

**Fifty-fifth Meeting of  
the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee**

***Agenda Item 3(a) : Report on the work of the  
Wholesale and Retail Task Force***

**Purpose**

This paper reports on the work of the Wholesale and Retail Task Force (WRTF) since the last Business Facilitation Advisory Committee meeting held on 12 June 2024.

**Work progress of WRTF**

***Regulatory Regime for Dealers in Precious Metals and Stones***

2. At the WRTF meeting of 4 September 2024, the Customs & Excise Department (C&ED) briefed the WRTF on the scope of registration for dealers in precious metals and stones (DPMS) and the DPMS Registration System (DRS). According to the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Ordinance (Cap. 615), any person who is seeking to carry on a business of dealing in precious metals and stones in Hong Kong and engage in any transaction(s) (whether making or receiving a payment) with total value at or above HK\$120,000 in Hong Kong is required to register with the Commissioner of Customs and Excise.

3. To advocate the Government's vision to develop Hong Kong into a smart city, the C&ED has rolled out the DRS to support the submission of registration applications and progress checking by trade at their convenience. The DRS adopts the Dynamic QR code authentication technology. It is the first time for a government registration system to apply this technology to facilitate the industry and consumers to instantly validate the registration of dealers.

4. The WRTF thanked the C&ED for the briefing and welcomed the e-service introduced by the C&ED for the DPMS.

### ***Government Funding Scheme Management Centre and the Biz Expands Easy Platform***

5. The Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) briefed the WRTF on the Government Funding Scheme Management Centre (GFSMC) and the Biz Expands Easy (BEE) Platform. The GFSMC was established in March 2021 to facilitate the administration of 10 Government funding schemes. Since 2022, the GFSMC introduced the “BEE 3-in-1” platform, which provides Hong Kong corporations with integrated information for 28 funding schemes. Registered users can login to the platform to view and manage applications for multiple funding schemes under HKPC secretariat support.

6. In January 2024, the GFSMC inaugurated the Biz Expands Easy Square (BEE<sup>2</sup>). BEE<sup>2</sup> unites government departments, industry associations, and applicants to further enhance the accessibility of funding resources for Hong Kong corporations and startups, and also foster a network for applicants to share their successful experience.

7. The WRTF welcomed the BEE Platform, and considered the BEE Platform would enable users to further understand designated funding schemes and explore suitable funding schemes.

### **Way forward**

8. Members are invited to note the work progress of the WRTF. The WRTF will continue to monitor the development of the above initiatives.

**Digitalisation and Business Facilitation Division  
Digital Policy Office  
Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau  
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