立法會 Legislative Council

(issued by email only)

LC Paper No. CB(3) 30/2022

Ref : CB(3)/M/MM

Tel: 3919 3300

Date: 14 January 2022

From: Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 19 January 2022

Amendments to Hon LAI Tung-kwok's motion on "Guarding against the importation of COVID-19, preventing its spread on all fronts and resuming quarantine-free travel as soon as possible"

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 13/2022 issued on 10 January 2022, the President has given permission for five Members (Hon YIM Kong, Hon Dennis LEUNG, Hon Edward LEUNG, Hon MA Fung-kwok and Hon YUNG Hoi-yan) to move amendments to Hon LAI Tung-kwok's motion, and has directed that the amendments be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

- 2. The President will order a joint debate on the above motion and the amendments. I set out below the relevant proceedings in which the President will:
 - (a) call upon the motion mover to speak and move the motion;
 - (b) propose the question on the motion;
 - (c) call upon the Members who wish to move amendments to the motion to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:

- (i) Hon Dennis LEUNG;
- (ii) Hon Edward LEUNG;
- (iii) Hon YUNG Hoi-yan;
- (iv) Hon MA Fung-kwok; and
- (v) Hon YIM Kong;
- (d) call upon the public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) invite other Members to speak;
- (f) call upon the motion mover to speak on the amendments;
- (g) call upon the public officer(s) to speak again;
- (h) deal with the amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above, i.e. first invite the mover of the first amendment to move the amendment and forthwith propose and put to vote the question on the amendment, and thereafter proceed to deal with the remaining amendment(s); and
- (i) after all amendments have been dealt with, call upon the motion mover to reply, and then put to vote the question on the motion, or the motion as amended, as the case may be.
- 3. The terms of the original motion and the marked-up version of the amendments are set out in the **Appendix** for Members' easy reference.
- 4. Members are reminded that in accordance with Appendix IIIA to the House Rules, the **maximum duration of this joint debate (including voting) is four hours**. The motion mover will have a total of 10 minutes to make introductory speech and reply, and another five minutes to speak on the amendment(s). The mover(s) of the amendment(s) and other Members may each speak once up to a maximum of five minutes. The public officer(s) will not be subject to any speaking time limit.

(Miranda HON) for Clerk to the Legislative Council

(Translation)

Motion debate on

"Guarding against the importation of COVID-19, preventing its spread on all fronts and resuming quarantine-free travel as soon as possible"

1. Hon LAI Tung-kwok's original motion

That with the recent global prevalence of the Omicron mutant strain, there is a surge in the number of imported cases in Hong Kong and the mutant strain has spread into the community, exposing once again the serious loopholes in the line of quarantine defence; while the Lunar New Year is approaching, the date for resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong remains uncertain; the SAR Government must thoroughly review and plug the loopholes in epidemic prevention so that the Central Government and the Guangdong Provincial Government can have sufficient confidence in resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong; given that the implementation of the anti-epidemic strategy involves various policy bureaux and government departments, this Council requests the SAR Government to implement immediately all feasible measures to build a solid line of defence to guard against the importation of cases and the resurgence of local infection, and strive for the resumption of quarantine-free travel as soon as possible, in order to ease people's hardship and benefit people's livelihood, including:

- (1) enhancing the functionality of the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app to ensure effective and expeditious tracing of close contacts, so as to cut the virus transmission chain;
- (2) drawing up a timetable for amending the definition of 'fully vaccinated' to having received three doses of vaccine;
- (3) immediately plugging the existing loopholes in quarantine of air cargo crew and seriously pursuing, in accordance with the law, the liabilities of non-compliant personnel and companies; and
- (4) when setting priorities for quota on quarantine-free travel, reasonably catering to the needs of various parties, including cross-boundary workers, cross-boundary students and families separated between the Mainland and Hong Kong, etc..

2. Motion as amended by Hon Dennis LEUNG

That with the recent global prevalence of the Omicron mutant strain, there is a surge in the number of imported cases in Hong Kong and the mutant strain has spread into the community as an airline company allows its crew members on outbound passenger flights to return on cargo flights, the crew members concerned are not required to comply with the compulsory quarantine requirement for locally based passenger crew members, thereby creating a loophole in epidemic prevention; some crew members, after being infected with the Omicron mutant strain, have spread the mutant strain into the community, which has led to the outbreak of the fifth wave of the epidemic, exposing once again the serious loopholes in the Hong Kong's line of quarantine defence; while the Lunar New Year is approaching, the date for resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong remains uncertain; the SAR Government must thoroughly review and plug the loopholes in epidemic prevention so that the Central Government and the Guangdong Provincial Government can have sufficient confidence in resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong; given that the implementation of the anti-epidemic strategy involves various policy bureaux and government departments, this Council requests the SAR Government to implement immediately all feasible measures to build a solid line of defence to guard against the importation of cases and the resurgence of local infection, and strive for the resumption of quarantine-free travel as soon as possible, in order to ease people's hardship and benefit people's livelihood, particularly to support the sectors affected by the tightening of social distancing measures to tide over the difficulties, including:

- (1) providing the affected sectors with subsidies for their rental and operating costs;
- (2) directly providing the affected employees with an allowance for suspension of work;
- (1)(3) enhancing the functionality of the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app and expanding the scope of the mandatory use of the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app to ensure effective and expeditious tracing of close contacts, so as to cut the virus transmission chain;
- (4) ensuring that there are sufficient testing and vaccination venues to meet the needs of members of the public during this wave of the epidemic;
- (5) expeditiously implementing the arrangement for children aged 5 to 11 years to receive COVID-19 vaccination;

- (6) examining the further expansion of the scope of the vaccine bubble;
- (2)(7) drawing up a timetable for amending the definition of 'fully vaccinated' to having received three doses of vaccine;
- (3)(8) immediately plugging the existing loopholes in quarantine of air cargo crew by prohibiting the arrangement for crew members on outbound passenger flights to return on cargo flights, and seriously pursuing, in accordance with the law, the liabilities of non-compliant personnel and companies; and
- (9) assisting members of the public affected by the fifth wave of the epidemic in pursuing civil claims against the airline company concerned; and
- (4)(10) when setting priorities for quota on quarantine-free travel, reasonably catering to the needs of various parties, including cross-boundary workers, cross-boundary students and families separated between the Mainland and Hong Kong, etc..

<u>Note</u>: Hon Dennis LEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon Edward LEUNG

That with as a result of the recent global prevalence of the Omicron mutant strain, there is a surge in the number of imported cases in Hong Kong and coupled with the serious loopholes in epidemic prevention with respect to the quarantine exemption arrangement for crew members on inbound flights as formulated by the SAR Government, the mutant strain has spread into the community, exposing once again the serious loopholes in the line of quarantine defence; while the Lunar New Year is approaching, and this has not only posed a serious threat to public health, affected the living of the people and once again dealt a heavy blow to the Hong Kong economy, but also caused the date for resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong remains to remain uncertain; the SAR Government must thoroughly review and plug the loopholes in epidemic prevention so that to contain the epidemic as soon as possible, so that society can resume normal early and the Central Government and the Guangdong Provincial Government can have sufficient confidence in resuming quarantinefree travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong; given that the implementation of the anti-epidemic strategy involves various policy bureaux and government departments, this Council requests the SAR Government to implement immediately all feasible measures to build a solid line of defence to guard against the importation of cases and the resurgence of local infection, and strive for the resumption of quarantine-free travel as soon as possible, in order to ease people's hardship and benefit people's livelihood, including:

- (1) enhancing the functionality of the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app to ensure effective and expeditious tracing of close contacts, so as to cut the virus transmission chain;
- (2) drawing up a timetable for amending the definition of 'fully vaccinated' to having received three doses of vaccine requiring members of the public who have received two doses of vaccine to receive the third dose of vaccine within a specified period and updating the anti-epidemic regulatory requirements accordingly;
- immediately further plugging the existing loopholes in quarantine of air cargo crew by requiring air cargo crew to, after returning to Hong Kong, undergo quarantine at designated quarantine hotels for a maximum of 14 days based on the risk assessment of the origins and take regular nucleic acid tests in the immediate 7 days; and seriously pursuing, in accordance with the law, the liabilities of non-compliant personnel and companies; and
- (4) setting up more vaccination venues to enable the public to spread out for vaccination and reduce their waiting time for vaccination and ensuring sufficient supply of vaccines;
- (5) increasing the number of community testing centres to speed up virus testing and provide members of the public with free voluntary testing services;
- (6) immediately increasing the manpower of quarantine centres to enhance work efficiency and starting to prepare a contingency plan to readily provide backup units in case the units in quarantine centres are fully occupied;
- (7) stepping up publicity on the upcoming vaccine bubble expansion, as well as reviewing and revising from time to time the types of premises covered to make anti-epidemic efforts more effective; and
- (4)(8) when setting priorities for quota on quarantine-free travel, reasonably catering to the needs of various parties, including cross-boundary workers, cross-boundary students and families separated between the Mainland and Hong Kong two places, etc..

