

立法會
Legislative Council

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Tel : 2869 9205
Date : 20 January 2009
From : Clerk to the Legislative Council
To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 4 February 2009

**Motion on
“Assisting grassroots workers in counteracting economic adversities”**

Hon IP Wai-ming has given notice to move the attached motion on “Assisting grassroots workers in counteracting economic adversities” at the Council meeting of 4 February 2009. The President has directed that “it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in” on the Agenda of the Council.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

Motion on
“Assisting grassroots workers in counteracting economic adversities”
to be moved by Hon IP Wai-ming
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 4 February 2009

Wording of the Motion

That the economic outlook for Hong Kong is not optimistic, employees lose their jobs as a result of economic slowdown and closure of enterprises, some enterprises use the financial tsunami as the pretext to effect pay cuts and layoffs even when they are making profits, resulting in an increase in the unemployment rate, and employees are the first ones to be hard hit, this Council calls on employers to undertake not to effect pay cuts and layoffs and urges the Government to:

- (a) immediately promote collective bargaining between employers and employees, formulate collective agreements, study overseas experience in implementing collective bargaining, as well as legislate on the right to collective bargaining on the central, trade and enterprise levels, so as to strive for employees a bargaining position which is on an equal footing with their employers;
- (b) subsidize the Mandatory Provident Fund contributions of low-income employees to relieve their burden;
- (c) improve the mode of developing social enterprises to allow more bodies and organizations to establish social enterprises;
- (d) promote local community culture economy in various districts, such as morning and night markets, holiday flea markets and art fairs, etc, to bring into play the local community culture and create employment opportunities;
- (e) allocate suitable spaces in various districts to set up commercial and household waste recycling points, so as to promote the transaction of second-hand products and recycling of wastes;
- (f) develop diversified industrial structures to create positions in more trades and at more levels; and
- (g) establish an unemployment assistance system with integrated measures of financial assistance, employment training, employment placement, etc, so as to obviate the need for the unemployed to apply for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance to tackle imminent financial problems.