Council meeting of 30 November 2016

Motion on
“Combating ‘bogus refugees’ ”

Hon Holden CHOW has given notice to move the attached motion on “Combating ‘bogus refugees’ ” at the Council meeting of 30 November 2016. The President has directed that it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

(Dora WAI)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.
Motion on
“Combating ‘bogus refugees’”
to be moved by Hon Holden CHOW
at the Council meeting of 30 November 2016

Wording of the Motion

That the problem of ‘bogus refugees’ has become increasingly serious in recent years; after arriving in Hong Kong by various means, quite a number of people have abused the unified screening mechanism for non-refoulement claims (‘unified screening mechanism’) by lodging non-refoulement claims and employing every means to prolong the screening procedures; they stay in Hong Kong for the purpose of engaging in illegal employment and even serious criminal activities, etc., so as to make money; the abuse of the unified screening mechanism has aroused grave public concern, and exerted heavy pressure on Hong Kong’s law and order, immigration control, judicial system, welfare, etc.; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to comprehensively review the unified screening mechanism, and actively consider adopting the approaches in overseas places to formulate measures to combat the arrival of ‘bogus refugees’ and prevent the abuse of the unified screening mechanism, including stepping up cooperation with neighbouring regions to intercept illegal immigrants, allocating additional resources to expedite the procedure for screening non-refoulement claims, setting a statutory time limit for lodging non-refoulement claims, imposing a cap on the publicly-funded legal assistance, and setting up holding centres to properly settle and manage non-refoulement claimants.