(Translation)

Motion on "Helping needy persons acquire their homes" moved by Hon LEE Wing-tat at the Legislative Council meeting of Wednesday, 10 November 2010

Motion as amended by Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, Hon CHAN Kam-lam and Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah

That the housing problem has been plaguing the development of Hong Kong society for years, and after the Chief Executive has put forward the My Home Purchase Plan in the Policy Address, private residential property prices still continue to rise, reflecting that the Plan is unable to meet society's demand for subsidized home ownership, let alone solve the housing problem of Hong Kong in the long run; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to expeditiously increase the supply of land and public and private housing, resume the Home Ownership Scheme ('HOS'), re-launch the Sale of Flats to Sitting Tenants Scheme, re-examine the practice of allowing eligible white form applicants to purchase HOS flats without premium paid in the secondary market for HOS flats, with a view to helping needy persons acquire their homes, and formulate a stable and sustainable long-term housing policy to satisfy the public's genuine housing need, and to build an environment in Hong Kong where people can live and work in contentment; this Council also urges the Government to expedite the development of new towns and the tendering exercises for the above-station property development projects along the West Rail on the premise of adhering to the cap of total floor area concession put forward in the Policy Address and avoiding any wall effect and heat island effect in design; at the same time, the Government should expeditiously legislate for the regulation of the sale of first-hand private residential properties and increase the transparency of the sale of such flats, so that needy persons can acquire their homes in a fairer environment; this Council also urges the Government to increase the transparency of the regular supply of land, study how to avoid over-relying on real estate developers as the sole housing suppliers, and allow eligible white form applicants to purchase affordable homes in the markets of Sandwich Class Housing Scheme.