

(Translation)

Motion on
“Promoting regional economic integration
between Guangdong and Hong Kong”
moved by Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 4 May 2011

Motion as amended by Dr Hon Samson TAM Wai-ho, Hon WONG Kwok-hing, Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yea and Hon CHAN Kam-lam

That, given that our country’s Twelfth Five-Year Plan proposes to promote joint regional economic development, intensify exchanges and co-operation between the Mainland and Hong Kong, continue to materialize the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation, and implement the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement and its seven Supplements; with the construction and completion of cross-boundary transport networks between the two places, the SAR Government, while assisting Hong Kong enterprises in going north to open up the Mainland market, must formulate a long-term and sustainable policy to attract more enterprises on the Mainland to establish international headquarters in Hong Kong, facilitate the inflow of Mainland and overseas capital to Hong Kong and create more employment opportunities for Hong Kong; therefore, the SAR Government must adopt a forward-looking attitude and formulate policies and measures which are conducive to promoting the development of the two places; in this connection, this Council urges the SAR Government:

- (a) to assist Hong Kong businessmen with manufacturing businesses in the Pearl River Delta Region in upgrading and restructuring;
- (b) to set up funds for promoting Hong Kong brand names, products and professional services on the Mainland market, so as to assist local small and medium enterprises in expanding into the Mainland domestic market;
- (c) to provide support to local enterprises for developing small-scale technology industries and commercializing the achievements of their scientific research;
- (d) to formulate appropriate policies to help Hong Kong businessmen on the Mainland enhance their innovation and scientific research capability, and assist enterprises in undertaking technological innovation and developing green economy in Guangdong Province;

- (e) to jointly develop Qianhai New District in Shenzhen into a ‘Hong Kong/Guangdong modern service industry innovation and co-operation exemplary zone’;
- (f) to strengthen financial co-operation and innovation by fostering on all fronts intensive co-operation between Guangdong and Hong Kong in financial markets, financial institutions and financial businesses, etc.;
- (g) to jointly promote the formulation of an exchange mechanism for developing the logistics industry, with a view to establishing an international logistics centre and building a modern economic circulation sphere;
- (h) to expand the scope of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao tourism co-operation;
- (i) to introduce tax provisions for cross-border workers and encourage Hong Kong’s talents who are engaged in service industries as well as scientific and technological research to work on the Mainland, so as to support the development of high-end service sectors, manufacturing industries and technologies on the Mainland;
- (j) to expeditiously conduct studies on establishing a fourth industrial estate and formulate an implementation timetable, with a view to creating better conditions for expanding local industries with competitive edge, so as to dovetail with the Twelfth Five-Year Plan and regional economic integration between Guangdong and Hong Kong, thus creating more new employment opportunities for Hong Kong; and
- (k) to expeditiously and comprehensively review and reform Hong Kong’s schemes for investment immigrants, draw on the successful experience of Singapore or the United States in introducing entrepreneurial investment immigration, enhance the entrepreneurial environment in Hong Kong for increasing employment opportunities, and formulate a review timetable in this regard,

thereby enabling Hong Kong’s professional services to radiate into the entire Guangdong Province, assisting in the rapid development of the high value-added Mainland economy, while at the same time raising Hong Kong’s level and enhancing its value-adding, and developing Guangdong and Hong Kong into a world-class urban agglomeration to grasp the new opportunities of the regional economy;

this Council also urges the SAR Government:

- (l) to expeditiously review the existing support arrangements and tax concessions;
- (m) to set up funds for the upgrading and restructuring of small and medium enterprises;
- (n) to discuss with the Mainland to further improve the situation of ‘Big doors are open, but small doors are shut’, including further relaxing the threshold of market access and strengthening mutual recognition of professional qualifications, so as to facilitate Hong Kong’s small and medium enterprises to expand their business on the Mainland;
- (o) to provide tax concessions for scientific research;
- (p) to provide financing channels and professional advice to help Hong Kong businessmen on the Mainland enhance their innovation and scientific research capability;
- (q) to strive to ensure that cross-boundary infrastructures, including the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge project, etc., can be completed as scheduled, and avoid incompatibility with Mainland transport networks;
- (r) to streamline the customs clearance procedures of both Guangdong and Hong Kong, and actively conduct studies on establishing additional control points with the co-location of immigration and customs facilities or on adopting additional measures to facilitate immigration and customs clearance, so as to facilitate the smooth and unobstructed two-way flows of people and goods;
- (s) to strive for the adoption of more early and pilot implementation policies in Qianhai New District; and
- (t) to avoid double taxation;
- (u) to encourage Guangdong enterprises to invest in Hong Kong, and use Hong Kong for going global and making overseas investments; and
- (v) to improve the co-operation mechanisms to jointly develop a Greater Pearl River Delta metropolitan area.