

(Translation)

Motion on
“Advocating a low carbon life”
moved by Hon CHAN Hak-kan
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 10 March 2010

Motion as amended by Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, Hon KAM Nai-wai and Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun

That, as the governments of various places are actively motivating their people and enterprises to lead a low carbon life so as to address global climate change and develop the environmental industry; in this connection, this Council urges the SAR Government to lead Hong Kong to become a low carbon and quality city through comprehensive policies and setting work targets and timetables, and the relevant measures should include:

- (a) to study the establishment of an effective mechanism to enable people to calculate carbon emissions in daily life on their own so as to understand their carbon footprints;
- (b) to study the introduction of a ‘carbon emission reduction bonus point scheme’, whereby the purchase of energy-saving products and reduction in electricity consumption can be exchanged into bonus points which can be used to pay fees of government services and facilities, so as to encourage people to save energy;
- (c) to study further expansion of the coverage of the ‘Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme’;
- (d) to actively promote the ‘Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme’, review its effectiveness and study the feasibility of its mandatory implementation;
- (e) to formulate effective policies to enhance source separation of waste, facilitate food waste recycling and reuse, and optimize the use of landfill gas;
- (f) to expand the scale of the Government’s green product procurement and formulate a labelling system in this respect, so as to facilitate the development of a market for green products;
- (g) to promote the development of local organic agriculture and fisheries and improve the labelling system for organic products, so that people can purchase agriculture and fishery products with low carbon footprints;
- (h) to encourage enterprises to make efforts to reduce carbon emissions, including offering assistance in conducting carbon audits, upgrading emission reduction technology, and obtaining accredited certification, etc.;

- (i) to strengthen greening efforts to achieve the objectives of improving cityscape and reducing heat island effects;
- (j) to actively develop green transportation, including electric vehicles, install more escalators and expand cycling tracks to reduce carbon emissions arising from transport needs;
- (k) to step up publicity and education to encourage people to live a low carbon life; and
- (l) to enhance the support for the grassroots and the disadvantaged, so as to reduce the impacts on them caused by the society's transformation process to a low carbon city;
- (m) to improve and develop footbridge and subway networks, and encourage people to make more use of public transportation and mass transit systems;
- (n) to expeditiously legislate to ban idling vehicles with running engines, subsidize franchised bus companies to replace their high-polluting old-model vehicles, designate 'low emission zones' in areas with serious air pollution and restrict the entry of heavy diesel vehicles with high emissions into such zones, so as to improve roadside air quality;
- (o) to adopt the World Health Organization's Air Quality Guidelines for setting air quality benchmarks and the timetable for achieving such benchmarks, and amend the Air Pollution Control Ordinance to make 'protecting public health' a statutory requirement; and
- (p) to expeditiously and directly subsidize people to use compact fluorescent lamps and other energy-saving products;
- (q) to provide tax allowance or concession for private enterprises which are willing to procure products with eco-label certification; and
- (r) to actively develop hybrid vehicles and advocate the use of biodiesel.