

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 273/10-11

Ref : CB(3)/M/MM

Tel : 2869 9205

Date : 3 December 2010

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 8 December 2010

**Proposed amendments to motion on
“Air pollution and public health”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 237/10-11 issued on 25 November 2010, four Members (Hon CHAN Hak-kan, Hon IP Wai-ming, Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah and Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long) have respectively given notice of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon KAM Nai-wai’s motion on “Air pollution and public health” scheduled for the Council meeting of 8 December 2010. As directed by the President, the respective proposed 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 Hon KAM Nai-wai to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon KAM Nai-wai’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the four Members, who intend to move amendments, to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
 - (i) Hon CHAN Hak-kan;
 - (ii) Hon IP Wai-ming;

- (iii) Hon Ronny TONG; and
- (iv) Dr Hon Joseph LEE;
- (d) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) the President invites other Members to speak;
- (f) the President gives leave to Hon KAM Nai-wai to speak for the second time on the amendments;
- (g) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) again to speak;
- (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the four Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon CHAN Hak-kan to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon CHAN Hak-kan's amendment;
- (i) after Hon CHAN Hak-kan's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other three amendments; and
- (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon KAM Nai-wai to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon KAM Nai-wai'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**.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on
“Air pollution and public health”
to be held at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 8 December 2010**

1. Hon KAM Nai-wai’s original motion

That, as the problem of air pollution in Hong Kong has continued to be serious, posing threats to public health, yet the Government has not updated Hong Kong’s Air Quality Objectives (‘AQOs’), and at present, many highly polluting franchised buses and lorries still run on the roads, continuing to emit exhaust gas, this Council expresses its disappointment in this regard; according to the statistics of the Hedley Environmental Index, in the first 10 months of this year, air pollution caused as many as 635 premature deaths and more than 4 million attendances of medical consultation in Hong Kong; given that air pollution has incurred huge monetary losses and social costs, this Council urges the Government to implement the following proposals, so as to expeditiously improve air quality for the protection of public health:

- (a) to immediately update AQOs by adopting the most stringent standards of the World Health Organization’s air quality guidelines as Hong Kong’s AQOs, and undertake to review AQOs regularly in the future;
- (b) by way of financial subsidy or franchise extension, to push ahead the early phasing out and replacement of franchised buses with high emissions, so as to improve roadside air quality, and immediately install emission reduction devices on all buses that have not been phased out or replaced;
- (c) to enhance the scheme for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles mentioned in the Budget of this year, including placing Pre-Euro and Euro-I vehicles under the scheme and allowing those vehicle owners who only write off their vehicles to receive subsidies under the scheme;
- (d) to increase the number, usage and types of electric vehicles; improve and strengthen support facilities to tie in with the introduction of electric vehicles by, for example, actively discussing with various developers the provision of recharging facilities for electric vehicles in the car parks of their properties; and expeditiously study amending the legislation to

expedite and streamline the procedure for electric vehicle drivers to apply for the permit to drive on expressways, so as to assist in popularizing electric vehicles;

- (e) to urge bus companies to expand and increase the provision of interchange concessions and services which appeal to passengers, and to expedite the reorganization and improve the arrangement of bus routes, with a view to avoiding the overlapping of bus routes, relieving traffic congestion and reducing air pollution;
- (f) to expeditiously implement the proposal of designating ‘low emission zones’, so as to restrict the entry of vehicles with high emissions into designated areas;
- (g) in respect of the situation where the Air Pollution Index reaches the ‘extremely severe’ level, to formulate specific guidelines, including implementation of measures to suspend schools and arrange for workers who need to work outdoors for long hours to suspend work, etc., so as to protect the health of school children and the socially disadvantaged, such as people with chronic illness, the elderly and workers working outdoors, in situations where the pollution is serious;
- (h) when formulating measures to improve air pollution, to adopt the latest objectives and benchmarks of the World Health Organization, and evaluate the effectiveness of each measure in improving public health, and set improving public health as the primary policy objective in addressing the problem of air pollution; and
- (i) to recognize that air pollution is a public health issue, and require accountable officials from the Food and Health Bureau to participate in the formulation of policies on improving air quality.

