

LC Paper No. CB(3) 209/15-16

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Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 4 December 2015

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 16 December 2015

Motion on "Expeditiously formulating measures to combat the problem of 'bogus refugees' "

Hon IP Kwok-him has given notice to move the attached motion on "Expeditiously formulating measures to combat the problem of 'bogus refugees' " at the Council meeting of 16 December 2015. The President has directed that it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

(Ms Dora WAI) for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

Motion on "Expeditiously formulating measures to combat the problem of 'bogus refugees' " to be moved by Hon IP Kwok-him at the Council meeting of 16 December 2015

Wording of the Motion

That, according to available information, the number of claims currently pending screening by the unified screening mechanism for non-refoulement claims ('unified screening mechanism') exceeds 10 000, and the annual public expenditure incurred for handling non-refoulement claims also exceeds hundreds of millions of dollars; it was reported by the press that there was abuse of the unified screening mechanism, for example, some overseas intermediaries, in their capacity as immigration consultants, helped foreigners to come to Hong Kong and take up work unlawfully in Hong Kong by lodging non-refoulement claims; the problem of 'bogus refugees who are actually illegal workers' has aroused widespread concern in the community and also exerted heavy pressure on the law and order in Hong Kong; in this connection, this Council urges the Administration to expeditiously review the unified screening mechanism and actively consider adopting the approaches in overseas places to formulate various measures to prevent abuse of the unified screening mechanism, including stepping up law-enforcement efforts to intercept illegal immigrants, expediting the procedure for screening non-refoulement claims, setting a statutory time limit for lodging non-refoulement claims, imposing a cap on the publicly-funded legal assistance, and setting up holding centres to properly manage non-refoulement claimants.