

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Developing Hong Kong into a regional education hub”
moved by Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 21 June 2006**

Wording of the Motion

“That, as Hong Kong’s education services are diversified, its education programmes and academic qualifications are internationally recognized, and as it has established close ties with the Mainland, coupled with its background as a meeting point of Eastern and Western cultures, there are favourable conditions for Hong Kong to develop into a regional education hub; in addition, since promoting Hong Kong as a regional education hub will attract talents, enhance Hong Kong’s competitiveness and help broaden the horizons of local students, this Council urges the Government to review the relevant policies and formulate measures to facilitate and attract more non-local students to study in Hong Kong, and encourage local education institutions to provide education services outside Hong Kong; the specific measures include:

- (a) relaxing immigration control to reduce barriers for non-local students aspiring to receive education at various levels in Hong Kong;
- (b) on condition that local students’ opportunities to pursue further studies in Hong Kong will not be reduced, allowing tertiary institutions to increase the ratio of the admission quotas for non-local students;
- (c) on condition that the employment of local people will not be affected, allowing non-local students to take up part-time jobs while attending full-time programmes so that they can obtain relevant working experience and their financial burden can be alleviated;
- (d) providing affordable boarding facilities to non-local students by such means as granting land to schools and institutions at nominal premium for the construction of hostels or allowing the conversion of vacant school premises into hostels;
- (e) providing more scholarships for non-local students with outstanding academic achievements in specific subjects;
- (f) assisting local institutions to run schools in the Mainland, especially in the Pearl River Delta region, to promote co-operation between the two places; and
- (g) establishing a dedicated department to promote Hong Kong’s education services to the Mainland and overseas.”