

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Strengthening regional collaboration and
jointly building the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area”
moved by Hon Jeffrey LAM
at the Council meeting of 30 May 2018**

**Motion as amended by Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, Hon YUNG Hoi-yan,
Hon YIU Si-wing, Hon Martin LIAO, Hon HO Kai-ming,
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan and Hon Jimmy NG**

That, with a view to enhancing Hong Kong’s competitiveness and promoting sustainable development, this Council urges the HKSAR Government, by adopting a proactive and pragmatic attitude, to seize the opportunities presented by the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area (‘the Bay Area’) to lobby the relevant Mainland ministries and the Guangdong Provincial Government for implementation of various measures, so as to make life more convenient for Hong Kong people (including studying, working, retiring, etc.) in the Bay Area; the HKSAR Government should also strengthen communication and cooperation with the Macao SAR Government and the relevant Mainland provincial/municipal departments, in a bid to foster diversified economic development in the region and jointly develop the Bay Area into a first-class international bay area and a world-class city cluster; specific policy measures include:

- (1) striving for the Mainland authorities’ further relaxation of the restrictions on investment, business start-up and employment faced by Hong Kong people on the Mainland, so as to facilitate the flows of personnel, goods and capital between both places, thereby increasing development opportunities for Hong Kong people;
- (2) promoting the development of creative industries and related enterprises, and inducing top-class Mainland and overseas enterprises, research and development organizations and tertiary institutions to move into the Bay Area, so as to expedite the formation of an innovation and technology industry chain in the region;
- (3) exploring the feasibility of allowing Hong Kong people working in the Bay Area to pay tax to either the Hong Kong Government or the Mainland Government, so as to avoid them having to pay double tax;

- (4) promoting mutual recognition of professional qualifications, providing support to professionals who wish to seek development on the Mainland, and issuing work permits to overseas technology talents employed by Hong Kong companies, so as to facilitate the flows of talents between Hong Kong and various cities in the Bay Area;
- (5) promoting tourism integration in the Bay Area to expedite tourism development of the Bay Area;
- (6) striving for the opening up of more 24-hour boundary control points, so as to deepen exchanges between both places and bring convenience to Hong Kong residents who frequently work in the Bay Area;
- (7) setting up an ‘innovation and technology programme for youngsters’ to provide eligible youngsters with business start-up subsidies, corporate matching proposals, etc., so as to assist them in grasping the development opportunities presented by the Bay Area;
- (8) establishing an exchange platform for Hong Kong and Mainland talents that focuses on nurturing innovation and technological research talents, so as to develop the Bay Area into a settlement of innovation and technological research talents;
- (9) through active cooperation with the Guangdong Provincial Government, jointly seeking to unify the standards and requirements on the sales and supply of goods and services in the Bay Area, such as formulating product safety test standards and a procurement system; and
- (10) encouraging telecommunications companies to progressively waive mobile roaming charges for Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao as a means of materializing connection of telecommunications networks in the three places and urban integration, so as to reduce the communications costs borne by Hong Kong and Macao residents working and living in the Bay Area; and
- (11) striving for the Mainland authorities’ further relaxation of the restrictions on setting up professional firms faced by Hong Kong people on the Mainland, so as to facilitate the movements of data and business-related materials between both places; and
- (12) setting up a cooperation platform for promoting the Bay Area in overseas markets with joint funding from the Governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao for conducting studies on issues such as immigration policies for overseas visitors, priority clearance

arrangements, tourism product development and tourism publicity and promotion strategies;

- (13) leading Hong Kong people (especially young people and the small and medium enterprise sector) to actively participate in the development of the Bay Area with the broadest vision and an open attitude, preparing and offering them support for seizing the new development opportunities brought about by the Bay Area, and giving full play to Hong Kong's existing advantages for further deepening Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao cooperation under an innovative cooperation mechanism, promoting synergistic economic and social development in the region, and fostering the effective, efficient and convenient flows of goods, personnel, capital and information in the region;
- (14) achieving complementarity, mutual benefits and breakthroughs in their respective development bottlenecks, improving cooperation and development in various aspects of the region, such as transportation, the ecological environment, health-care and education, jointly developing the Bay Area into an international centre for technological innovation and a quality living circle that is good for living, working and travelling, so as to begin a new chapter in Hong Kong's development, contribute to the country's development towards strategic opening and promote the Bay Area as a crucial link along the 'One Belt One Road';
- (15) leveraging on Hong Kong's comparative advantages in its top-class tertiary education in the world, free flow of capital, intellectual property rights protection, etc. to fully interface with the Guangzhou-Shenzhen Science and Technology Innovation Corridor, and providing a new breakthrough for pushing forward a new round of innovation and technological cooperation in the region;
- (16) striving for the full relaxation of Hong Kong professional qualification recognition in the Bay Area to make it more convenient for Hong Kong professionals to develop business and provide services in the region;
- (17) endeavouring to reinforce and enhance Hong Kong's position as an international financial centre, such as striving for expanding the scope of mutual access to the financial markets of Guangdong and Hong Kong, including the full opening up of business such as cross-border Renminbi trade settlement, lending and financing, the enhancement of the arrangements for the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the Bond Connect, and the stepping up of financial technology cooperation, with a

view to reinforcing Hong Kong's position as a connection hub between the Bay Area and the international community;

