

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Promoting research and development”
moved by Dr Hon PAN Pey-chyou
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 3 June 2009**

**Motion as amended by Dr Hon Samson TAM Wai-ho, Hon Fred LI Wah-ming
and Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen**

That, in order to meet the challenges of globalization, the Task Force on Economic Challenges has identified six economic areas where Hong Kong enjoys clear advantages as the targets of focal development to boost Hong Kong’s economic growth and provide job opportunities, and in order to successfully promote the development of these economic areas, Hong Kong must lay a solid foundation for research and development (‘R&D’); in this connection, this Council urges the Government to:

- (a) set up committees to make recommendations on policies and various complementary measures for promoting R&D, for implementation by bureaux;
- (b) consolidate and coordinate the existing relevant policies as well as the structures and resources of various related public organizations, so as to more effectively boost Hong Kong’s technological R&D business;
- (c) improve the existing rotation system of administrative officers to nurture a batch of talents with technological R&D mindset, so that long-term technological research strategies can be implemented effectively;
- (d) through education and publicity, foster an atmosphere that emphasizes technological research and innovation;
- (e) take the lead in allocating more funding to enhance the capability of technological research, and stipulate the interim and long-term targets that government funding in R&D shall represent a certain proportion of local gross domestic product;
- (f) establish negotiation platforms in conjunction with Guangdong Province and other regions in the Mainland to achieve complementarity of edge, maximal application of R&D results and effective protection of intellectual property;
- (g) strive for setting up more state partner laboratories in Hong Kong so that Hong Kong may directly participate in more technological research projects at the state level, and assist the relevant industries to strive for participation in formulating the standards for state products;

- (h) formulate policies for nurturing talents in R&D and strategically bring in overseas professionals under the principle of giving priority to local talents;
- (i) introduce tax concessions and other incentives to encourage private organizations to invest in R&D work in Hong Kong, and at the same time bring in multinational enterprises to set up R&D centres in Hong Kong to promote the integration of local and overseas technological research capabilities; and
- (j) make optimal use of the land of the existing industrial estates and science park, etc, and expeditiously develop the land in the boundary districts between Hong Kong and Shenzhen for the purposes of technological R&D and talent training, so as to facilitate the establishment of industry clusters;
- (k) introduce concessionary land premium and concessionary loans to encourage private organizations to operate in the above six economic areas; and
- (l) collaborate with the cities in the Pearl River Delta region to enhance the promotion of technological research projects on clean fuels (including electricity generation and transport), green construction, effluent treatment and solid waste treatment etc, which can facilitate the transformation of industries and upgrade the quality of life in the region; and
- (m) make optimal use of Hong Kong's comprehensive and effective protection regime for intellectual property rights ('IPR') and consider establishing a 'Patent Trademark Authority' to promote Hong Kong as the IPR service centre in the region, so as to attract local and overseas organizations to allocate more resources to R&D work.