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22 March 2011

Chairman,
Panel on Education,
Legislative Council

Views on Report of the University Grants Committee:

"Aspirations for the Higher Education System in Hong Kong"

Referring to the Meeting of the Panel on Education held on 14 March 2011, we have the following views submitted for your kind consideration and deliberation.

- 1. <u>Vocational Training Council Teachers' Association (VTA)</u> supports the spirit of **Quality Education**; hence a more integrated post-secondary education system is needed in Hong Kong.
- 2. Vocational education is well recognized by the government and industries in Mainland China due to the employability in Mainland. VTA urges that the HKSAR Government should also pay due regard to local vocational education development, inclusive but not limited to Higher Education, in its strategic planning and policy making upon Hong Kong's integrated education system. We strongly request the HKSAR government to treat vocational education as part of Hong Kong's mainstream education.
- 3. Vocational Training Council (VTC) has been the major provider for vocational education since its establishment in 1982. A wide range of Diploma and Higher Diploma courses have been successfully operated throughout those years with the recognition of industries and professional bodies. The quality courses have also been accredited by HKCAAVQ and recognized by related government departments. Hong Kong shall follow the long-term strategy of Mainland to improve and provide better vocational education and opportunities for the youngsters. To achieve this long-term objective, VTA earnestly hopes that VTC courses will be given more subvention and resources than current provision.
- 4. VTA supports equal study opportunities for youngsters to pursue their further studies, regardless of whether they are Higher Diploma or Associate Degree graduates. Thus we hope that universities' admission criteria will be made open and transparent so that youngsters will be able to compete fairly and obtain their best progression routes.

Thank you for your consideration of the above views.

Yours faithfully,

(CHAN Chi Ming)
President

VTC Teachers' Association