2. Motion as amended by Hon CHAN Hak-kan

That, as *given that* the problem of air pollution in Hong Kong has continued to be serious, posing threats to public health, yet the Government has not updated Hong Kong’s Air Quality Objectives (‘AQOs’), and at present, many highly polluting franchised buses and lorries still run on the roads, continuing to emit exhaust gas, this Council expresses its disappointment in this regard; according to the statistics of the Hedley Environmental Index, in the first 10 months of this year, air pollution caused as many as 635 premature deaths and more than 4 million attendances of medical consultation in Hong Kong; given that air pollution has incurred huge monetary losses and social costs, this Council urges

the Government to implement the following proposals, so as to expeditiously improve air quality for the protection of public health:

- (a) to immediately update AQOs ~~by~~ ***and formulate a timetable and relevant measures for eventually*** adopting the most stringent standards of the World Health Organization's air quality guidelines as ~~Hong Kong's AQOs~~, and undertake to review AQOs regularly ***and the effectiveness of the relevant measures*** in the future;
- (b) by way of financial subsidy or franchise extension, to push ahead the early phasing out and replacement of franchised buses with high emissions, so as to improve roadside air quality, and immediately install emission reduction devices on all buses that have not been phased out or replaced;
- (c) to enhance the scheme for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles mentioned in the Budget of this year, including placing Pre-Euro and Euro-I vehicles under the scheme and allowing those vehicle owners who only write off their vehicles to receive subsidies under the scheme;
- (d) to increase the number, usage and types of electric vehicles; improve and strengthen support facilities to tie in with the introduction of electric vehicles by, for example, actively discussing with various developers the provision of recharging facilities for electric vehicles in the car parks of their properties; and expeditiously study amending the legislation to expedite and streamline the procedure for electric vehicle drivers to apply for the permit to drive on expressways, so as to assist in popularizing electric vehicles;
- (e) to urge bus companies to expand and increase the provision of interchange concessions and services which appeal to passengers, and to expedite the reorganization and improve the arrangement of bus routes, with a view to avoiding the overlapping of bus routes, relieving traffic congestion and reducing air pollution;
- (f) ***to encourage, through policy initiatives, the various bus companies to deploy wholly electric buses in new development areas and busy districts, so as to further improve roadside air quality in such areas;***
- (f)(g) to expeditiously implement the proposal of designating 'low emission zones', so as to restrict the entry of vehicles with high emissions into designated areas;

- ~~(g)~~**(h)** in respect of the situation where the Air Pollution Index reaches the ‘extremely severe’ level, to formulate specific guidelines, including implementation of measures to suspend schools and arrange for workers who need to work outdoors for long hours to suspend work, etc., so as to protect the health of school children and the socially disadvantaged, such as people with chronic illness, the elderly and workers working outdoors, in situations where the pollution is serious;
- (i)** *to actively promote the energy conservation policy, and further increase the ratio of natural gas and renewable energy in the fuel mix for power generation in Hong Kong, so as to reduce emission by power generation;*
- ~~(h)~~**(j)** when formulating measures to improve air pollution, to adopt the latest objectives and benchmarks of the World Health Organization, and evaluate the effectiveness of each measure in improving public health, and set improving public health as the primary policy objective in addressing the problem of air pollution; ~~and~~
- ~~(i)~~**(k)** to recognize that air pollution is a public health issue, and require accountable officials from the Food and Health Bureau to participate in the formulation of policies on improving air quality; *and*
- (l)** *to actively follow up the work of collaborating with Guangdong Province on improving regional air quality after 2010, so as to ensure continuous improvement of regional air quality.*

Note: Hon CHAN Hak-kan’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon IP Wai-ming

That, as *considering that* the problem of air pollution in Hong Kong has continued to be serious, posing threats to public health, yet the Government has not updated Hong Kong’s Air Quality Objectives (‘AQOs’), and at present, many highly polluting franchised buses ~~and lorries~~, *lorries and private cars* still run on the roads, continuing to emit exhaust gas, this Council expresses its ~~disappointment~~ *grave concern* in this regard; according to the statistics of the Hedley Environmental Index, in the first 10 months of this year, air pollution caused as many as 635 premature deaths and more than 4 million attendances of medical consultation in Hong Kong; given that air pollution has incurred huge monetary losses and social costs, this Council urges the Government to

implement the following proposals, so as to expeditiously improve air quality for the protection of public health:

