

LC: Speech by SJ on Proposed Resolution under the
Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance

Following is the speech by the Secretary for Justice,
Mr Wong Yan Lung, SC, on the Proposed Resolution under
the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance at the
Legislative Council today (October 17) (English
translation):

Madam President,

I rise to move the motion, which is standing in my
name on the Agenda, to amend the Official Languages
(Alteration of Text under Section 4D) (Miscellaneous)
Order 2007. The Order was laid before this Council on
July 4, 2007.

The Order was made under section 4D of the Official
Languages Ordinance (Cap. 5). It makes formal
alterations to the Chinese text of certain items of
legislation in order to standardise the Chinese
equivalents for various English words, expressions and
phrases, including the words "advocate" and "advocacy".

A Subcommittee was formed to study the Order. The
Subcommittee agreed at its meeting on July 26 that the
relevant bodies in the legal field should be consulted
before deciding on the choice of Chinese equivalents for
"advocate" and "advocacy". We have invited the relevant
bodies in the legal field and members of the public to
offer their views. The consultation exercise is now in
progress.

Under the commencement clause of the Order, the
Order is to come into operation on November 26, 2007. To
allow sufficient time for consultation and in order not
to delay the coming into operation of other amendments,
the Subcommittee agreed that Part 2 of the Order, which
deals with amendments relating to the Chinese equivalents
for "advocate" and "advocacy", be repealed.

The motion will give effect to the decision of the
Subcommittee. I hope Members would support the motion.

Thank you, Madam President.

Ends/Wednesday, October 17, 2007
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