立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 648/16-17

Ref : CB(3)/M/MM

Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 8 June 2017

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 21 June 2017

Motion on "Safeguarding animal rights"

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has given notice to move the attached motion on "Safeguarding animal rights" at the Council meeting of 21 June 2017. The President has directed that it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

> (Dora WAI) for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

Motion on "Safeguarding animal rights" to be moved by Hon KWONG Chun-yu at the Council meeting of 21 June 2017

Wording of the Motion

That in view of growing public concern over animal rights, this Council has passed legislative amendments to increase penalties for cruelty to animals, but animal cruelty cases still keep occurring; Hong Kong's animal welfare policy lags far behind that of other places, and definitions in the relevant legislation are based on concepts in the early part of the last century; since the Administration has failed to implement an 'animal-friendly policy', there is insufficient animal-friendly space in the communities, resulting in the euthanization of more than 10 000 animals a year; to safeguard animal rights, this Council urges the Government to:

- (1) draw reference from the relevant legislation in other places to expeditiously enact legislation on providing comprehensive animal protection, with contents covering affirmation of the definition of animal cruelty, inclusion of the concept of 'a duty of animal care', and the classification of abandonment of animals as an act of animal cruelty;
- (2) step up enforcement actions against unlicensed animal breeding facilities, enhance the inspection power of law enforcement officers, consult the public on extending the regulatory system for animal registration and breeding to cover cats and other animals commonly kept as pets, and impose a total ban on the online sale of animals;
- (3) study and follow other countries' practice of establishing specialized teams of 'animal police' to investigate animal cruelty cases, with a view to curbing animal cruelty;
- (4) comprehensively take forward the scheme of 'Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return' in various districts, prohibit the euthanization of stray cats and dogs, and enhance the transparency of handling stray animals by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department;

- (5) increase activity space in the communities for the integration of animals and human beings, including exploring the feasibility of providing more parks and leisure venues admitting animals and permitting passengers to bring along their pets when travelling on public transport; and
- (6) step up publicity and public education, including studying the inclusion of the subject of animal care in school curricula, and collaborating with community organizations to promote animal-friendly measures.