

立法會
Legislative Council

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From : Clerk to the Legislative Council
To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 24 June 2009

**Proposed amendments to motion on
“Seizing the chance to turn the risks from the
‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait into opportunities”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 683/08-09 issued on 11 June 2009, seven Members (Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip, Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, Hon IP Wai-ming, Hon WONG Ting-kwong and Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun) have respectively given notice of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun’s motion on “Seizing the chance to turn the risks from the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait into opportunities” scheduled for the Council meeting of 24 June 2009. As directed by the President, the respective proposed amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. To assist Members in debating the above motion and amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG moves her motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG’s motion, and orders a joint debate;
- (c) the President calls on the seven Members, who intend to move amendments, to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
 - (i) Hon Tommy CHEUNG;

- (ii) Hon Alan LEONG;
 - (iii) Hon Albert CHAN;
 - (iv) Hon Fred LI;
 - (v) Hon IP Wai-ming;
 - (vi) Hon WONG Ting-kwong; and
 - (vii) Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG;
- (d) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak;
 - (e) joint debate on the motion and the amendments follows thereafter;
 - (f) the President gives leave to Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG to speak for the second time on the amendments;
 - (g) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) again to speak;
 - (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the seven Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon Tommy CHEUNG to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon Tommy CHEUNG's amendment;
 - (i) after Hon Tommy CHEUNG's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other six amendments; and
 - (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG's motion, or her motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' ease of reference, the terms of the original motion and of the motion, if amended, are set out in the **Appendix**.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on
“Seizing the chance to turn the risks from the
‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait into opportunities”
to be held at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 24 June 2009**

1. Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun’s original motion

That, since the implementation of the ‘Three Direct Links’, i.e. direct maritime, air and postal links, across the Taiwan Strait in December last year, coupled with the impact of the financial tsunami, the air passenger and air cargo traffic of Hong Kong has, to a certain extent, been affected; however, apart from promoting cross-strait exchanges and trade flows, the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait is also a development opportunity for Hong Kong; as such, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive plan to turn the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait into an opportunity for Hong Kong to further develop the relations among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, including:

- (a) conducting a study on fully opening up air rights on a reciprocal basis with the Mainland and Taiwan, so as to raise Hong Kong’s position as a regional and international aviation centre;
- (b) strengthening cooperation with the neighbouring airports in the Pearl River Delta to achieve complementarity of edge, so as not to result in mismatched development and to consolidate Hong Kong’s status in aviation;
- (c) putting into place arrangement for mutual visa-free access between Hong Kong and Taiwan, and establishing formal channels among the three places across the Taiwan Strait to strengthen exchanges and cooperation at the non-government and societal level as well as in areas of tourism, culture and creativity, etc; and
- (d) setting up a high level inter-departmental task force to study and coordinate long-term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait.

2. Motion as amended by Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan

That *Hong Kong has all along been an important platform for commercial and social exchanges across the Taiwan Strait*, since the implementation of the ‘Three Direct Links’, i.e. direct maritime, air and postal links, across the Taiwan Strait in December last year, coupled with the impact of the financial tsunami, the air

passenger and air cargo traffic of Hong Kong has, to a certain extent, been affected; however, apart from promoting cross-strait exchanges and trade flows, the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait is also a development opportunity for Hong Kong; as such, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive plan to turn the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait into an opportunity for Hong Kong to further develop the relations among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, including:

- (a) conducting a study on fully opening up air rights on a reciprocal basis with the Mainland and Taiwan, so as to raise Hong Kong’s position as a regional and international aviation centre;
- (b) strengthening cooperation with the neighbouring airports in the Pearl River Delta to achieve complementarity of edge, so as not to result in mismatched development and to consolidate Hong Kong’s status in aviation;
- (c) putting into place arrangement for mutual visa-free access between Hong Kong and Taiwan, and establishing formal channels among the three places across the Taiwan Strait to strengthen exchanges and cooperation at the non-government and societal level as well as in areas of tourism, culture and creativity, etc; ~~and~~
- (d) setting up a high level inter-departmental task force to study and coordinate long-term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait;
- (e) *assisting the Mainland and Taiwan in concluding the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement at an early date to eliminate the trade barriers between them and jointly create common markets in the Greater China, as well as fully utilizing the functions of the Trade Development Council’s Taiwan Office to help Hong Kong businessmen to further develop;*
- (f) *studying the feasibility of promoting mutual recognition of professional qualifications among the Mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan, so as to foster the development of Hong Kong’s professional services industries; and*
- (g) *bringing forward arrangements with Taiwan to avoid double taxation, so as to enhance the competitiveness of Hong Kong, strengthen Hong Kong’s position as a business platform of the Greater China and promote a win-win situation for the three places across the Taiwan Strait.*

