

(Translation)

**Motion on “Promoting green economy”
moved by Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 6 May 2009**

**Motion as amended by Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Hon CHAN Hak-kan,
Hon KAM Nai-wai and Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun**

That, the Financial Secretary has proposed in the Budget this year that promoting investments and economic activities that protect the environment and save energy will put the overall economy on a more sustainable path, this Council urges the Government to take the following specific actions to promote green economy, so that it will become an economic driver of Hong Kong’s future development to create employment opportunities and reduce the costs of energy and materials of the community and enterprises on the one hand, and at the same time reverse the trend of deterioration in the environment and enhance Hong Kong’s competitiveness:

- (a) making reference to the recommendations in the global report released by the United Nations Environment Programme in February this year and the Central Government’s scale of investment, allocating at least an additional HK\$30 billion in this and next year to develop green economy, and focusing efforts on five areas, namely energy for health, green buildings, sustainable transport, circular economy and resource productivity, to create more employment opportunities;
- (b) expeditiously upgrading Hong Kong’s environmental quality standards for air, potable water, effluent discharge, energy and land use, so as to expand the markets for local green products and professional services and promote green trade;
- (c) assuming the role of leader in green economy to enhance the requirements of government departments for green procurement and implement such requirements within the current year;
- (d) making optimal use of the existing foundation laid by scientific research on environmental protection to foster public and private investment in scientific research on green products, with a view to turning the achievements of Hong Kong’s scientific research into commodities that are beneficial to the Earth;
- (e) providing greater economic incentives and more encouragement to attract the transportation industry and the public to use electric vehicles;
- (f) expeditiously introducing a financial assistance scheme to assist local property owners and enterprises in formulating energy-saving targets and undertaking initiatives to reduce carbon dioxide emissions; and

- (g) organizing the environmental services sector and the recycling industry in Hong Kong and increasing the assistance for them, so as to provide employment opportunities for low-skilled workers; considering establishing social enterprises to provide environmental and recycling services, and providing subsidies and appropriate complementary arrangements for such enterprises, with a view to fully maximizing the benefits of the EcoPark;
- (h) establishing an emissions trading platform and expeditiously enacting relevant legislation to develop Hong Kong into a centre for emissions trading;
- (i) formulating a certification mechanism and labelling scheme for green products;
- (j) adopting more pro-active measures to strengthen the conservation of natural environment, as well as further developing Hong Kong's ecotourism through effective tourism management; and
- (k) making optimal use of the restored landfills to facilitate the production of renewable energy and promote the development of other environmental enterprises in Hong Kong;
- (l) complementing the promotion of green economy through policy changes, including, in the transport aspect, providing subsidies for franchised bus companies to replace old vehicles;
- (m) providing relevant facilities for the introduction of electric vehicles, including providing adequate charging apparatuses and constructing plants for manufacturing vehicle batteries;
- (n) operating the EcoPark in the mode of an industrial estate, flexibly adjusting the areas of lands for lease according to the needs of the applicants, and leasing the lands at low rents so as to attract investors in the environmental protection industry; and
- (o) encouraging the development of a waste recovery economy, establishing a licensing regime for waste collectors and providing operation space, tax concession as well as technical support for waste collectors;
- (p) establishing an 'advisory committee on green economy' and appointing representatives from different industries to sit on it, turning the notion of green economy into different types of front-line jobs so as to create more employment opportunities, and assisting the entire population in boarding the express train of green economy; and
- (q) enhancing education and publicity to instil the concept of green living in the public.