

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Formulating a medical policy to
support ethnic minority elderly people”
moved by Prof Hon Joseph LEE
at the Council meeting of 27 November 2013**

**Motion as amended by Hon Claudia MO, Hon Alice MAK,
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, Hon Cyd HO and Hon Emily LAU**

That, while Hong Kong’s ethnic minority population continues to increase, due to differences in culture and lifestyle, ethnic minority elderly people may have physical and psychological health problems; ethnic minority elderly people are generally unable to have access to clear healthcare information because of language problems, and the healthcare support targeting ethnic minorities is very limited, resulting in their being unable to properly prevent diseases and seek treatment for illnesses; in this connection, this Council urges the Administration to formulate a medical policy to support ethnic minority elderly people to protect their health; specific measures should include:

- (1) to strengthen the training for frontline healthcare personnel by, such as increasing their understanding about the living habits and cultural background of ethnic minorities, and encouraging their optimization of the interpretation service at hospitals, etc., so as to facilitate them to communicate with ethnic minority elderly people and provide appropriate healthcare services;
- (2) to co-operate with non-governmental organizations and ethnic minority groups, and through the networks of the relevant organizations and groups, to actively approach more ethnic minority elderly people, so as to provide them with more healthcare information;
- (3) by way of a greater variety of channels, such as promotional advertisements and radio programmes, etc., to strengthen publicity on healthcare services for ethnic minority elderly people and provide them with disease prevention knowledge; and
- (4) to set up dedicated counters and information kiosks in hospitals to provide ethnic minorities, especially elderly people, with healthcare service assistance and information; and

- (5) with considerations such as language and religion, etc., to provide ethnic minorities (especially ethnic minority elderly people) with a variety of healthcare support;

this Council also urges the Administration to expeditiously draw up corresponding measures to take care of the needs of ethnic minority elderly people; this Council also urges the Administration to recruit more ethnic minority healthcare personnel and provide more healthcare information in various ethnic minority languages.