- (a) to immediately update AQOs ~~by adopting~~, ***and based on*** the most stringent standards of the World Health Organization's air quality guidelines as ~~Hong Kong's AQOs, and undertake to review AQOs regularly~~, ***formulate a timetable for Hong Kong's AQOs to fully meet the guidelines, and undertake to review it regularly*** in the future;
- (b) by way of financial subsidy or franchise extension, to push ahead the early phasing out and replacement of franchised buses with high emissions, so as to improve roadside air quality, and immediately install emission reduction devices on all buses that have not been phased out or replaced;
- (c) to enhance the scheme for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles mentioned in the Budget of this year, including placing Pre-Euro and Euro-I vehicles under the scheme and allowing those vehicle owners who only write off their vehicles to receive subsidies under the scheme, ***and at the same time, to assist the industries in resolving the technical problems that occur after vehicle replacement, with a view to ensuring that the repair, design and parts availability, etc., of the new vehicles after replacement can tie in with the operation of the industries***;
- (d) to increase the number, usage and types of electric vehicles; improve and strengthen support facilities to tie in with the introduction of electric vehicles by, for example, actively discussing with various developers the provision of recharging facilities for electric vehicles in the car parks of their properties; and expeditiously study amending the legislation to expedite and streamline the procedure for electric vehicle drivers to apply for the permit to drive on expressways, so as to assist in popularizing electric vehicles;
- (e) to urge bus companies to expand and increase the provision of interchange concessions and services which appeal to passengers, and ***on the premise of not affecting the livelihood of bus company employees and the number of posts, and through discussing with District Councils***, to expedite the reorganization and improve the arrangement of bus routes, with a view to avoiding the overlapping of bus routes, relieving traffic congestion and reducing air pollution;
- (f) to expeditiously ~~implement the~~ ***study and consult the public and the transport sector on a specific*** proposal of designating 'low emission

zones', so as to restrict the entry of vehicles with high emissions into designated areas;

(g) *to require power companies in Hong Kong to fully adopt low-emission power generation technologies and clean fuel for power generation on the premise of not increasing electricity tariffs and affecting public health, and expeditiously increase the ratio of renewable energy in the fuel mix for power generation, with a view to alleviating the air pollution caused by power generation emission in Hong Kong;*

~~(g)~~(h) in respect of the situation where the Air Pollution Index reaches the 'extremely severe' level, to formulate specific guidelines *and legislation*, including implementation of measures to suspend schools and arrange for workers who need to work outdoors for long hours to suspend work, ~~etc.~~ *and classifying the related diseases contracted by employees who have to work outdoors under severe air pollution conditions as occupational diseases*, so as to protect the health of school children and the socially disadvantaged, such as people with chronic illness, the elderly and workers working outdoors, in situations where the pollution is serious;

~~(h)~~(i) when formulating measures to improve air pollution, to adopt the latest objectives and benchmarks of the World Health Organization, and evaluate the effectiveness of each measure in improving public health, and set improving public health as the primary policy objective in addressing the problem of air pollution; and

~~(i)~~(j) to recognize that air pollution is a public health issue, and require accountable officials from the Food and Health Bureau to participate in the formulation of policies on improving air quality.

Note: Hon IP Wai-ming's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

4. Motion as amended by Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah

That, as *given that* the problem of air pollution in Hong Kong has continued to be serious, posing threats to public health, yet the Government has not updated Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives ('AQOs'), and at present, many highly polluting franchised buses and lorries still run on the roads, continuing to emit exhaust gas, this Council expresses its disappointment in this regard; according to the statistics of the Hedley Environmental Index, in the first 10 months of this

year, air pollution caused as many as 635 premature deaths and more than 4 million attendances of medical consultation in Hong Kong; given that air pollution has incurred huge monetary losses and social costs, this Council urges the Government to implement the following proposals, so as to expeditiously improve air quality for the protection of public health:

- (a) to immediately update AQOs by adopting the most stringent standards of the World Health Organization's air quality guidelines as Hong Kong's AQOs, and undertake to review AQOs regularly in the future;
- (b) by way of financial subsidy or franchise extension, to push ahead the early phasing out and replacement of franchised buses with high emissions, so as to improve roadside air quality, and immediately install emission reduction devices on all buses that have not been phased out or replaced;
- (c) to enhance the scheme for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles mentioned in the Budget of this year, including placing Pre-Euro and Euro-I vehicles under the scheme and allowing those vehicle owners who only write off their vehicles to receive subsidies under the scheme;
- (d) to increase the number, usage and types of electric vehicles; improve and strengthen support facilities to tie in with the introduction of electric vehicles by, for example, actively discussing with various developers the provision of recharging facilities for electric vehicles in the car parks of their properties; and expeditiously study amending the legislation to expedite and streamline the procedure for electric vehicle drivers to apply for the permit to drive on expressways, so as to assist in popularizing electric vehicles;
- (e) to urge bus companies to expand and increase the provision of interchange concessions and services which appeal to passengers *and increase the number of bus interchange points*, and to expedite the reorganization and improve the arrangement of bus routes, with a view to avoiding the overlapping of bus routes, relieving traffic congestion and reducing air pollution;
- (f) to expeditiously implement the proposal of designating 'low emission zones', so as to restrict the entry of vehicles with high emissions into designated areas;
- (g) in respect of the situation where the Air Pollution Index reaches the 'extremely severe' level, to formulate specific guidelines, including implementation of measures to suspend schools and arrange for workers