<u>Note</u>: Hon Edward LEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

4. Motion as amended by Hon YUNG Hoi-yan

That with the recent global prevalence of the Omicron mutant strain, there is a surge in the number of imported cases in Hong Kong and the mutant strain has spread into the community, which has led to the outbreak of the fifth wave of the epidemic, exposing once again the serious loopholes in the line of quarantine defence; while the Lunar New Year is approaching, the date for resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong remains uncertain, causing irreparable impacts on families separated between the two places; the SAR Government must thoroughly review and plug the loopholes in epidemic prevention so that the Central Government and the Guangdong Provincial Government can have sufficient confidence in resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong; given that the implementation of the antiepidemic strategy involves various policy bureaux and government departments, this Council requests the SAR Government to implement immediately all feasible measures to build a solid line of defence to guard against the importation of cases and the resurgence of local infection, and strive for the resumption of quarantinefree travel as soon as possible, in order to ease people's hardship and benefit people's livelihood, including:

- (1) enhancing the functionality of the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app to ensure effective and expeditious tracing of close contacts, so as to cut the virus transmission chain;
- (2) drawing up a timetable for amending the definition of 'fully vaccinated' to having received three doses of vaccine;
- (3) immediately plugging the existing loopholes in quarantine of air cargo crew and seriously pursuing, in accordance with the law, the liabilities of non-compliant personnel and companies; and
- (4) when setting priorities for quota on quarantine-free travel, reasonably catering to the needs of various parties, including cross-boundary workers, cross-boundary students and families separated between the Mainland and Hong Kong, etc.; and
- (5) providing special support to families separated between the Mainland and Hong Kong.

Note: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

5. Motion as amended by Hon MA Fung-kwok

That with the recent global prevalence of the Omicron mutant strain, there is a surge in the number of imported cases in Hong Kong and the mutant strain has spread into the community, exposing once again the serious loopholes in the line of quarantine defence; while the Lunar New Year is approaching, the date for resuming Mainland-Hong Kong quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong remains uncertain; the SAR Government must thoroughly review and plug the loopholes in epidemic prevention so that the Central Government and the Guangdong Provincial Government can have sufficient confidence in resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong; given that the implementation of the anti-epidemic strategy involves various policy bureaux and government departments, this Council requests the SAR Government to implement immediately all feasible measures to build a solid line of defence to guard against the importation of cases and the resurgence of local infection, and strive for the resumption of quarantine-free travel as soon as possible, in order to ease people's hardship and benefit people's livelihood, including:

- (1) enhancing the functionality of the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app to ensure effective and expeditious tracing of close contacts, so as to cut the virus transmission chain;
- drawing up a timetable for amending the definition of 'fully vaccinated' to having received three doses of vaccine;
- immediately plugging the existing loopholes in quarantine of air cargo crew and seriously pursuing, in accordance with the law, the liabilities of non-compliant personnel and companies; and
- (4) when setting priorities for quota on quarantine-free travel, reasonably catering to the needs of various parties, including cross-boundary workers, cross-boundary students and families separated between the Mainland and Hong Kong, etc..

<u>Note</u>: Hon MA Fung-kwok's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

6. Motion as amended by Hon YIM Kong

That with the recent global prevalence of the Omicron mutant strain, there is a surge in the number of imported cases in Hong Kong and the mutant strain has spread into the community, exposing once again the serious loopholes in the line of quarantine defence; while the Lunar New Year is approaching, the date for resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong remains uncertain; the SAR Government must thoroughly review and plug the loopholes in epidemic prevention so that the Central Government and the Guangdong Provincial Government can have sufficient confidence in resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong; given that the implementation of the anti-epidemic strategy involves various policy bureaux and government departments, this Council requests the SAR Government to implement immediately all feasible measures to build a solid line of defence to guard against the importation of cases and the resurgence of local infection, and strive for the resumption of quarantine-free travel as soon as possible, in order to ease people's hardship and benefit people's livelihood, including:

- enhancing the functionality of the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app to ensure effective and expeditious tracing of close contacts, so as to cut effectively break the virus transmission chain;
- (2) drawing up a timetable for amending the definition of 'fully vaccinated' to having received three doses of vaccine;
- (3) immediately plugging the existing loopholes in quarantine of air cargo crew and seriously pursuing, in accordance with the law, the liabilities of non-compliant personnel and companies; and
- (4) expeditiously implementing universal testing under emergency and necessary circumstances, so as to break the silent transmission chains in the community; and
- (4)(5) when setting priorities for quota on quarantine-free travel, reasonably catering to the needs of various parties, including cross-boundary workers businessmen, cross-boundary students and families separated between the Mainland and Hong Kong waiting for reunion in Hong Kong and the Mainland, etc..

<u>Note</u>: Hon YIM Kong's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.