

(Translation)

**Motion on**  
**“Promoting the development of leisure agriculture and fishery trades”**  
**moved by Hon WONG Yung-kan**  
**at the Legislative Council meeting**  
**of Wednesday, 18 March 2009**

**Motion as amended by Hon WONG Kwok-hing**

That, as the SAR Government lacks an appropriate and sustainable policy on agriculture and fishery industries, the operation of traditional agriculture and fishery industries has fallen into decline, and the room for survival of the local trades which rely on the production of agricultural and fishery products has been shrinking; at the same time, with changes in people’s travel patterns, many places have put emphasis on upgrading their traditional agriculture and fishery industries and developing them into leisure tourism industry, which enriches the tourism resources of these places, and creates a way out for the agriculture and fishery industries to transform; yet, the SAR Government does not attach importance to the need of the agriculture and fishery industries in Hong Kong to transform, and there is a lack of a comprehensive development policy and strong resources support in this regard, resulting in the development of the local leisure agriculture and fishery trades still lagging far behind; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to formulate a comprehensive policy on the development of leisure agriculture and fishery trades and step up its support to develop the trades into a tourism project with local characteristics; the relevant measures should include:

- (a) under the principle of sustainable development and through appropriate tourism regulation and ecological management as well as the provision of resources, conserving natural landscape with ecological values as well as rural areas and fishing villages with traditional cultural characteristics, so as to balance the needs for conservation and tourism development;
- (b) reviewing the current restrictions relating to the transformation of the agriculture and fishery industries to engage in tourism business, so as to give the industries more room for transformation and development;
- (c) drawing on overseas experiences, enhancing the facilities of local live and fresh food wholesale markets and typhoon shelters, injecting tourism elements into such facilities to provide more diversified leisure agriculture and fishery projects;
- (d) allocating more resources to training talents and stepping up the promotion of local leisure agriculture and fishery trades, so as to attract more tourists;

- (e) considering formulating a licensing system for 'water taxis', and abolishing unnecessary regulations and restrictions on the transformation of fishing vessels, so as to provide opportunities for suitable fishing vessels to engage in the leisure fishery trade;
- (f) formulating policies to encourage organic farming, thereby developing related leisure organic farming activities;
- (g) flexibly utilizing parks and open areas, etc to develop weekend and holiday bazaars for organic agriculture and fishery products, so as to attract the public and tourists and provide additional sales channels for such products; and
- (h) formulating policies on revitalization and greening of agricultural lands, fish ponds and woodlands to ensure that abandoned agricultural lands will not be illegally turned into waste dumping grounds or container yards, fish ponds will not be filled up and hills will not turn bare, so as to nurture a pleasant environment and atmosphere for the development of leisure agriculture and fishery trades.