

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 594/12-13

Ref : CB(3)/M/MM

Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 16 May 2013

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 22 May 2013

**Amendments to motion on
“Enhancing the overall sustainable competitiveness of Hong Kong”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 563/12-13 issued on 8 May 2013, six Members (Hon TANG Ka-piu, Hon Christopher CHEUNG, Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN, Hon WU Chi-wai and Hon Charles Peter MOK) have respectively given notices of their intention to move separate amendments to Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai’s motion on “Enhancing the overall sustainable competitiveness of Hong Kong” scheduled for the Council meeting of 22 May 2013. As directed by the President, the respective 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 Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the six Members who wish to move amendments to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:

- (i) Hon TANG Ka-piu;
 - (ii) Hon Christopher CHEUNG;
 - (iii) Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok;
 - (iv) Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN;
 - (v) Hon WU Chi-wai; and
 - (vi) Hon Charles Peter MOK;
- (d) the President calls upon the public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) the President invites other Members to speak;
- (f) the President gives leave to Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai to speak for the second time on the amendments;
- (g) the President calls upon the public officer(s) to speak again;
- (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the six Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon TANG Ka-piu to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon TANG Ka-piu's amendment;
- (i) after Hon TANG Ka-piu's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other five amendments; and
- (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai'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**.

(Odelia LEUNG)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on
“Enhancing the overall sustainable competitiveness of Hong Kong”
to be held at the Council meeting of 22 May 2013**

1. Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai’s original motion

That the China Urban Competitiveness Reports issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in recent years point out that the gap between Hong Kong’s competitiveness and that of other Mainland cities is continuously getting narrower, and Hong Kong’s overall growth is relatively slow, with the scale of its economy expected to lag behind those of Mainland cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, etc., by 2015; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of areas such as economic development, improvement of people’s livelihood, promotion of democracy, etc., and formulate feasible and timely policies which will be implemented, so as to enhance Hong Kong’s overall sustainable competitiveness.

2. Motion as amended by Hon TANG Ka-piu

That, *given that* the China Urban Competitiveness Reports issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in recent years point out that the gap between Hong Kong’s competitiveness and that of other Mainland cities is continuously getting narrower, and Hong Kong’s overall growth is relatively slow, with the scale of its economy expected to lag behind those of Mainland cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, etc., by 2015; ~~in this connection~~, this Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of areas such as economic development, improvement of people’s livelihood, promotion of democracy, etc., and formulate feasible and timely policies which will be implemented, so as to enhance Hong Kong’s overall sustainable competitiveness; *such policies include:*

- (1) *to develop diversified industries to make the economic structure more balanced;*
- (2) *to strengthen talent training, make good use of the ‘first-hire-then-train’ approach to attract new entrants, and reform the apprenticeship system, so as to strengthen youth vocational training and develop talents for the future;*

- (3) *to lower the rental costs in society;*
- (4) *to systematically absorb groups with employment difficulties, including the middle-aged, persons with disabilities and single parents, etc., and to train them and provide them with employment support; and*
- (5) *to ensure through social policies that all sectors of society may share the fruits of economic development.*

Note: Hon TANG Ka-piu's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon Christopher CHEUNG

That, *with the continuous development of the Mainland economy*, the China Urban Competitiveness Reports issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in recent years point out that the gap between Hong Kong's competitiveness and that of other Mainland cities is continuously getting narrower, and Hong Kong's overall growth is relatively slow, with the scale of its economy expected to lag behind those of Mainland cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, etc., by 2015; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of areas such as economic development, improvement of people's livelihood, promotion of democracy, etc., and, *on areas such as continuous promotion of Hong Kong as an international financial centre*, formulate feasible and timely policies which will be implemented, so as to enhance Hong Kong's overall sustainable competitiveness.

Note: Hon Christopher CHEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.

4. Motion as amended by Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok

That, *as* the China Urban Competitiveness Reports issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in recent years point out that the gap between Hong Kong's competitiveness and that of other Mainland cities is continuously getting narrower, and Hong Kong's overall growth is relatively slow, with the scale of its economy expected to lag behind those of Mainland cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, etc., by 2015; ~~in this connection~~, this Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of areas such as economic development, improvement of people's

livelihood, promotion of democracy, etc., and formulate ~~feasible and timely policies~~ *a long-term, comprehensive and diversified policy on industries* which will be implemented *to consolidate pillar industries, promote emerging industries and revitalize traditional industries*, so as to enhance Hong Kong's overall sustainable competitiveness *and continue with its advantages*.

