

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 209/10-11

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Date : 19 November 2010

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 24 November 2010

**Proposed amendments to motion on
“Promoting the waste recycling industries”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 167/10-11 issued on 12 November 2010, five Members (Hon IP Wai-ming, Hon KAM Nai-wai, Hon Tanya CHAN, Hon CHAN Hak-kan and Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung) have respectively given notice of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon Vincent FANG Kang’s motion on “Promoting the waste recycling industries” scheduled for the Council meeting of 24 November 2010. As directed by the President, the respective proposed amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. The President will order a joint debate on the above motion and amendments. To assist Members in debating the motion and amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) the President calls upon Hon Vincent FANG to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon Vincent FANG’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the five Members, who intend to move amendments, to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
 - (i) Hon IP Wai-ming;
 - (ii) Hon KAM Nai-wai;

- (iii) Hon Tanya CHAN;
 - (iv) Hon CHAN Hak-kan; and
 - (v) Hon Jeffrey LAM;
- (d) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak;
 - (e) the President invites other Members to speak;
 - (f) the President gives leave to Hon Vincent FANG to speak for the second time on the amendments;
 - (g) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) again to speak;
 - (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the five Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon IP Wai-ming to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon IP Wai-ming's amendment;
 - (i) after Hon IP Wai-ming's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other four amendments; and
 - (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon Vincent FANG to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon Vincent FANG's motion, or his motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' ease of reference, the terms of the original motion and of the motion, if amended, are set out in the **Appendix**.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on
“Promoting the waste recycling industries”
to be held at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 24 November 2010**

1. Hon Vincent FANG Kang’s original motion

That, over 90% of the recyclable waste currently recovered in Hong Kong is exported to other countries or places for recycling, yet owing to developed countries’ gradual tightening of their policies on waste import, the number of countries permitting waste import will decrease in the future; in order to resolve the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong in the long run, it is of utmost importance to extend the categories and proportion of recyclable waste recovery and expedite the development of Hong Kong’s environmental and recycling industries; in this connection, this Council proposes that:

- (a) the Government should conceive an overall waste policy on the 3R concept (i.e. reduce, reuse and recycle), so as to formulate a follow-through policy on reducing, recovering and recycling waste, implementing and promoting it in a well-planned manner, with a view to resolving the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong, encouraging the development of environment-related new industries, promoting sustainable economic development and creating more employment opportunities;
- (b) since waste recycling industries require considerable investments but yield relatively low returns, the Government should therefore, by making reference to the policies of developed countries on promoting environmental and waste recycling industries, formulate local preferential policies, including providing land and tax concessions, technology support, etc., so as to encourage the commercial sector to invest in waste recovery and recycling industries; and
- (c) while broadening the scope of product eco-responsibility, present efforts in recovering recyclable waste should be extended, and the use of green products by society should be encouraged; the Government should avoid making environmental levies prevalent in Hong Kong or charging to another kind of consumption tax, so as not to turn Hong Kong into a ‘taxes and levies capital’, tarnish Hong Kong’s reputation as a shoppers’ paradise, affecting people’s daily habits and boosting inflation.

2. Motion as amended by Hon IP Wai-ming

That, *although the recovery rate of municipal solid waste in Hong Kong has risen to 49%*, over 90% of the recyclable waste currently recovered ~~in Hong Kong~~ is exported to other countries or places for recycling, yet *and* owing to developed countries' gradual tightening of their policies on waste import, the number of countries permitting waste import will decrease in the future; in order to resolve the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong in the long run, it is of utmost importance to extend the categories and proportion of recyclable waste recovery and expedite the development of Hong Kong's environmental and recycling industries; in this connection, this Council proposes that:

- (a) *the various policies and measures put forward in 'A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)' should be expeditiously fulfilled and implemented, so as to achieve the various targets proposed in the Policy Framework by 2014;*
- (a)(b) the Government should conceive an overall waste policy on the 3R concept (i.e. reduce, reuse and recycle), so as to formulate a follow-through policy on reducing, recovering and recycling waste, implementing and promoting it in a well-planned manner, with a view to resolving the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong, encouraging the development of environment-related new industries, promoting ~~sustainable economic development~~ *a 'circular economy' capable of sustainable development* and creating more employment opportunities;
- (b)(c) since waste recycling industries require considerable investments but yield relatively low returns, the Government should therefore, by making reference to the policies of developed countries on promoting environmental and waste recycling industries, ~~formulate local~~ *and having regard to the requirements and uniqueness of different recyclable products, formulate various preferential policies for developing local recycling industries*, including providing land and tax concessions, technology *and operational* support, etc., so as to encourage the commercial sector to invest in waste recovery and recycling industries; ~~and~~
- (c)(d) while broadening the scope of product eco-responsibility, present efforts in recovering recyclable waste should be extended, ~~and the use of~~ *including implementing non-punitive measures to encourage members*

~~of the public to increase their awareness of waste recovery and expanding community waste recovery networks, and a more extensive use of various green products by society should be encouraged; the Government should avoid making environmental levies prevalent in Hong Kong or charging to another kind of consumption tax, so as not to turn Hong Kong into a ‘taxes and levies capital’, tarnish Hong Kong’s reputation as a shoppers’ paradise, affecting people’s daily habits and boosting inflation~~

- (e) ***while developing recycling industries, the Government must also assist the industries concerned in integrating into the communities, and through various support measures ranging from community planning, improving recovery venue designs, improving transport networks to environmental hygiene, etc., enable recycling industries to have the acceptance and support of residents, thereby expanding community waste recovery networks; and***
- (f) ***prohibition orders on landfill disposal should be made, and the separation and recovery of solid waste should be promoted, so as to reduce the disposal of recyclable materials at landfills, increase the volumes of waste recovery and prolong the lifespan of landfills; at the same time, for those landfills that are near the residential areas and close to saturation, timetables for their closure should be drawn up, so as to avoid the authorities lessening their efforts to develop recycling industries and related measures due to the reliance on landfills expansion to tackle the problem of solid waste.***

Note: Hon IP Wai-ming’s amendment is marked in ***bold and italic type*** or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon KAM Nai-wai

That, *whereas* over 90% of the recyclable waste currently recovered in Hong Kong is exported to other countries or places for recycling, yet owing to developed countries’ gradual tightening of their policies on waste import, the number of countries permitting waste import will decrease in the future; in order to resolve the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong in the long run, it is of utmost importance to extend the categories and proportion of recyclable waste recovery and expedite the development of Hong Kong’s environmental and recycling industries; in this connection, this Council proposes that:

- (a) the Government should conceive an overall waste policy on the 3R concept (i.e. reduce, reuse and recycle), so as to formulate a follow-through policy on reducing, recovering and recycling waste, implementing and promoting it in a well-planned manner, with a view to resolving the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong, encouraging the development of environment-related new industries, promoting sustainable economic development and creating more employment opportunities;
- (b) since waste recycling industries require considerable investments but yield relatively low returns, the Government should therefore, by making reference to the policies of developed countries on promoting environmental and waste recycling industries, formulate local preferential policies, including providing land and tax concessions, technology support, etc., so as to encourage the commercial sector to invest in waste recovery and recycling industries; ~~and~~
- (c) ~~while broadening producer responsibility should be promoted, and producer responsibility schemes for waste electrical and electronic products should be expeditiously implemented;~~ the scope of product eco-responsibility; ~~and present efforts in recovering recyclable waste should be extended, and the use of green products by society should be encouraged; the Government should avoid making environmental levies prevalent in Hong Kong or charging to another kind of consumption tax, so as not to turn Hong Kong into a ‘taxes and levies capital’, tarnish Hong Kong’s reputation as a shoppers’ paradise, affecting people’s daily habits and boosting inflation~~ ***under the ‘polluter pays’ principle, the Government should actively study various financial means, such as the provision of financial incentives or the imposition of levies, etc., to encourage and motivate the public to more proactively practise waste reduction at source, waste separation and recycling in their daily life;***
- (d) ***studies should be conducted on the establishment of a licensing system for waste recovery operators and the allocation of space in some existing refuse collection points for use by waste recovery operators, so as to reduce nuisance to local communities;***
- (e) ***studies should be actively conducted on the designation of test points in various districts and the provision of land and financial incentives to people and organizations of local communities and social enterprises, so as to encourage residents in various districts to participate in the development of waste recovery and recycling industries;***

