立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 639/08-09

Ref : CB(3)/M/MM

Tel: 2869 9205

Date : 27 May 2009

From: Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 10 June 2009

Motion on "Immediately reviewing the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme"

Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong has given notice to move the attached motion on "Immediately reviewing the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme" at the Council meeting of 10 June 2009. The President has directed that "it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in" on the Agenda of the Council.

(Mrs Justina LAM) for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

Motion on "Immediately reviewing the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme" to be moved by Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong at the Legislative Council meeting of Wednesday, 10 June 2009

Wording of the Motion

That, the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme, since its implementation in the 2007-2008 school year, has given rise to a number of problems, including the failure of the policy on fee remission which has rendered a number of parents having to pay higher school fees; moreover, the Administration has abolished the proposed pay scale for kindergarten teachers, resulting in the loss of salary protection for kindergarten teachers, who can hardly enjoy salary increase even after upgrading their qualifications, whereas pressure from work and studies has substantially increased; as the voucher system has aroused strong discontent among the early childhood education sector and parents of kindergarten children, this Council urges the Administration to immediately conduct a comprehensive review on the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme, including:

- (a) reviewing the Kindergarten Fee Remission Scheme and adjusting the level of fee remission in accordance with price indices, so as to ensure that low-income families receive appropriate assistance;
- (b) comprehensively reviewing the various subsidies for early childhood education institutions, including increasing the manpower and resources for whole-day kindergartens;
- (c) offering subsidies under the voucher scheme on a fair and equal basis so that all kindergarten children are benefited;
- (d) formulating a pay scale for kindergarten teachers which is commensurate with their qualifications, and directly subsidizing the remuneration of kindergarten teachers, so as to relieve the burden on parents; and
- (e) relieving the work pressure on kindergarten teachers, including simplifying the administrative work arising from self-evaluation, external evaluation and the voucher scheme, as well as providing sufficient support staff, etc.