Note: Hon Tommy CHEUNG’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit

That, *given that* since the implementation of the ‘Three Direct Links’, i.e. direct maritime, air and postal links, across the Taiwan Strait in December last year, *Hong Kong’s role as the intermediary between the Mainland and Taiwan is being seriously challenged*, coupled with the impact of the financial tsunami, the air passenger and air cargo traffic of Hong Kong has, to a certain extent, been affected; however, apart from promoting cross-strait exchanges and trade flows, the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait ~~is also~~ *can also be* a development opportunity for Hong Kong; *the cross-strait relations have developed rapidly in recent years, yet Hong Kong has failed to seize such a favourable opportunity to make history since the reunification*; as such, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive plan to ~~turn the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait into an opportunity for Hong Kong to further develop~~ *fully utilize the original competitive edge, so that Hong Kong can regain its unique role in respect of the relations among the three places across the Taiwan Strait and further promote its development opportunities*, including:

- (a) conducting a study on fully opening up air rights on a reciprocal basis with the Mainland and Taiwan, so as to raise Hong Kong’s position as a regional and international aviation centre;
- (b) strengthening cooperation with the neighbouring airports in the Pearl River Delta to achieve complementarity of edge, so as not to result in mismatched development and to consolidate Hong Kong’s status in aviation;
- (c) putting into place arrangement for mutual visa-free access between Hong Kong and Taiwan, and establishing formal channels among the three places across the Taiwan Strait to strengthen exchanges and cooperation at the non-government and societal level as well as in areas of tourism, culture and creativity, etc; ~~and~~
- (d) setting up a high level inter-departmental task force to study and coordinate long-term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, *and expeditiously setting up an office of the Special Administrative Region Government in Taiwan*;
- (e) *performing Hong Kong’s special role as an intermediary in a more proactive manner, turning Hong Kong into a platform for exchanges among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, jointly promoting development in areas of rule of law, corruption prevention, culture and arts, environmental protection, etc on the Mainland and in Hong Kong and Taiwan, thereby enriching non-government and official exchanges among the three places*;
- (f) *expeditiously signing with Taiwan an agreement on full avoidance of double taxation, so that Taiwan businessmen who set up companies in*

Hong Kong and operate businesses on the Mainland can avoid paying taxes in Taiwan and Hong Kong at the same time, so as to enable Hong Kong to become an important platform for Taiwan businessmen's entry into the Mainland;

- (g) *strengthening cooperation with the Chung Hwa Travel Service, and enhancing its functions in areas of trade, investment and tourism, etc; and*
- (h) *promoting cruise tourism among the three places across the Taiwan Strait.*

Note: Hon Alan LEONG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

4. Motion as amended by Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

That, ~~since the~~ *as the Administration has ignored the importance of establishing a close relationship with Taiwan for many years, causing the relations between Hong Kong and Taiwan to be at a standstill, and the Hong Kong Government's prohibition of the entry of officials of the Taiwan authorities and related individuals into Hong Kong for many years is even a greater insult to the relevant departments and officials of Taiwan, this Council is therefore extremely disappointed at and strongly condemns the Special Administrative Region Government's change of attitude from arrogance to subservience, and since the recent* implementation of the 'Three Direct Links', i.e. direct maritime, air and postal links, across the Taiwan Strait in December last year, coupled with the impact of the financial tsunami, the air passenger and air cargo traffic of Hong Kong has, to a certain extent, been affected; however, apart from promoting cross-strait exchanges and trade flows, the 'Three Direct Links' across the Taiwan Strait is also a development opportunity for Hong Kong; as such, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive plan to turn the 'Three Direct Links' across the Taiwan Strait into an opportunity for Hong Kong to further develop the relations among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, including:

