

(Translation)

Motion on

“Cooperation between Hong Kong and the Pan-Pearl River Delta region”
moved by Hon WONG Ting-kwong
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 15 November 2006

Motion as amended by Hon Howard YOUNG, Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah and Hon CHAN Kam-lam

“That, as Pan-Pearl River Delta ('PPRD') regional cooperation is an important and integral part to the implementation of the National Eleventh Five-Year Plan, and it offers enormous business opportunities for the development of Hong Kong, while at the same time posing great difficulties and challenges to the Hong Kong businessmen in the Pearl River Delta ('PRD'), this Council urges the Government to take proactive measures to promote the cooperation between Hong Kong and the PPRD region, including:

- (a) joining hands to improve the air quality in the PPRD region;
- (b) promoting the development of the financial industries in both places for mutual benefits;
- (c) striving to reduce the operating costs of the shipping industries in both places, with a view to enhancing competitiveness and promoting mutual development;
- (d) strengthening the cooperation in tourism to attract more tourists;
- (e) stepping up the efforts of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council in promoting brands of Hong Kong to the PPRD region and vice versa;
- (f) offering incentives to attract Mainland enterprises to set up regional headquarters and engage in various investment activities in Hong Kong;
- (g) assisting in the development of a set of standardized commercial terms for the PPRD region;
- (h) stepping up negotiations to expedite the construction of transport facilities linking Guangdong, and expeditiously implementing the plan to construct the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge;
- (i) increasing the Hong Kong SAR Government's expenditure on research and development ('R&D');
- (j) setting up a restructuring fund to assist Hong Kong businessmen in upgrading and transforming their businesses;
- (k) promoting the setting up of an ‘applied research, science and technology fund’ jointly by Hong Kong and Guangdong for the Greater PRD;

- (l) establishing an applied science and technology research institute and a R&D centre for the Greater PRD; and
- (m) reflecting to the relevant Mainland departments that, prior to the introduction of major commercial laws and regulations in the Mainland, Hong Kong businessmen should be notified as early as possible and given sufficient cushion periods; and
- (n) strengthening the exchange and cooperation between the two places in such areas as the rule of law and corporate governance, with a view to raising the economic and corporate governance levels in both places and, by doing so, further optimizing the business environment of Hong Kong and nurturing more talents for the territory,

so as to assist Hong Kong in developing new areas for economic growth, enhancing its competitiveness, facilitating economic restructuring and better complementing the country's economic development.”