

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Concern about the impact of the earthquake in Japan on Hong Kong”
moved by Hon WONG Ting-kwong
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 30 March 2011**

Motion as amended by Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip, Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, Hon WONG Kwok-hing and Prof Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing

That, given that since an earthquake of magnitude 9.0 on the Richter Scale that occurred in Japan on 11 March has, apart from causing enormous casualties, also affected the global economy, this Council urges the SAR Government to, having regard to the latest development of the incident, strengthen the monitoring of the impact of the earthquake in Japan on Hong Kong’s financial market, import and export trade, consumer market of Japanese products and tourism industry, and provide timely information and adopt effective measures, so as to lessen the impact of the earthquake in Japan on the Hong Kong economy and stabilize people’s confidence; at the same time, given that the problem of nuclear power safety triggered by the earthquake in Japan has aroused Hong Kong people’s concern about their health, this Council urges the SAR Government to step up surveillance of the radiation levels in Hong Kong and the safety tests on food products imported from Japan, and announce the relevant surveillance information as soon as possible; moreover, the SAR Government should strengthen the publicity of the contingency plan for nuclear power incidents to the public, and recommend the Guangdong provincial authorities to increase the number of non-routine inspections and perfect the existing notification mechanism for nuclear power incidents; this Council also urges the SAR Government to reflect to the Central Government that it should:

(a) strengthen in the immediate future the monitoring of nuclear power plants which are in operation; (b) immediately conduct a comprehensive inspection of all nuclear power projects which are being planned and nuclear power plants which are being constructed, carry out safety assessments based on the most stringent standards, immediately halt the construction of those which do not meet safety standards, and suspend vetting and approving new nuclear power projects before the approval of safety plans; and (c) strengthen the safety and operational management of nuclear power plants which are in operation, and adopt relevant measures to ensure their absolute safety, so as to immune nationals from the threat of nuclear power incidents; at the same time, the SAR Government should closely monitor the impact of the disastrous crisis in Japan on the various industries in Hong Kong, and by making reference to the Special Loan Guarantee Scheme launched in response to the financial tsunami, provide appropriate assistance to Hong Kong’s small and medium enterprises which are facing operating difficulties; put in place a permanent mechanism for

conducting sustained safety tests on food products imported from Japan, and continue to announce on a regular basis the details of the relevant surveillance information with a high degree of transparency; and by making reference to the contingency arrangements for nuclear power incidents in other places, plan for emergency fallout shelters at appropriate locations in Hong Kong, particularly in the East New Territories region which is relatively close to the Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station, and stock up relevant emergency supplies, so as to cope with any possible accidents occurred at the nuclear power station; the SAR Government should also popularize and enhance people's knowledge about nuclear power generation, and raise the public's understanding of ways to respond to the nuclear power incidents, thereby eliminating irrational fear and reinforcing the knowledge and capability of all members of the public about their safety protection against radiation contamination; this Council also expresses its deep condolences to the affected Japanese people.