

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 84/08-09

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Tel : 2869 9205

Date : 24 October 2008

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 29, 30 and 31 October 2008

Proposed amendments to Motion of Thanks

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 66/08-09 issued on 21 October 2008, four Members (Hon WONG Kwok-hing, Hon WONG Sing-chi, Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee and Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing) have respectively given notice to move separate amendments to the Motion of Thanks scheduled for the Council meeting commencing on 29 October 2008. As directed by the President, the four 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 the four amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee moves the motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee’s motion, and orders a joint debate;
- (c) the President has accepted the recommendations of the House Committee on the time limits for speeches in the debate. A Member may speak once in one or more sessions of the five debate sessions, but subject to the total speaking time limit of 30 minutes. Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, as mover of the motion, will have an additional 15-minute speaking time for moving the motion and making her reply;
- (d) Members’ speeches in a session should be confined to the policy areas specified for that session;

- (e) like all other Members, Hon Miriam LAU Kin-ye and the four Members who intend to move amendments may speak in one or more of the five debate sessions, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage;
- (f) after Members have spoken in each session, there will be a 10-minute suspension of the meeting for the designated public officers for that session to co-ordinate their response to the Council. The President may exercise discretion not to suspend the meeting if the designated officers consider the break not necessary;
- (g) the total speaking time limit for designated public officers in each debate session is as follows:
 - (i) for one or two officers, each officer may speak for not less than 15 minutes, subject to the total time limit of 45 minutes. Under this arrangement, where two officers are to speak, the officer speaking first should not speak for more than 30 minutes, leaving at least 15 minutes for the other officer. Subject to such a restriction, it is up to the officers to determine their actual speaking time; and
 - (ii) for three or more officers, it will be calculated on the basis of 15-minute speaking time limit for each officer;
- (h) at the end of a debate session and before the start of the next session, Members will be informed of the balance of their speaking time;
- (i) once all designated public officers for a particular debate session have spoken, the next session will begin immediately unless the time is approaching 9:00 pm;
- (j) after the designated public officers have spoken in the last debate session, the President gives leave for Hon Miriam LAU Kin-ye to speak on the proposed amendments for up to five minutes;
- (k) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the four Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out below:
 - (i) Hon WONG Kwok-hing;
 - (ii) Hon WONG Sing-chi;

(iii) Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee; and

(iv) Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing;

- (l) the President invites Hon WONG Kwok-hing to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon WONG Kwok-hing's amendment;
- (m) after Hon WONG Kwok-hing's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other three amendments; and
- (n) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee'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**. The grouping of policy areas for this debate is attached to the preliminary Agenda issued to Members on 21 October 2008 under LC Paper No. CB(3) 64/08-09.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

**Motion of Thanks
to be moved by Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee
at the Legislative Council meeting commencing on
Wednesday, 29 October 2008**

1. Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee's original motion

“That this Council thanks the Chief Executive for his address.”

2. Motion as amended by Hon WONG Kwok-hing

“That this Council thanks the Chief Executive for his address, *but strongly demands the increase of the rates of the Old Age Allowance to \$1,000 per month, opposes the introduction of a means test mechanism, and strongly demands the provision of a living supplement for the poor elders.*”

Note: Hon WONG Kwok-hing's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.

3. Motion as amended by Hon WONG Sing-chi

“That this Council thanks the Chief Executive for his address, *but expresses grave disappointment and strong dissatisfaction at the Chief Executive's disregard of the request of this Council and the public to increase the rates of the Old Age Allowance to \$1,000 per month; and this Council condemns that the Chief Executive departed from public opinion by seeking to abolish the Old Age Allowance on the pretext of considering the introduction of a means test mechanism, which in effect turns the Old Age Allowance, a token of thanks for the elderly for their contribution to society for many years, into a form of relief money, thereby trampling on the dignity of elderly recipients of the Old Age Allowance.*”

Note: Hon WONG Sing-chi's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.

4. Motion as amended by Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee

“That this Council thanks the Chief Executive for his address, *but expresses deep regret that the Policy Address did not increase the rates of the Old Age Allowance to \$1,000 per month and considered introducing a means test mechanism in the future, which totally disregarded the unanimous request of this Council and the general*

public; this Council also strongly demands the Government to immediately increase the rates of the Old Age Allowance to \$1,000 per month and undertake to maintain the existing non-means test system, so as to thank the elderly for their contribution to society in the past.”

Note: Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.

5. Motion as amended by Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing

“That this Council thanks the Chief Executive for his address, *but as many people support the implementation of dual universal suffrage in 2012, this Council expresses deep regret at the Chief Executive’s remark that the timetable for universal suffrage set by the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress at the end of 2007 enjoys wide support in the community, which disregarded the request for the implementation of dual universal suffrage in 2012 from the community at large.*”

Note: Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.