

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Policy on conservation of monuments”
moved by Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 17 January 2007**

**Motion as amended by Hon WONG Kwok-hing, Hon Howard YOUNG and
Hon CHOY So-yuk**

“That, as the policies and laws on the protection and conservation of antiquities and monuments in Hong Kong are imperfect, and the demolition of the Central Star Ferry Pier by the Government has aroused wide concern in the community, which reflects an increasing public awareness of and participation in the conservation of antiquities and monuments, preservation of cultural environment and good town planning, this Council urges the Government to:

- (a) reform the policies and laws on the protection and conservation of antiquities and monuments on the basis of comprehensive consultation, and formulate a timetable for legislative amendments;
- (b) establish a fund on protection and conservation of antiquities and monuments to enhance the protection and conservation of antiquities and monuments, as well as for repair, education and promotion work;
- (c) formulate codes for the evaluation of social benefits and proper consultation procedures setting out in detail the cost-effectiveness of various options and their impact on antiquities and monuments;
- (d) formulate criteria for the preservation of collective memories, community sights and regional cultural characteristics;
- (e) establish a mechanism for the participation of such concern groups as District Councils, professional bodies and resident groups as well as the public in the decision-making process of town planning and community redevelopment;
- (f) consider providing economic incentives to private property owners, including adopting such means as acquisition, land exchange and transfer of plot ratios, to preserve more privately-owned monuments and prevent them from being demolished;
- (g) make reference to the sponsorship policies on antiquities and monuments, including sponsorship by individuals, enterprises and communities, etc, which have been implemented for many years in such countries as the UK, the USA

and France, so as to pave a new way for the protection and conservation of antiquities and monuments in Hong Kong; and

- (h) draw from the successful experience in revitalizing antique buildings, such as the derelict industrial park on Vancouver's Granville Island, Japan's Otaru warehouses and the Taipei Story House, to promote multi-faceted development in humanities, history education, art, creative industries, tourism and community involvement, etc, thereby creating more employment opportunities; and
- (i) conduct a comprehensive and extensive consultation on the built heritage conservation policy and expeditiously formulate a proper built heritage conservation policy, with the aim of striking a balance between heritage conservation and urban development, so as to facilitate a sustainable and balanced development of the community.”