

(Translation)

**Dr Hon Elvin LEE's motion on
"Aligning with the country's promulgation of the Regulation on
Promoting Nationwide Reading to further strengthen Hong Kong's
strategy and efforts to promote reading for all"**

Wording of the Motion

That the National 15th Five-Year Plan has set the objectives of 'inspiring the cultural creativity of our entire nation' and 'making tangible progress in building China into a country with a strong culture', explicitly stating to 'foster a love of reading among the public and advance the development of a society steeped in a culture of reading'; the country's first dedicated legislation on nationwide reading, the Regulation on Promoting Nationwide Reading ('the Regulation'), which formally came into effect on 1 February this year, marks the elevation of promoting nationwide reading to a national strategic level, and provides crucial guidance for enriching the intellectual and cultural lives of the public and enhancing society's cultural depth; Hong Kong should proactively dovetail with the national development strategies by promoting reading for all to enhance the overall competencies of the public and build a comprehensive reading promotion network that covers different age groups, strata and regions, so as to enable a culture of reading to take root and bear fruit in Hong Kong, thereby contributing Hong Kong's strength to building China into a country with a strong culture; in this connection, this Council urges the SAR Government to draw on the spirit of the Regulation and actively promote reading for all, with specific measures including:

- (1) exploring the formulation of a Hong Kong Reading for All Promotion Strategy ('the Strategy') to create an environment that supports reading for all and covers all strata of society as well as step up efforts to encourage students and the general public across the territory to develop reading habits, and at the same time attaching importance to parent-child reading to nurture interest in reading from early childhood;
- (2) considering the establishment of a dedicated committee to coordinate relevant policy bureaux and departments, such as the Cultural, Sports and Tourism Bureau, the Education Bureau, and the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau, to collaboratively discuss the formulation, implementation and long-term advancement of the Strategy, so as to ensure policy coherence, resource integration and effective implementation;

- (3) exploring the expansion of the Hong Kong Reading for All Day into a Reading for All Campaign Week to tie in with the Regulation and setting a reading theme for the Campaign Week, uniting efforts across all sectors and enhancing publicity and promotion to actively encourage public participation, thereby deeply cultivating a culture of reading in the community, schools and families; and
- (4) exploring the deployment or additional allocation of resources to support primary and secondary schools to enhance the functions of their libraries and organize diverse reading activities, and encourage all District Councils to organize community reading activities, particularly those themed on strengthening Chinese history education, enhancing the sense of national identity, etc.