- (a) conducting a study on fully opening up air rights on a reciprocal basis with the Mainland and Taiwan, so as to raise Hong Kong's position as a regional and international aviation centre;
- (b) strengthening cooperation with the neighbouring airports in the Pearl River Delta to achieve complementarity of edge, so as not to result in mismatched development and to consolidate Hong Kong's status in aviation;
- (c) putting into place arrangement for mutual visa-free access between Hong Kong and Taiwan, and establishing formal channels among the three places across the Taiwan Strait to strengthen exchanges and cooperation at the

non-government and societal level as well as in areas of tourism, culture and creativity, etc; and

- (d) setting up a high level inter-departmental task force to study and coordinate long-term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait.

Note: Hon Albert CHAN's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

5. Motion as amended by Hon Fred LI Wah-ming

That, ~~since the implementation of~~ *the relations between the Mainland and Taiwan have become more harmonious*, the 'Three Direct Links', i.e. direct maritime, air and postal links, across the Taiwan Strait *were implemented* in December last year, coupled with the impact of the financial tsunami, the air passenger and air cargo traffic of Hong Kong has, to a certain extent, been affected; however, apart from promoting cross-strait exchanges and trade flows, the 'Three Direct Links' across the Taiwan Strait is also a development opportunity for Hong Kong; as such, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive plan to turn the 'Three Direct Links' across the Taiwan Strait into an opportunity for Hong Kong to further develop the relations among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, including:

- (a) conducting a study on fully opening up air rights on a reciprocal basis with the Mainland and Taiwan, so as to raise Hong Kong's position as a regional and international aviation centre;
- (b) strengthening cooperation with the neighbouring airports in the Pearl River Delta to achieve complementarity of edge, so as not to result in mismatched development and to consolidate Hong Kong's status in aviation;
- (c) *discussing with Mainland departments to reinstate the right of those Hong Kong residents and Members of the Hong Kong Legislative Council who have been barred from entering the Mainland to return to their hometown and to issue the Hong Kong and Macao Residents Entry and Exit Permits to them, and* putting into place arrangement for mutual visa-free access between Hong Kong and Taiwan, *so that all Chinese nationals can travel freely to and from the three places across the Taiwan Strait, thereby achieving true links among these three places*, and establishing formal channels among the three places across the Taiwan Strait ~~to strengthen~~, *so that there can be real exchanges and cooperation at the non-government and societal level as well as in areas of tourism, culture and creativity, etc; and*
- (d) setting up a high level inter-departmental task force to study and coordinate long-term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait.

Note: Hon Fred LI's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

6. Motion as amended by Hon IP Wai-ming

That, since the implementation of the 'Three Direct Links', i.e. direct maritime, air and postal links, across the Taiwan Strait in December last year, coupled with the impact of the financial tsunami, the air passenger and air cargo traffic of Hong Kong has, to a certain extent, been affected; however, apart from promoting cross-strait exchanges and trade flows, the 'Three Direct Links' across the Taiwan Strait is also a development opportunity for Hong Kong; as such, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive plan to turn the 'Three Direct Links' across the Taiwan Strait into an opportunity for Hong Kong to further develop the relations among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, including:

- (a) conducting a study on fully opening up air rights on a reciprocal basis with the Mainland and Taiwan, so as to raise Hong Kong's position as a regional and international aviation centre;
- (b) strengthening cooperation with the neighbouring airports in the Pearl River Delta, *discussing the setting up of a task force on an airport cluster in the Great Pearl River Delta to exchange views on issues relating to the positioning, airspace, flight routes, flight schedules, runway construction and equity exchange, etc of the airports in the region, so as to achieve complementarity of edge, so as and not to result in mismatched development and to consolidate Hong Kong's status in aviation and, in order to consolidate Hong Kong's status in aviation under the 'Three Direct Links', studying the construction of the third runway for the airport of Hong Kong as well as discussing with the Mainland to resolve the problem of airspace allocation, etc;*
- (c) putting into place arrangement for mutual visa-free access between Hong Kong and Taiwan, and establishing formal channels among the three places across the Taiwan Strait to strengthen exchanges and cooperation at the non-government and societal level as well as in areas of tourism, culture and creativity, etc; and
- (d) setting up a high level inter-departmental task force to study and coordinate long-term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait.

