

January 6, 2009

**For Immediate Release**

## **True Democracy for a World City**

**The Professional Commons called for the Chief Executive to abolish the Functional Constituencies and to genuinely put forward Universal Suffrage**

Hong Kong will face many challenges in the new year 2009. Implementing a political system of universal and equal suffrage is a necessary condition for advancing clean politics, enhancing good governance, and promoting community consensus to tackle the challenges.

Legislative Councillor Ms. Margaret Ng will be putting forward a Motion for debate in the Legislative Council tomorrow, calling upon the Chief Executive, when he puts forward his proposals for reform of the method of election of the Chief Executive and election of the Legislative Council, to make clear that the Functional Constituencies are to be abolished and to ensure that his proposals lead to election systems in accordance with Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The Professional Commons supported the motion in full. We have launched a signatory campaign on a declaration calling for support from different realms of the society. In a period of less than a fortnight, we have already obtained over 260 initiators supporting the declaration in 14 different sectors, covering engineering, legal, information technology, medical and health services, social welfare, accountancy, architectural, surveying and urban planning, tourism, insurance, commerce, as well as members of the District Councils. The declaration will be published in the *Hong Kong Economic Journal* tomorrow (January 7, 2008). Meanwhile, we have also inquired all 30 members from the 28 functional constituencies in the Legislative Council individually of their voting preferences on the motion, and the results of our inquiries would also be published in

the declaration. Nonetheless, this is not merely a one-off action. Our joint signatory campaign would be relayed through our webpage ([www.procommons.org.hk](http://www.procommons.org.hk)). We are inviting individuals from different sectors to be the co-signatories of this declaration either through email ([info@procommons.org.hk](mailto:info@procommons.org.hk)) or via phone (8200 6332).

In May 2008, The Professional Commons had proposed a set of recommendations regarding the constitutional reform in 2012. Regarding the future of the functional constituencies, we proposed to abolish the functional constituencies as soon as possible, and to facilitate the professionals to continue contributing their professional knowledge and expertise in the society, without the existence of the functional constituencies.

For full text, please refer to Chinese version as following.

(Chinese only)

本秘書處已向所有立法會功能界別議員發出電郵及致電議員辦事處要求回應對上述議案的立場，結果如下(排名不分先後)：

1.	方剛	留言及電郵均未有回覆
2.	林健鋒	在立法會發言時方才表態
3.	劉秀成	不在香港
4.	林大輝	成功聯絡助理但議員未有回覆
5.	陳茂波	成功聯絡助理但議員未有回覆
6.	梁君彥	電話無人接聽，電郵未有回覆
7.	黃定光	不作回覆
8.	詹培忠	沒有意見
9.	陳健波	暫未表態
10.	何鍾泰	成功聯絡助理但議員未有回覆
11.	李國寶	無法以電話聯絡議員，電郵亦未有回覆
12.	梁劉柔芬	沒有意見
13.	黃宜弘	沒有意見
14.	黃容根	待團隊開會後才決定
15.	劉皇發	成功聯絡助理但議員未有回覆
16.	劉健儀	待黨派開會後才決定
17.	霍震霆	未決定
18.	梁家騮	暫時未有意見
19.	謝偉俊	暫時未有意見
20.	譚偉豪	待徵詢業界意見才表態
21.	葉偉明	待與黨派開會才表態
22.	潘佩璆	待與黨派開會才表態
23.	葉國謙	沒有回覆
24.	石禮謙	未有回覆
25.	李鳳英	暫未表態
26.	張宇人	待與黨派開會才表態
27.	吳靄儀	支持
28.	張文光	支持
29.	李國麟	支持
30.	張國柱	支持