- (f) *the development of the EcoPark should be expedited to provide waste recovery and recycling operators with supporting infrastructure facilities, so as to attract more interested operators to participate; and*
- (g) *the relevant publicity and public education work should be strengthened to increase the public awareness and understanding of the advantages and importance of waste reduction at source and the recovery, separation and recycling of waste.*

Note: Hon KAM Nai-wai's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

4. Motion as amended by Hon Tanya CHAN

That, *as waste recycling is an important segment of the solid waste management policy, the SAR Government must formulate a comprehensive solid waste management policy;* over 90% of the recyclable waste currently recovered in Hong Kong is exported to other countries or places for recycling, yet owing to developed countries' gradual tightening of their policies on waste import, the number of countries permitting waste import will decrease in the future; in order to resolve the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong in the long run, it is of utmost importance to extend the categories and proportion of recyclable waste recovery and expedite the development of Hong Kong's environmental and recycling industries; in this connection, this Council proposes that:

- (a) the Government should conceive an overall waste policy on the 3R concept (i.e. reduce, reuse and recycle), so as to formulate a follow-through policy on reducing, recovering and recycling waste, implementing and promoting it in a well-planned manner, with a view to resolving the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong, encouraging the development of environment-related new industries, promoting sustainable economic development and creating more employment opportunities;
- (b) since waste recycling industries require considerable investments but yield relatively low returns, the Government should therefore, by making reference to the policies of developed countries on promoting environmental and waste recycling industries, formulate local preferential policies, including providing land and tax concessions, technology support, etc., so as to encourage the commercial sector to invest in waste recovery and recycling industries; ~~and~~

- (c) while broadening the scope of product eco-responsibility, present efforts in recovering recyclable waste should be extended, and the use of green products by society should be encouraged; ~~the Government should avoid making environmental levies prevalent in Hong Kong or charging to another kind of consumption tax, so as not to turn Hong Kong into a ‘taxes and levies capital’, tarnish Hong Kong’s reputation as a shoppers’ paradise, affecting people’s daily habits and boosting inflation~~
- (d) *the Government should allocate the proceeds from implementing the producer responsibility system to establish a special fund to support the development of the recycling industry and other environmental industries on a ‘dedicated-fund-for-dedicated-use’ basis;*
- (e) *studies should be conducted on the introduction of a licensing and certification system to strengthen the regulation of waste recovery operators, and consideration should be given to establishing a platform for assisting recognized waste recovery operators to liaise with potential clients, so as to upgrade the effectiveness of waste recovery services;*
- (f) *studies should be conducted on the establishment of a certification system for manufacturers of environmental products to ensure that the raw materials and manufacturing procedures of the products concerned meet certain environmental standards, with a view to enhancing the recognition of environmental products, and the Government should consider taking the lead to fully use environmental products that meet certain environmental standards;*
- (g) *the Government should review its existing policy on the provision of recycling bins, including providing recycling bins in all government buildings, hospitals and schools, and it should also consider installing a greater number of rubbish bins equipped with recycling bins to replace the existing ones on the street, so as to enhance the efficiency of waste recovery and separation; and*
- (h) *public education on waste separation at source and waste recycling should be stepped up, and studies should be conducted on whether there is a need to provide financial incentives or legislate for mandatory enforcement in the future, so as to promote waste recovery more effectively.*

Note: Hon Tanya CHAN’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

5. Motion as amended by Hon CHAN Hak-kan

That, *in the face of the danger of over-saturated landfills, the community has long since reached a consensus on actively promoting waste reduction and recycling as the ultimate solution, but* over 90% of the recyclable waste currently recovered in Hong Kong is exported to other countries or places for recycling, yet owing to developed countries' gradual tightening of their policies on waste import, the number of countries permitting waste import will decrease in the future; in order to resolve the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong in the long run, it is of utmost importance to extend the categories and proportion of recyclable waste recovery and expedite the development of Hong Kong's environmental and recycling industries; in this connection, this Council proposes that:

- (a) the Government should conceive an overall waste policy on the 3R concept (i.e. reduce, reuse and recycle), so as to formulate a follow-through policy on reducing, recovering and recycling waste, implementing and promoting it in a well-planned manner, with a view to resolving the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong, encouraging the development of environment-related new industries, promoting ~~sustainable economic development~~ *the sustainable development of a 'circular economy'* and creating more employment opportunities;
- (b) since waste recycling industries require considerable investments but yield relatively low returns, the Government should therefore, by making reference to the policies of developed countries on promoting environmental and waste recycling industries, formulate local preferential policies, including providing land and tax concessions, technology support, etc., so as to encourage the commercial sector to invest in waste recovery and recycling industries; ~~and~~
- (c) ~~while broadening~~ *the Government should, taking into consideration principles such as the environmental harms of products and their impact on waste-generation volumes, broaden* the scope of product eco-responsibility; *at the same time*, present efforts in recovering recyclable waste should be extended, and *a system of green products certification and labelling should be formulated; and the Government should take the lead in stepping up green procurement, so as to encourage* the use of green products by society ~~should be encouraged~~;

- (d) *the Government should, under the ‘polluter pays’ principle and on the premise of not seriously affecting people’s livelihood expenditure, conceive other feasible financial incentives and measures to encourage the society to reduce waste and step up waste separation and recovery, but the Government should avoid making environmental levies prevalent in Hong Kong or changing to another kind of consumption tax **that constitutes a source of government revenue**, so as not to turn Hong Kong into a ‘taxes and levies capital’, tarnish Hong Kong’s reputation as a shoppers’ paradise, affecting people’s daily habits and boosting inflation; **and***
- (e) *since 40% of the municipal solid waste at present is perishable waste such as food waste, the Government should devise an effective mechanism for the massive recovery of food waste, construct additional food waste recycling facilities, and encourage private organizations to engage in the food waste recovery and recycling industry.*

Note: Hon CHAN Hak-kan’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

6. Motion as amended by Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung

That, *the overall recovery rate of municipal solid waste in Hong Kong already rose to 49% in 2009, and quite a number of countries and cities have made determined efforts to turn waste into energy in recent years; waste is no longer treated as worthless garbage but as recyclable materials and a source of energy; yet, over 90% of the recyclable waste ~~currently recovered in Hong Kong~~ is exported to other countries or places for recycling, ~~yet owing to;~~ **with** developed countries’ gradual tightening of their policies on waste import, the number of countries permitting waste import will decrease in the future; in order to resolve the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong in the long run, it is of utmost importance to extend the categories and proportion of recyclable waste recovery and expedite the development of Hong Kong’s environmental and recycling industries; in this connection, this Council proposes that:*

- (a) the Government should conceive an overall waste policy on the 3R concept (i.e. reduce, reuse and recycle), so as to formulate a follow-through policy on reducing, recovering and recycling waste, implementing and promoting it in a well-planned manner, with a view to resolving the problem of waste accumulation in Hong Kong, encouraging the development of environment-related new industries,

promoting sustainable economic development and creating more employment opportunities;

- (b) ~~since waste recycling industries require considerable investments but yield relatively low returns,~~ ***policies should be formulated to promote the upgrading of the recycling industries in Hong Kong, such as the production of biodiesel, the upgrading of waste for recycling, etc., and*** the Government should ~~therefore,~~ by making reference to the policies of developed countries on promoting environmental and waste recycling industries, formulate local preferential policies, including providing land and tax concessions, technology support, etc., so as to encourage the commercial sector to invest in waste recovery and recycling industries; ~~and~~
- (c) while broadening the scope of product eco-responsibility, present efforts in recovering recyclable waste should be extended, and the use of green products by society should be encouraged; the Government should avoid making environmental levies prevalent in Hong Kong or charging to another kind of consumption tax, so as not to turn Hong Kong into a ‘taxes and levies capital’, tarnish Hong Kong’s reputation as a shoppers’ paradise, affecting people’s daily habits and boosting inflation; ***and***
- (d) ***the Government should assist small and medium enterprises in applying for various types of environmental certification, so as to facilitate the development of environmental industries.***

Note: Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung’s amendment is marked in ***bold and italic type*** or with deletion line.