Motion to be moved by Hon Claudia MO under Rule 49B(1A) of the Rules of Procedure to censure Dr Hon Junius HO

Wording of the Motion

That this Council, in accordance with Article 79(7) of the Basic Law, censures Dr Hon Junius HO for misbehaviour (details as particularized in the Schedule to this motion).

Schedule

Details of Dr Hon Junius HO's misbehaviour are particularized as follows:

Making a remark amounting to sexual and racial harassment of female Members

At the meeting of the House Committee of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") on 15 October 2019, in response to Hon Claudia MO's speech, Dr Hon Junius HO said, "...those who habitually eat foreign sausage...". Hon Dennis KWOK, who presided over the meeting, ruled that the remark was related to sex organs, and requested him to withdraw his remark, but he refused to do so. Dr Hon Junius HO has sexually and racially harassed female Members of LegCo.

- 2. According to section 2(5)(a)(ii) of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 480), "a person...sexually harasses a woman if the person engages in...unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature in relation to her, in circumstances in which a reasonable person, having regard to all the circumstances, would have anticipated that she would be offended, humiliated or intimidated."
- 3. According to section 7(1) of the Race Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 602), "a person harasses another person if, on the ground of the race of that other person or a near relative of that other person, the first-mentioned person engages in unwelcome conduct (which may include an oral or a written statement), in circumstances in which a reasonable person, having regard to all the circumstances, would have anticipated that the other person would be offended, humiliated or intimidated by that conduct."
- 4. Dr Hon Junius HO, as a Member of LegCo, made a sexual and racial harassment remark towards female Members of LegCo, which made them feel offended and insulted. Had he not been protected by the Legislative Council (Powers and Privileges) Ordinance (Cap. 382), he could have been sued for making a remark violating the Sex Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance. Subsequently, Dr Hon Junius HO still argued that his remark carried no implication of sex discrimination or offending women. This reflected his defiance of the rule of law, wanton abetment of sexual and racial harassment and lack of remorse for his conduct.
- 5. The intent of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance enacted by LegCo is to ensure equal opportunities for people of different genders and races and protect them against harassment. Dr Hon Junius HO's remark has sent a wrong message to the public, misleading the public into thinking that LegCo encourages sexual and racial harassment. His remark has completely violated the integrity and conduct expected of a Member, bringing shame on LegCo, seriously jeopardizing the public's confidence in LegCo and failing the public's expectations for LegCo Members.
- 6. Dr Hon Junius HO's sexual and racial harassment remark made towards female Members at the aforesaid meeting constitutes misbehaviour.