- (18) endeavouring to reinforce and enhance Hong Kong's position as an international aviation, maritime and trade centre, including enhancing the functions of Hong Kong's cross-border e-commerce platforms, striving for the Mainland's relaxation of the relevant market access conditions and granting of national treatment to Hong Kong enterprises, expanding the room for developing e-commerce in the Bay Area, and providing important infrastructure facilities for Hong Kong's development of high value-added logistic services for re-export;
- (19) striving for turning Hong Kong into an arbitration centre for resolving commercial contract disputes and legal conflicts in the Bay Area, and nurturing more legal talents for the international community;
- (20) stepping up cooperative studies and efforts in the Bay Area regarding the further improvement of the environment in the region, as well as climate change adaption and mitigation; and
- (21) materializing a Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao 'health consortium', including innovative cooperation covering the areas of talent exchanges and training, the health-care industry and the joint prevention and control of diseases, fostering the provision of more integrated medical and elderly care services in the Bay Area, and striving for other related favourable conditions to bring convenience to Hong Kong people who choose to live and spend their twilight years in the Bay Area;
- (22) protecting Hong Kong people's employment rights and interests on the Mainland, including the improvement of the contribution arrangements for Hong Kong people participating in the Mainland's social insurance and housing accumulation funds, and the abolition of the system requiring Hong Kong people to apply for employment permission for working on the Mainland, so as to facilitate Hong Kong people's employment and development in the Bay Area;
- (23) streamlining the formalities Hong Kong people must undergo when using their Home Visit Permits for handling various matters on the Mainland, such as considering the inclusion of Home Visit Permit numbers into the identification system of the Mainland's digital technology network, so as to make it more convenient for Hong Kong people to conduct business and live in the Bay Area;

- (24) providing medical protection to Hong Kong people in the Bay Area, including allowing Hong Kong people to take out basic medical insurance on the Mainland, extending the use of Hong Kong Health Care Vouchers to Grade-A hospitals in Bay Area cities, and setting up cross-region ambulance services, so that Hong Kong people can also receive medical support on the Mainland;
- (25) abolishing the service charge for cross-boundary cash withdrawals from automatic teller machines of Mainland banks with Hong Kong bank cards and relaxing the existing maximum amount of cash that can be carried into or out of the Mainland and remittance limits, so as to facilitate the flows of personnel, goods and capital between the Bay Area and Hong Kong; and
- (26) considering the setting up of a youth commission with the Bay Area as the main theme, so as to enhance local young people's understanding of the development prospects, economic position and industry information regarding the Bay Area, and providing them with training and support services to equip them with skills for seeking opportunities in the Bay Area;
- (27) enhancing the cross-boundary portability arrangements for welfare benefits, so as to benefit Hong Kong residents living or working in the Bay Area;
- (28) by drawing reference from the model of the University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital, allowing Hong Kong hospitals of a higher quality to operate hospitals jointly with major cities in the Guangdong Province under Hong Kong-style management, so as to provide quality healthcare services;
- (29) enhancing traffic arrangements for the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge ('HZMB'), including the introduction of new quotas exclusive to private cars at HZMB's boundary crossings, and exploring the feasibility of allowing Hong Kong private cars to enter the Mainland without any quota;
- (30) exploring the construction of a well-equipped 'Hong Kong estate' in the Guangdong Province as a means of providing Hong Kong people with affordable residential units;
- (31) striving for equal treatment to Hong Kong school children studying in the Mainland and Mainland students, so as to provide Hong Kong students with more options;

- (32) striving for the Mainland authorities' issuance of identity proof to Hong Kong people with the same format as that of the identity cards for Mainland residents, so as to make life more convenient for Hong Kong people on the Mainland; and
- (33) encouraging enterprises to capitalize on Hong Kong's advantage as a financial and trade centre to make investment in Hong Kong for market development, so as to foster the diversified development of Hong Kong's economy and develop the Bay Area into a world-class economic centre; and
- (34) materializing the Chief Executive's new fiscal philosophy and amending sections 39E and 16EC of the Inland Revenue Ordinance to enable Hong Kong manufacturers to claim tax allowances in respect of the machinery, equipment and intellectual property rights used in their production procedures located outside Hong Kong, with a view to encouraging Hong Kong manufacturers to participate in the development of the Bay Area and progress with the times.