Bills Committee on Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Tax Concessions) Bill 2019

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 3 April 2019

<u>Proposed one-off reductions of salaries tax, tax under personal assessment and profits tax under the Bill</u>

The Administration is requested to provide supplementary information/written response on the following:

- (a) the number of taxpayers who had paid salaries tax and tax under personal assessment for previous year(s) of assessment but will not benefit from the proposed one-off reductions of these taxes for year of assessment 2018-2019 due to lowered or no income;
- (b) the number of tax-paying corporations and unincorporated businesses which had paid profits tax for previous year(s) of assessment but will not benefit from the proposed one-off reduction of this tax for year of assessment 2018-2019 due to losses; and
- (c) in relation to taxpayers, tax-paying corporations and unincorporated businesses in (a) and (b) above, whether the Administration will consider introducing tax concessionary measures to help them tide over financial difficulty, including:
 - (i) one-off tax rebate calculated with reference to the amount (or average amount) of salaries tax, tax under personal assessment and profits tax paid for previous year(s) of assessment, and subject to a ceiling of \$20,000 per case; and/or
 - (ii) allowing losses made in an accounting year to be carried backward for setting off against the profits of tax-paying corporations and unincorporated businesses.

2019-2020 Budget

2. The Administration is requested to consider introducing more tax concessionary measures under the 2019-2020 Budget, or adjusting the current proposal of one-off reductions of salaries tax, tax under personal assessment and profits tax under the Bill, with a view to providing more tax concessions to the needy, if the actual surplus far exceeds the forecast surplus of \$58.7 billion for the financial year 2018-2019.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
11 April 2019