

First Meeting of the CDC Committee on Science Education (2005-2006)
(28 October 2005)

Gist of Meeting

- Dr MAK Chi-keung was elected as Chairman of CDC Committee on Science Education for the year 2005-06.
- The minutes of the third meeting (2004-2005) were confirmed without amendment.
- The progress of benchmarking of proposed NSS Science Curricula was reported by Mr YT LAU. UCLES of the United Kingdom, WMIER of Waikato University of New Zealand and SLO of Holland were chosen as the benchmarking agents of the NSS Science Curricula, while NSS Physics and Chemistry curricula were also benchmarked against IB. The overall feedback and comments received so far were positive and the standard was comparable to international qualifications.
- The progress of implementation of S4-5 Science and Technology was reported by Mr CL LO. Ten more schools offered the S4-5 S&T curriculum in the school year 2005-06, leading to a total of 25 schools offering the subject. The performance of the first cohort in public examination (2005) was also reported. The main foci in the coming two years were to support schools in terms of learning and teaching resources and teacher training, and to develop networking among school teachers.
- The work schedule for the year 2005-05 was introduced by Mr YT LAU. Members showed concerns on the Teacher Development Programmes for preparing teachers to implement NSS curricula in the coming three years. The chairman remarked the importance of TDP to prepare teachers for NSS and suggested the Committee to follow the issue closely.
- Dr LAU Kai-shui was nominated to be the co-opted member by the Committee for the year 2005-06.
- The survey results, feedback and responses collected from the second consultation of NSS Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Science (Integrated) Curricula were reported by Ms OL CHUNG, Mr WH FONG, Mr CL LO and Ms MY LUI respectively. Some members raised concerns about the relatively low percentage obtained in the item regarding flexibility of curriculum framework in catering for learner differences. The Chairman suggested the issue to be addressed by the One committee of each subject. Mr YT LAU remarked that One committee of Physics suggested to identify core and extension topics in the compulsory part of the curriculum.
- Date of next meeting – late December 2005 to January 2006 (exact date to be confirmed)