

**立法會**  
***Legislative Council***

LC Paper No. CB(3) 100/12-13

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Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 2 November 2012

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

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**Council meeting of 14 November 2012**

**Motion on  
“Alleviating poverty”**

Hon CHAN Yuen-han has given notice to move the attached motion on “Alleviating poverty” at the Council meeting of 14 November 2012. The President has directed that “it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in” on the Agenda of the Council.

(Odelia LEUNG)  
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion on  
“Alleviating poverty”  
to be moved by Hon CHAN Yuen-han  
at the Council meeting of 14 November 2012**

**Wording of the Motion**

That since the 1970s, the Census and Statistics Department has computed the Gini Coefficient based on household incomes for reflecting the disparity between the rich and the poor in Hong Kong; the Gini Coefficient announced in June this year reached 0.537, which hit a new record high in 40 years, indicating a worsening trend in the disparity between the rich and the poor, and reflecting the failure of the Government’s poverty alleviation measures to achieve their effectiveness in the past; the current-term Government has decided to establish the Commission on Poverty, demonstrating its intention of alleviating the poverty situation in Hong Kong, but the authorities must also conduct studies on opening up new resources for poverty alleviation; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to:

- (a) request the Commission on Poverty to commence work as early as possible and report regularly to the Legislative Council on its work progress;
- (b) expeditiously establish a poverty line, so that the Government and the society may compile statistics on the number of people in poverty and assess the effectiveness of poverty alleviation measures by means of objective and open criteria;
- (c) introduce new poverty alleviation measures, including the provision of employment living allowance, to assist the working poor;
- (d) comprehensively review the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance system, including the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices and the amount of rent allowance, etc.; and
- (e) improve the tax regime by, for example, exploring the introduction of a capital gains tax, and implementing a progressive profits tax system under which higher rates of tax apply to organizations reaping huge profits, with a view to increasing tax revenue and meeting new expenditure for poverty alleviation.