

(Translation)

Motion on
“Reforming outdated legislation and promoting the development of
innovation and technology”
moved by Hon Charles Peter MOK
at the Council meeting of 5 July 2017

Motion as amended by Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok,
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT and Hon Kenneth LEUNG

That, as many countries and regions in the world have allocated an enormous amount of resources to the proactive development of innovation and technology, this Council urges the Government to coordinate various policy bureaux in reviewing outdated legislation and, in the light of technological development, public expectations and the actual circumstances, formulating policies afresh to support the development of related industries; to achieve the abovementioned objectives, the Government should, through extensive consultation conducted in a timely manner, update obsolete legislation, introduce policies conducive to innovation and formulate innovative regulatory frameworks that maintain a balance among the concerns of stakeholders, thereby enabling Hong Kong to keep pace with the times; given that innovation and technology can promote the development of the game industry, the Government should expeditiously formulate a policy on the development of this industry, determine the policy bureau to be in charge of industry coordination and provide a clear blueprint for the long-term development of the local game industry; this Council also urges the Government to demonstrate to the public an attitude of being willing to listen to views and promoting innovation, and enact legislation suitable for the era of digital economy, in order to develop a smart city and facilitate the development and wider application of innovation and technology, thereby providing more choices for the people and upgrading the competitiveness of Hong Kong, with a view to seizing the opportunities of catching up with the pace of the international community; specific proposals include:

- (1) in regard to implementing various key performance indicators proposed in the Report of the Advisory Committee on Innovation and Technology, formulating specific policies and measures and conducting timely reviews of them;
- (2) requiring the tax policy unit to expeditiously make specific proposals for tax deductions for innovation and technology activities, including the provision of triple tax deductions for expenditures on research and

development and design, so as to promote the development of innovation and technology;

- (3) while maintaining market stability, removing various regulations and restrictions for financial innovation and providing relevant legal advice and technical support for financial services enterprises, so as to assist the industry in the development and effective use of financial technology products and services;
- (4) including in the government procurement and tender mechanisms the requirement of promotion of technological development and increasing the weighting of this requirement in the overall score, so as to encourage enterprises to promote the development of innovation and technology;
- (5) using innovation and technology to make planning for transport, healthcare, environmental protection, elderly services, etc., in order to expeditiously put forward a specific blueprint for the development of a smart city;
- (6) reviewing outdated legislation and restrictions on the vetting and approval of amendments to land use as an endeavour to increase the supply of sites for data centres, testing and certification as well as other innovation and technology sectors, so as to promote the development of the innovation and technology industry; and
- (7) amending the scope of information provided by the Government as defined in the Code on Access to Information and using technology to make a detailed categorization of government information while stipulating requirements for the format and time of dissemination of information, so that various industries can make use of the relevant information to develop high-technology products;

this Council also urges the Government to further study opening up spatial data conducive to people's livelihood and facilitating economic development; in tandem with the enactment of legislation suited to the era of digital economy, the Government should also make adequate preparations for countering threats of cyber crime by, among others, conducting a review of the relevant legislation and policies and study the introduction of electronic identity for individuals and electronic business registration that carry legal effect, so as to protect the legitimate rights and interests of the public and enterprises; the Government should also set up a 'sandbox' system to allow enterprises to apply innovation and technology in a more flexible manner.