

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Promoting the sustainable development of the
local agriculture and fisheries industries”
moved by Hon WONG Yung-kan
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 13 June 2007**

**Motion as amended by Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, Hon Fred LI Wah-ming
and Hon Vincent FANG Kang**

“That, as recently laboratory tests on food in Hong Kong have successively detected the presence of harmful substances, and furthermore, Hong Kong people are showing increasing enthusiasm for nature in their living and dietary habits, and have become more concerned about the safety and supply of food, which should have brought about opportunities for developing modern agriculture and fisheries industries in Hong Kong, yet in recent years the Government’s policies have adversely affected the local agriculture and fisheries industries, particularly the development of livestock farms, thereby posing a threat to the industries’ development, this Council urges that the Government should have regard to the prevailing circumstances and formulate a policy for promoting the sustainable development of the agriculture and fisheries industries, with measures targeted at various sectors of the industries to upgrade their quality, assist in their transformation and perfect the regulatory system, including:

- (a) in collaboration with the Mainland, actively promoting an ‘agricultural test base’ scheme to be modelled on the ‘accredited farm’ system, and allowing farmers who have voluntarily surrendered their livestock farming licences to continue their operations in the Mainland, and export their produce to Hong Kong under the Hong Kong quota at a quantity determined according to their previous farming capacity in Hong Kong, so as to maintain a stable supply of live and fresh food to the territory;
- (b) actively promoting the development of off-shore capture fishery through financial and policy support, conserving in-shore ecological resources, and assisting in-shore fishermen in transforming their operations, so as to improve their livelihood;
- (c) further developing the local quality aquaculture industry, and studying the development of Hong Kong into a distribution centre for aquatic products, so as to keep in tune with the global development trend of the aquaculture industry;
- (d) further promoting the concept of organic food, expediting the implementation of the Organic Farming Conversion Scheme, establishing a regulatory labelling system for organic produce and opening up sales and marketing channels, so as to promote the development of organic farming in Hong Kong;

- (e) perfecting the regulatory system for the local agriculture and fisheries industries to ensure that local agricultural and fishery products are of high quality and safe;
- (f) stepping up efforts to promote the development of the agriculture and fisheries industries in the direction of integrating with leisure and recreation, so as to meet the needs of the public; and
- (g) studying whether a monopoly currently exists in the supply of livestock imported from the Mainland, after comprehensively consulting the relevant industries, discussing with the Mainland authorities how to safeguard the interests of consumers in Hong Kong by opening up the market.”