

**Project 12/2004 - International Symposium on Environmental Hydraulics
and 14th Congress of the Asia & Pacific Division of the International
Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research**

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' approval to fund the captioned application for ECF made by the University of Hong Kong (HKU).

Background

2. The funding requested by this application is \$120,200, including \$70,200 to subsidize 20 local postgraduate students to attend an international conference and \$50,000 to invite keynote speakers.

3. The International Symposium on Environmental Hydraulics and the 14th Congress of the Asia & Pacific Division of the International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research would be held in December 2004. The conference will compose 3 full days of paper presentations on 15 to 17 December 2004; and 1 full day of technical visit on 18 December 2004. It is expected that the event will encourage and facilitate the development of innovative engineering solution to the complex and challenging water environment problems in Hong Kong. The event is also expected to help the nurturing of students and young professionals in the area, and to encourage their professional commitment to take on environmental responsibility.

4. The applicant considers that the attendance of local postgraduate students at the Conference would enable them to be enlightened by the international experts. The registration fee is US\$450 per head and the applicant is applying to the ECF for subsidizing 20 local postgraduate students and to invite keynote speakers. The name list of the keynote speakers is provided at Section 19 of the project proposal.

5. The Research Project Vetting Subcommittee (RPVSC) had previously approved funding to support student participation of locally organized international conference in ECF Project 27/2003. The sponsorship level was capped at \$800 for each participant in a 2.5-day conference. The grant was disbursed on a reimbursement basis and participating students were required to submit a report after the Conference. An extract of the minutes of meeting of the RPVSC held on 3 June 2004 which remarked the approval

to the ECF Project 27/2003 is attached at the Annex A for Members' reference.

6. Members are required to note that the "Guide to Application for ECF/WWGF" stipulated that overseas participants in a local function are normally expected to pay for their own traveling and living expenses. In processing the ECF Project 27/2003, the applicant had neither requested nor the RPVSC had approved any grant to subsidize invitation of speakers.

Advice sought

7. Members are invited to advise whether the application for ECF as detailed in paragraphs 2 to 4 above should be supported. If supported, members are invited to consider the exact amount of grant approved, i.e. \$800 sponsorship or a revised level of sponsorship for each participant in the conference.

Secretariat, ECF Research Projects Vetting Subcommittee
November 2004

Extract of
Minutes of ECF Research Projects Vetting Sub-committee Meeting
held on 3 June 2004

Agenda Item 4 : New Applications

4. Discussion of the new applications was summarized below -

| Project No. | Project Title | Project Proponent | ECF Grant applied | Meeting Decision |
|-------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| 27/2003 | International Conference on Environmental and Public health Management: Persistent Toxic Substances (Paper 16/2004) | HKBU | \$48,000 | Supported, subject to a cap of \$800 on the sponsorship level for each student participant. The total amount approved was \$32,000 for 40 students. The grant would be disbursed on a reimbursement basis. The 40 participating students should be required to submit a report after the Conference. |