

(Translation)

**Motion on  
“Formulating a comprehensive youth policy”  
moved by Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
at the Legislative Council meeting commencing  
on Wednesday, 3 February 2010**

**Motion as amended by Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, Hon IP Wai-ming,  
Hon KAM Nai-wai and Hon CHAN Hak-kan**

That, as the recent spate of social incidents have aroused public concern about the ‘post-eighties’ generation, and in the face of persistently high unemployment rate among the youth, shrinking opportunities for social mobility and the increasingly serious inter-generational poverty problem, coupled with the unclear objectives of the youth services provided by various government bureaux, in particular the lack of opportunity for the youth to participate in social development, this Council urges the Government to immediately consult the youth through various channels to formulate a comprehensive and forward-looking youth policy, and coordinate the work of the relevant bureaux and executive departments, so as to consolidate the existing youth services to meet their needs; in addition, the Government should provide a platform for the youth to participate in social affairs, respect and listen to the views and needs of the youth, so as to enable them to actively participate in social development and establish their goals in life, and promote youth empowerment so that their aspirations and dynamics can be transformed positively and properly into a driving force for social development, and formulate integrated policies on vocational training and employment, so as to consolidate various existing measures which assist the youth in seeking jobs, and update the apprenticeship system to tie in with the transformation of economic structure, so as to provide the youth with another avenue to vocational training apart from mainstream education, and provide for a self-nominating process to enable youth representatives to recommend themselves for joining advisory committees and statutory bodies, and in formulating youth policy, it must encompass different areas such as subsidizing university education, and enhancing social services and leisure and cultural measures, so as to enable the youth to utilize their creativity and vitality, develop an international outlook, establish proper values, strive for social justice and equality, and stay away from gambling, drugs and compensated dating, etc.; and in response to the above aspirations, this Council urges the Government to consider implementing concrete measures, including:

- (a) various principal government officials and bureaux to take the initiative to collect views on the Internet and maintain regular exchanges with the youth on the Internet, so as to understand their views on the Government’s administration;
- (b) to designate a Youth Participation Week each year to organize youth activities or forums etc., so as to increase their opportunities to participate in social affairs;

- (c) government advisory bodies should include more youth representatives;
- (d) to strengthen moral education and education on national identity, and assist the youth in achieving comprehensive development in various aspects such as values, attitudes towards life, psychological qualities, leadership and cultural skills, etc.;
- (e) to alleviate post-secondary students' loan repayment burden by lowering the annual interest rate for student loans, and to make changes to the effect that the interest under the loan schemes will be calculated after a student has secured employment;
- (f) to make good use of the Hong Kong offices on the Mainland to actively collect information of the Mainland on employment situation and legislation and regulations, etc., and to launch a Mainland internship programme for the youth, so as to assist young people who intend to work on the Mainland in seeking jobs or setting up businesses there; and
- (g) to alleviate the difficulties encountered by the youth in buying their own homes through re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme and resuming the provision of a suitable quantity of Home Ownership Scheme flats.