Note: Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

5. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN

That *Hong Kong's clean, transparent, fair and open institutions that value the rule of law, the basic rights and freedom enjoyed by the public, and the adaptability and innovative spirit of the society are all important elements constituting the sustainable competitiveness of the Hong Kong economy; due to the aforesaid important elements, Hong Kong's competitiveness has all along occupied a leading position in the world, but* the China Urban Competitiveness Reports issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in recent years point out that the gap between Hong Kong's competitiveness and that of other Mainland cities is continuously getting narrower, and Hong Kong's overall growth is relatively slow, with the scale of its economy expected to lag behind those of Mainland cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, etc., by 2015; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of areas such as economic development, improvement of people's livelihood, promotion of democracy, etc., ~~and~~ formulate feasible and timely policies which will be implemented, ~~so as to enhance~~ *implement the election of the Chief Executive by genuine universal suffrage in 2017, abolish the functional constituencies in the Legislative Council, enact an archives law and legislation on freedom of information, safeguard human rights, the rule of law and freedom of the press in Hong Kong, uphold a clean level-playing field for businesses, promote environmental protection and sustainable development, and put forward a visionary blueprint on education and manpower training, so as to exert* Hong Kong's overall sustainable competitiveness.

Note: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

6. Motion as amended by Hon WU Chi-wai

That *Hong Kong as an international city needs to continuously enhance its strengths in various areas in order to maintain and foster its competitive advantages; The Economist pointed out in its 2012 global city ranking list that*

*Hong Kong's economic strength ranked the 20th, which was inferior to those of Singapore, New York, Tokyo and many cities in China, and the efficiency of Hong Kong's public organizations ranked lower than those of 21 international cities, with its ranking in terms of 'the most competitive city in Asia' also behind Singapore's; Mercer, a human resources consultancy firm, points out that Hong Kong's quality of living only ranks the 70th among the 200 or so cities and is outdistanced by many international cities; in addition, the latest corruption index of a corruption watchdog Transparency International indicates that Hong Kong's score is less than 80 for the first time, far lower than those of Singapore and several Northern European cities; and the China Urban Competitiveness Reports issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in recent years point out that the gap between Hong Kong's competitiveness and that of other Mainland cities is continuously getting narrower, and Hong Kong's overall growth is relatively slow, with the scale of its economy expected to lag behind those of Mainland cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, etc., by 2015; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of areas such as economic development, improvement of people's livelihood, promotion of democracy, **improvement of the environment, enhancement of cultural and innovative developments, education**, etc., and formulate feasible and timely policies which will be implemented, so as to enhance Hong Kong's overall sustainable competitiveness; **the specific measures should include:***

- (1) to promote democratic progress, immediately launch public consultation on constitutional development, formulate constitutional reform proposals in accordance with the Basic Law and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of the United Nations, and implement universal suffrage for the election of the Chief Executive in 2017 and that of all Members of the Legislative Council in 2020, and put in place a democratic political system marked by universality and equality;*
- (2) to review and uphold Hong Kong's integrity, and safeguard human rights, freedom of the press, freedom of speech and judicial independence in Hong Kong;*
- (3) to actively alleviate poverty, narrow the disparity between the rich and the poor, conduct extensive public consultation for formulating a development blueprint on Hong Kong's social welfare policies for the next five and 10 years to ensure eligible persons receiving the required services within an appropriate time frame; and, in response to the changes in Hong Kong's economic and social environment, to formulate a comprehensive poverty elimination policy to reduce the negative impact of the disparity between the rich and the poor on Hong Kong's social development;*

- (4) *to enact legislation on standard working hours at 44 hours a week, with overtime compensation 1.5 times of the normal pay, so as to balance employees' incomes and working hours and improve their quality of life;*
- (5) *to expeditiously grant free television licences, which not only enables the public to watch television programmes with choices, but also facilitates the development of the television and creative media industries in Hong Kong;*
- (6) *to provide a reasonable, fair and impartial business environment to enable small and medium enterprises to have opportunities to compete with large consortia fairly;*
- (7) *to implement various measures for improving air pollution (including local and regional pollution sources) and reducing carbon emissions;*
- (8) *to protect the ecological resources of the existing country parks and marine parks, and promote sustainable urban development; and*
- (9) *to implement 15-year free education, practise small-class teaching in secondary schools, increase the number of funded programme places offered by post-secondary institutions, and set a quota on the number of overseas students under postgraduate programmes in graduate schools of universities, so as to guarantee the quality of local education, enable its development and nurture local talents for enhancing Hong Kong's competitiveness.*

Note: Hon WU Chi-wai's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.

7. Motion as amended by Hon Charles Peter MOK

That the China Urban Competitiveness Reports issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in recent years point out that the gap between Hong Kong's competitiveness and that of other Mainland cities is continuously getting narrower, and Hong Kong's overall growth is relatively slow, with the scale of its economy expected to lag behind those of Mainland cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, etc., by 2015; *in addition, the statistics of The Global Competitiveness Report 2012-2013 indicate that the respondents generally opine that Hong Kong is being affected by factors such as insufficient room for innovative development, declining efficiency of government bureaucracy, and inadequate level of education of the workforce, etc., which hinder Hong Kong's business environment;* in this connection, this

Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of areas such as economic development, improvement of people's livelihood, *perfection of the education system, support for the development of the innovative industry*, promotion of democracy *and implementation of dual universal suffrage*, etc., and formulate feasible and timely *long-term* policies which will be implemented, so as to enhance Hong Kong's overall sustainable competitiveness.

Note: Hon Charles Peter MOK's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.