who need to work outdoors for long hours to suspend work, etc., so as to protect the health of school children and the socially disadvantaged, such as people with chronic illness, the elderly and workers working outdoors, in situations where the pollution is serious;

- (h) when formulating measures to improve air pollution, to adopt the latest objectives and benchmarks of the World Health Organization, and evaluate the effectiveness of each measure in improving public health, and set improving public health as the primary policy objective in addressing the problem of air pollution; ~~and~~
- (i) to recognize that air pollution is a public health issue, and require accountable officials from the Food and Health Bureau to participate in the formulation of policies on improving air quality;
- (j) *to curb the number of vehicle growth through policy formulation, green transport planning, financial measures and building a better green transport system in urban areas; and*
- (k) *to provide financial incentives to induce minibuses operators to expedite the introduction of new minibuses with lower levels of emission to replace old minibuses.*

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

5. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long

That, as *currently*, the problem of air pollution in Hong Kong has continued to be serious, posing threats to public health, yet the Government has not updated Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives ('AQOs'), and at present, many highly polluting franchised buses and lorries still run on the roads, continuing to emit exhaust gas, this Council expresses its disappointment in this regard; according to the statistics of the Hedley Environmental Index, in the first 10 months of this year, air pollution caused as many as 635 premature deaths and more than 4 million attendances of medical consultation in Hong Kong; given that air pollution has incurred huge monetary losses and social costs, this Council urges the Government to implement the following proposals, so as to expeditiously improve air quality for the protection of public health:

- (a) to immediately update AQOs by adopting the most stringent standards of the World Health Organization's air quality guidelines as Hong

Kong's AQOs, and undertake to review AQOs regularly in the future; *at the same time, review the existing air monitoring stations, so as to ensure that more comprehensive and accurate data can be collected;*

- (b) by way of financial subsidy or franchise extension, to push ahead the early phasing out and replacement of franchised buses with high emissions, so as to improve roadside air quality, and immediately install emission reduction devices on all buses that have not been phased out or replaced;
- (c) to enhance the scheme for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles mentioned in the Budget of this year, including placing Pre-Euro and Euro-I vehicles under the scheme and allowing those vehicle owners who only write off their vehicles to receive subsidies under the scheme;
- (d) to increase the number, usage and types of electric vehicles; improve and strengthen support facilities to tie in with the introduction of electric vehicles by, for example, actively discussing with various developers the provision of recharging facilities for electric vehicles in the car parks of their properties; and expeditiously study amending the legislation to expedite and streamline the procedure for electric vehicle drivers to apply for the permit to drive on expressways, so as to assist in popularizing electric vehicles;
- (e) to urge bus companies to expand and increase the provision of interchange concessions and services which appeal to passengers, and to expedite the reorganization and improve the arrangement of bus routes, with a view to avoiding the overlapping of bus routes, relieving traffic congestion and reducing air pollution;
- (f) to expeditiously implement the proposal of designating 'low emission zones', so as to restrict the entry of vehicles with high emissions into designated areas;
- (g) in respect of the situation where the Air Pollution Index reaches the 'extremely severe' level, to formulate specific guidelines, including implementation of measures to suspend schools and arrange for workers who need to work outdoors for long hours to suspend work, etc., so as to protect the health of school children and the socially disadvantaged, such as people with chronic illness, the elderly and workers working outdoors, in situations where the pollution is serious;
- (h) when formulating measures to improve air pollution, to adopt the latest objectives and benchmarks of the World Health Organization, and

evaluate the effectiveness of each measure in improving public health, and set improving public health as the primary policy objective in addressing the problem of air pollution; ~~and~~

- (i) to recognize that air pollution is a public health issue, and require accountable officials from the Food and Health Bureau to participate in the formulation of policies on improving air quality; ***and***
- (j) ***to actively study and develop renewable energy, so as to intensify alleviation of air pollution.***

Note: Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long's amendment is marked in ***bold and italic type*** or with deletion line.