPT) was approved for $5.7M;

(b) industry 4.0 initiatives – an ITF GSP project with IPT, for organizing an International Conference, was approved for $0.67M, to be followed by further collaboration on study missions and training design for promoting Industry 4.0 and 3D printing;

(c) advanced robotics applications – consignment of a 6-axis desktop robot from KUKA of Germany at RoboticsOne in 2015, followed by automation projects for Chow Tai Took and a study mission for Cathay Pacific Catering Service to KUKA; and

(d) composite technologies for product design and manufacturing – an ITF project, supported by Cooperative Research Center for Advanced Composite Structures, Australia, was approved for $4.5M.

25. Members also noted that the following potential technology partnership and collaboration areas had been identified for further exploration:

(a) printable manufacturing technology – project proposal with Fraunhofer Institute of Silicon Research (ISC), Germany on the printable manufacturing technology for sensor development;

(b) electric vehicle battery management system – on-going discussion with University of Wollongong, Australia, to formulate a joint development project; and

(c) Lithium-Sulfur (Li-S) battery technology – further contact with the commercialization partner of the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organization CSIRO, Australia to explore technology transfer opportunity.

26. In response to the concern of on the lead time required to commercialize a technology, pointed out that a two to three year time frame was not unreasonable, given that the process would encompass identifying technologies with market potential, technical and marketability evaluation and an open process to recruit commercialization partners and the ensuing legal
27. said that local universities had been investing substantial resources on facilitating technology commercialization through their Technology Transfer Offices. Those offices also served to smooth the process of connecting the university inventions and research know-how with the marketplace. Apart from partnering with overseas universities, HKPC should also seek collaboration opportunities with local universities. In response, said that HKPC had collaborated with local universities in the past and would continue to do so when the opportunities arose.

(B) Appointment of Mentors for ITF Projects

28. Members agreed to appoint Mr. Sunny Tan as the mentor of the ITF project on the “Development of an Innovative Compact 2-stage Membrane-coupled Anaerobic Digestion System for Decentralized Treatment of Food Waste to Generate Biogas”, in replacement of ex-Council Member, Ir Prof. Daniel Cheng Man-chung.

29. Members also agreed to appoint Mr. Leung Kwong-chuen, Prof. Helen Meng Mei-ling and Dr. Delmen Lee as the mentors of three newly approved ITF projects, respectively as follows:

(a) Innovative Development of Advanced Composite Processing Technologies for the Production of (i) Continuous Fibre Piping (ii) 2-Material Composite Products and (iii) High Strength Defect-free Heavy-duty Composite Parts;

(b) Development of a High Pressure Processing System to Produce High Quality Safe Food for Local Restaurants and High Risk Groups (e.g. Elderly); and

(c) Research and Development of Key Technologies of Intelligent Grinding and Polishing Robotics System for Eyewear Industry.

(C) Organization Restructure

30. said that pursuant to the brainstorming meeting which deliberated on the future strategic direction of HKPC, the Management had conducted a strategic review on the organization structure to re-align the specialization and functionality of the business divisions for a better integration of expertise and resources deployment. It was anticipated that the new structure
would be conducive to Council’s business sustainability by strengthening our value-adding capabilities. With effect from 1 April 2016, the business divisions have been re-aligned into five business divisions with distinct functions, as follows:

(a) Business Management Branch (BMB)
   - IT & Business Process Division (ITD)
   - Management Consulting Division (MCD)
(b) Technology Development Branch (TDB)
   - Automotive & Electronics Division (AED)
   - Environmental Management Division (EMD)
   - Smart Manufacturing & Materials Division (SMD)

(D) Attendance Record

31. Members noted their attendance record in 2015 tabled at the meeting.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

32. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 12 July 2016 at 2:30pm.

33. There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 4:50pm.