(Translation)

Motion on "Establishing a comprehensive 're-industrialization' policy regime" moved by Hon Jimmy NG at the Council meeting of 21 March 2018

Motion as amended by Hon HO Kai-ming, Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, Hon WU Chi-wai, Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok and Hon Charles Peter MOK

That given the global economic restructuring, coupled with the new opportunities brought about by reforms in industrial technologies, many countries or places are proactively promoting 'Industry 4.0' for developing high value-added advanced manufacturing industries, and Hong Kong is no exception; the Government has already made it clear that re-industrialization is a potential new area of economic growth for Hong Kong, and announced the establishment of committee on innovation, technology and re-industrialization; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to conduct a review and elevate the positioning of the 're-industrialization' policy, with a view to upgrading the existing industrial policy regime led by innovation and technology to a comprehensive and employment-oriented industrial policy regime which is more independent, forward-looking and systematic, and increasing funding to boost relevant research and development efforts in promoting 're-industrialization'; the Government should also examine the role of industries in local employment, economic structure and societal development, adopt appropriate measures to revive the brand name of 'made in Hong Kong', provide support for manufacturing industries still having a competitive edge, such as textile and clothing, jewellery, clocks and watches, and pharmaceutical products, and study the 'external development' feature of Hong Kong's industries, with the aim of providing tax support for those offshore Hong Kong manufacturers engaging in manufacturing and production industries, thereby consolidating the economic foundation of Hong Kong, promoting the diversification of industries, and creating employment opportunities for the benefit of different sectors of society; in the light of demand changes in the global market, competitiveness in technology and cost, quantity and quality of talent, and capitalizing on the development trend of 'One Belt One Road' and the resources advantages of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, the Government must also formulate strategies and major focuses for promoting 're-industrialization'; the Government should also study the provision of tax support for local high-technology manufacturers to increase their investment incentive; at the same time, the Government should:

- (1) provide technology and policy support to encourage Hong Kong's industries to adopt new technologies (such as automated equipment and intelligent production planning), so that traditional industries can undergo upgrading and restructuring;
- (2) remove various restrictions and regulations in legislative provisions that obstruct the development and application of creativity and technology; put forward specific ways and indicators for opening government data and encouraging enterprises in the public and private sectors and various types of organizations to open their data, and promote the application of big data, with a view to facilitating development of new types of industries;
- in addition to encouraging local innovative companies to conduct product design and research and development in Hong Kong, also motivating them to manufacture products in Hong Kong, with a view to forming an industry chain to further promote 're-industrialization';
- (4) attract international innovative companies to operate their business in Hong Kong to drive the development of technological research and industrial technologies, and build a pool of talents familiar with technological research and industrial production to upgrade the standards of technological research and industries in Hong Kong; and
- (5) request the Committee on Innovation, Technology and Re-industrialization to expeditiously draw up its work targets, conduct a study on corresponding tax support and implement specific measures for promoting 're-industrialization';
- (6) dovetail with the planning of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, and explore and formulate a direction for technology and innovation, so as to expand the room for developing Hong Kong's industries;
- (7) formulate a dedicated, long-term and clear macro industrial policy with regular reviews, so as to provide a set of satisfactory integrated ancillary measures for manufacturing and related industries;
- (8) actively increase the supply of industrial and commercial sites, and relax the plot ratio of sites and adjust the compliance requirements, so as to promote 're-industrialization' and revitalize old industrial districts;

- (9) provide tax concessions, including providing tax deductions for research and development and design activities, so as to encourage industrial enterprises to apply and develop innovation and technology;
- (10) encourage Hong Kong business operators to develop different modes of intelligent manufacturing and management, and strengthen and improve existing financial and technical support schemes, so as to further assist industrial enterprises in enhancing their operation efficiency; and
- (11) improve vocational and professional education and allocate resources for fostering industrial talents; and
- enhance training of technology talents required by 're-industrialization', provide support for enterprises to upgrade their capabilities of data consolidation and analysis.