(Translation)

Hon LAI Tung-kwok's motion on "Guarding against the importation of COVID-19, preventing its spread on all fronts and resuming quarantine-free travel as soon as possible"

Wording of the Motion

That with the recent global prevalence of the Omicron mutant strain, there is a surge in the number of imported cases in Hong Kong and the mutant strain has spread into the community, exposing once again the serious loopholes in the line of quarantine defence; while the Lunar New Year is approaching, the date for resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong remains uncertain; the SAR Government must thoroughly review and plug the loopholes in epidemic prevention so that the Central Government and the Guangdong Provincial Government can have sufficient confidence in resuming quarantine-free travel between the Mainland and Hong Kong; given that the implementation of the anti-epidemic strategy involves various policy bureaux and government departments, this Council requests the SAR Government to implement immediately all feasible measures to build a solid line of defence to guard against the importation of cases and the resurgence of local infection, and strive for the resumption of quarantine-free travel as soon as possible, in order to ease people's hardship and benefit people's livelihood, including:

- (1) enhancing the functionality of the 'LeaveHomeSafe' app to ensure effective and expeditious tracing of close contacts, so as to cut the virus transmission chain;
- (2) drawing up a timetable for amending the definition of 'fully vaccinated' to having received three doses of vaccine;
- (3) immediately plugging the existing loopholes in quarantine of air cargo crew and seriously pursuing, in accordance with the law, the liabilities of non-compliant personnel and companies; and
- (4) when setting priorities for quota on quarantine-free travel, reasonably catering to the needs of various parties, including cross-boundary workers, cross-boundary students and families separated between the Mainland and Hong Kong, etc..