

**Motion on
“Promoting the development of the
testing and certification industry in Hong Kong”
moved by Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 20 May 2009**

Motion as amended by Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan and Hon Fred LI Wah-ming

That recently the Task Force on Economic Challenges has identified the testing and certification industry as one of the six economic areas where Hong Kong has enormous potential for development and considered that this industry could benefit Hong Kong's economy in the medium and long term; moreover, Hong Kong has a professional and established testing and certification industry which brings substantial benefits to our economy and helps safeguard the interests of consumers both locally and overseas; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to grasp the market opportunities and draw up a comprehensive plan to facilitate the growth of this industry by:

- (a) outsourcing more government testing services to private laboratories;
- (b) striving to further relax the restrictions on the industry to establish businesses in the Mainland under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement and promoting the service of the industry in the Mainland and in the region;
- (c) strengthening the local accreditation system to enable the industry to engage in a wider range of testing services;
- (d) reinforcing the reputation of the industry by concluding more mutual recognition agreements overseas, so as to enhance international confidence in export products manufactured in Hong Kong and the Mainland;
- (e) widening the scope of food testing in the interests of consumers;
- (f) introducing tax incentives and other encouragement policies to enhance the development of the industry; and
- (g) discussing with local institutes and organizations to encourage them to provide more testing-and-certification-related training programmes to ease the shortage of specialists in the industry; and
- (h) allocating more resources to the Hong Kong Accreditation Service for providing new accreditation service for food manufacturing process and establishing a certification system for organic food to facilitate consumers to recognize such products.