

(Translation)

**Hon Lillian KWOK's motion on
"Improving the mental and psychological health of the public and
promoting the development of Hong Kong's counselling profession"**

Wording of the Motion

That the overall psychological health of Hong Kong people is deteriorating, their mental health index even falls below the passing level, and the psychological health conditions and emotional problems of the public are in dire need of concern and attention from the community; the emotional problems of students are also of major concern to the community, with a number of surveys finding that students have exhibited symptoms of depression and anxiety as a result of being 'stressed out', and the student suicide rate even rose to a record high last year; the counselling profession can help service recipients analyse, interpret, assess and address various psychological problems, but Hong Kong has all along lacked a career structure for the counselling profession; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to promote the development of Hong Kong's counselling profession and make good use of counselling professionals to contribute towards improving the mental and psychological health of the public.