

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Fostering the development of the tourism industry”
moved by Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 30 May 2007**

Motion as amended by Hon CHAN Kam-lam and Hon Howard YOUNG

“That, Hong Kong is a cosmopolitan city popular among tourists all over the world, and the SAR Government has all along supported the development of the local tourism industry, which being one of the four pillars of the local economy, should have had immense room for development; however, as most travel agencies in Hong Kong are small and medium enterprises operating on narrow profit margins and have recently been affected by some negative factors, coupled with the internal conflicts in the industry, the tourism industry is encountering difficulties in business operation; as such, this Council urges the Government to face up to the problems and discuss with the industry measures to enhance the level of professional services and promote the long-term development of the industry, which include:

- (a) providing more training courses by the Government to upgrade the quality of professional services of the employees in the tourism industry, in particular that of the tourist guides;
- (b) consolidating the level playing field and free business environment for the tourism industry;
- (c) urging the Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong to expeditiously introduce an indemnity insurance system for the tourism industry in order to strengthen the protection for the industry and tourists and considering extending the function of the Travel Industry Compensation Fund for such purpose;
- (d) communicating with the representatives of travel agencies and tourist guides to study the feasibility of introducing a basic salary system for tourist guides; and
- (e) rigorously combating unscrupulous shops and penalizing the non-compliant travel agencies so as to enhance the service standard of the tourism industry.”