

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Strengthening the role and functions of District Councils”
moved by Hon LAU Kwok-fan
at the Council meeting of 23 November 2016**

Motion as amended by Hon WU Chi-wai

That District Councils have for many years merely played the role in giving views to the Government; however, as District Council members have the advantage of grasping first-hand public sentiments, this Council urges the Government to review and amend the District Councils Ordinance and adopt measures to strengthen the role and functions of District Councils, so as to enable District Councils to better serve the public and promote community development; the relevant measures include:

- (1) allowing District Council members to have more opportunities to participate in district development and at the stage of formulating various policies, including vesting them with the powers of staff management, financial autonomy and making policy decisions;
- (2) strengthening the supervision of District Councils over policy implementation and district affairs, and allowing District Councils to manage district municipal facilities and services;
- (3) establishing an independent District Council secretariat to enhance the support to District Councils and District Council members;
- (4) affirming the funding policy system and the system for members’ declaration of interests with a high degree of transparency, considering the establishment of a ‘community building fund’ on the premise of putting the funding process of District Councils under public scrutiny, and expediting the implementation of community facility works endorsed by District Councils after fully consulting stakeholders in the districts; and
- (5) strengthening the role of District Officers in district coordination, so as to enhance the communication of District Councils with various bureaux and departments of the Government.