(Translation)

Motion on "Utilizing young people's power of civic participation" moved by Dr Hon Samson TAM Wai-ho at the Legislative Council meeting commencing on Wednesday, 7 July 2010

Wording of the Motion

That in recent years, with the development of a knowledge-based society and dawning of the network era, the attitude of young people in Hong Kong towards the discussion of social issues has become increasingly active, and they have gradually become one of the major political commentary groups in society, and the ways of expression and actions of some of these young people have aroused extensive discussions and concerns in the community; some members of the public consider that the Government's lack of effective internal and external communication of information, as well as the obvious inadequacies in its existing consultative framework has affected the formulation of public policies; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to make reference to the relevant experience of other countries or regions to formulate overall objectives and strategies, and allocate sufficient resources to enhance young people's civic participation, as well as:

- (a) to formulate a clear public sector information access policy to make public government information and documents, so that members of the public have the right of access to or commenting on them;
- (b) to make use of the Web 2.0 interactive platform to enhance direct communication between policy-making government officials and young people, so as to listen to the views of young people;
- (c) government officials should change their mentality and mind to bravely deal with interactive communications and accept criticism; and
- (d) starting from education and social culture, to allocate resources to enhance the quality of the network citizens, and to promote a way of communication based on reasons, mutual trust and mutual respect, thereby bringing together social wisdom effectively.