

(Translation)

Motion on
“Enhancing the overall sustainable competitiveness of Hong Kong”
Moved by Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai
at the Council meeting of 29 May 2013

Motion as amended by Hon TANG Ka-piu, Hon Christopher CHEUNG and Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok

That, given that the China Urban Competitiveness Reports issued by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in recent years point out that the gap between Hong Kong’s competitiveness and that of other Mainland cities is continuously getting narrower, and Hong Kong’s overall growth is relatively slow, with the scale of its economy expected to lag behind those of Mainland cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, etc., by 2015, this Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of areas such as economic development, improvement of people’s livelihood, promotion of democracy, etc., and formulate feasible and timely policies which will be implemented, so as to enhance Hong Kong’s overall sustainable competitiveness; such policies include:

- (1) to develop diversified industries to make the economic structure more balanced;
- (2) to strengthen talent training, make good use of the ‘first-hire-then-train’ approach to attract new entrants, and reform the apprenticeship system, so as to strengthen youth vocational training and develop talents for the future;
- (3) to lower the rental costs in society;
- (4) to systematically absorb groups with employment difficulties, including the middle-aged, persons with disabilities and single parents, etc., and to train them and provide them with employment support; and
- (5) to ensure through social policies that all sectors of society may share the fruits of economic development; and
- (6) to continue promotion of Hong Kong as an international financial centre; and

- (7) to consolidate pillar industries, promote emerging industries and revitalize traditional industries.