Note: Hon IP Wai-ming's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

7. Motion as amended by Hon WONG Ting-kwong

That, since the implementation of the ‘Three Direct Links’, i.e. direct maritime, air and postal links, across the Taiwan Strait in December last year, coupled with the impact of the financial tsunami, the air passenger and air cargo traffic of Hong Kong has, to a certain extent, been affected; however, apart from promoting cross-strait exchanges and trade flows, the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait is also a development opportunity for Hong Kong; as such, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive plan to turn the ‘Three Direct Links’ across the Taiwan Strait into an opportunity for Hong Kong to further develop the relations among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, including:

- (a) conducting a study on fully opening up air rights on a reciprocal basis with the Mainland and Taiwan, so as to raise Hong Kong’s position as a regional and international aviation centre;
- (b) strengthening cooperation with the neighbouring airports in the Pearl River Delta to achieve complementarity of edge, so as ~~not to result in~~ *to make use of the* mismatched development ~~and~~ to consolidate Hong Kong’s status in aviation;
- (c) putting into place arrangement for mutual visa-free access between Hong Kong and Taiwan, and establishing formal channels among the three places across the Taiwan Strait to strengthen exchanges and cooperation at the non-government and societal level as well as in areas of tourism, culture and creativity, etc; ~~and~~
- (d) setting up a high level inter-departmental task force to study and coordinate long-term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait;
- (e) *stepping up efforts to attract Taiwan enterprises to raise capital through Hong Kong, so as to optimize Hong Kong’s function as an international financial centre; and*
- (f) *actively participating in the planning and construction of the economic zone on the western side of the Taiwan Strait, and optimizing Hong Kong’s function as an international financial, shipping and trading centre, so as to enable Hong Kong to continue to maintain its active role and functions in the economic and trading exchanges among the three places across the Taiwan Strait and give new impetus to Hong Kong’s economic development.*

Note: Hon WONG Ting-kwong’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

8. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun

That, since the implementation of the 'Three Direct Links', i.e. direct maritime, air and postal links, across the Taiwan Strait in December last year, coupled with the impact of the financial tsunami, the air passenger and air cargo traffic of Hong Kong has, to a certain extent, been affected; however, apart from promoting cross-strait exchanges and trade flows, the 'Three Direct Links' across the Taiwan Strait is also a development opportunity for Hong Kong; as such, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive plan to turn the 'Three Direct Links' across the Taiwan Strait into an opportunity for Hong Kong to further develop the relations among the three places across the Taiwan Strait, including:

- (a) conducting a study on fully opening up air rights on a reciprocal basis with the Mainland and Taiwan, so as to raise Hong Kong's position as a regional and international aviation centre;
- (b) strengthening cooperation with the neighbouring airports in the Pearl River Delta to achieve complementarity of edge, so as not to result in mismatched development and to consolidate Hong Kong's status in aviation;
- (c) ~~putting into place arrangement for mutual visa free access between Hong Kong and Taiwan, and establishing~~ *actively studying the streamlining of customs clearance procedures for residents of the three places across the Taiwan Strait travelling to and from these places, including the feasibility of granting visa-on-arrival to Taiwan residents visiting Hong Kong;*
- (d) *studying the establishment of* formal channels among the three places across the Taiwan Strait to strengthen exchanges and cooperation at the non-government and societal level as well as in areas of *education, environmental protection, mutual legal assistance*, tourism, culture and creativity, etc; ~~and~~
- ~~(d) setting up a high level inter departmental task force to study and coordinate long term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait~~
- (e) *through the platform of the newly established Hong Kong-Taiwan Business Co-operation Committee, strengthening communication with the corresponding Economic Co-operation Committee under the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council established in Taiwan to study and coordinate long-term development plans for promoting economic and trade cooperation among the three places across the Taiwan Strait; and*

- (f) *in accordance with the existing mode adopted by the Special Administrative Region Government in establishing offices on the Mainland, commencing a study on the feasibility of establishing a government office in Taiwan.*

Note: Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.