(Translation)

Motion on "Concern about the quality and regulation of proprietary Chinese medicines" moved by Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long at the Legislative Council meeting of Wednesday, 19 May 2010

Motion as amended by Dr Hon PAN Pey-chyou

That, given that recently some proprietary Chinese medicines are found to contain ingredients of forbidden drugs and toxic substances and hence have to be recalled from the market, arousing the concern of various sectors and, at the same time, exposing the loopholes in the Government's policy on Chinese medicine as well as the deficiencies of its regulatory system, which have led to problems in the registration system for proprietary Chinese medicines at the present stage and the fact that the quality of proprietary Chinese medicines available on the market cannot be assured, thus posing a threat to the life and health of the public, this Council urges that the Government must expeditiously improve the policy on Chinese medicine, strengthen regulation and ensure the quality and safety of proprietary Chinese medicines available on the market, so as to safeguard pubic health; and the Government, while exercising regulation, also has the responsibility to provide support for the trade, including considering the establishment of a 'committee on the development of Chinese medicine' to promote long-term development of the Chinese medicine trade in Hong Kong, thereby enabling the trade to upgrade its quality and enhance its self-regulation on the safety of proprietary Chinese medicines.