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**Schedule**

- *58th ACA Meeting on 13 April 2007*
- *7th CFA Meeting on 26 June 2007*



# 58th ACA Meeting

The 58th ACA meeting will be held on 13 April 2007 (Friday) at 2:30 pm at the DH Conference Room, 21/F Wu Chung House, Wan Chai. There will be four main items on the agenda:

1. **Report on the Assessment of Recently Acquired HIV Infection in Men Having Sex with Men (MSM) in Hong Kong**
2. **Expert Panel on HIV Infection of Health Care Workers (2004-2006)**

3. **The First Ever Clinical Teaching Module of HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong**

4. **Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2007-2011**



*Interested readers may watch for the next issue of the ACA Newsfile for more details.*

## **Public Consultation on HIV/AIDS Strategies**

The Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA) on March 16 commenced a public consultation on proposals to better improve and coordinate the services of all agencies in Hong Kong in the prevention, control and care of HIV infections for the coming five years.

**Details** of the proposals, listed out in ACA’s draft strategic document - “Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2007 – 2011”, have been uploaded to the website: [www.info.gov.hk/aids](http://www.info.gov.hk/aids).

**Members** of the public, in particular non governmental organizations on AIDS and

stakeholders, are invited to read the document and submit their views on or before April 10, 2007 by email to [aca@dh.gov.hk](mailto:aca@dh.gov.hk), by fax to 2337 0897 or by post to ACA Secretariat, 5/F Yau Ma Tei Jockey Club Clinic, 145 Battery Street.

**Public’s** feedback and comments on the proposals will be useful in formulating new strategies to tackle HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong in the coming years.



For enquiries, please contact ACA at [aca@dh.gov.hk](mailto:aca@dh.gov.hk) or call 2304 6100



## The Sixth CFA Meeting

The Sixth CFA meeting was held on 20 March 2007. There were four items on the agenda.

### ➤Rising Trend in HIV Infection in Hong Kong

Members noted the rising trend of HIV infection in Hong Kong and the key AIDS responses taken by the Government, non-governmental organizations and the community. There were a record number of **373** HIV infections from voluntary case reports in 2006, a 19% increase in the number of HIV infections from the previous annual total of 313 infections in 2005. As at the end of 2006, the accumulated total number of HIV infections stood at 3198 since the first case of HIV infection was diagnosed in 1984 in Hong Kong. The following discussion points were raised:

- (i) HIV prevention in MSM would be a priority area of action in the AIDS response;
- (ii) HIV rapid testing in labour wards for late presenting mothers would be introduced;
- (iii) There was an increase in the number of HIV infections from injecting drug users in recent years but no evidence to suggest an outbreak.
- (iv) Sexual contact remained the predominant route of HIV transmission. More efforts in community based surveillance among female sex workers would be needed; and
- (v) Sexually-active persons should practice safer sex by correct and consistent use of condoms for preventing HIV infection.

### ➤Proposed World AIDS Day Activities 2007

As a follow-up to the discussion at the last meeting, members agreed to look at the proposal for a joint WAD event in 2007. They noted that the objectives of the proposal were (i) to raise the public awareness on risks of HIV infection; (ii) to promote the acceptance of PLWHA; and (iii) to appeal and coordinate community participation. Members also agreed to form a working group to take forward the proposal. Dr Billy Ho was appointed as the convener

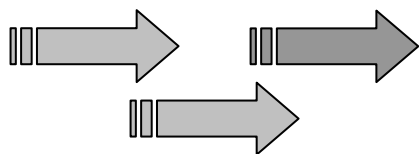
of the working group to plan and oversee the implementation of the proposed WAD activities. CFA members would be invited to join the working group. The Red Ribbon Centre would provide secretarial support to the working group.

### ➤Final Draft of ACA's Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2007-2011

Members noted the final draft of the Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2007-2011 and were aware that a public consultation had commenced since 16 March 2007 until 10 April 2007. Members also felt that CFA would provide a good platform for the continuous monitoring and evaluation of the strategies. Against the eight specific targets set out in the strategy document, members had a discussion about putting in place different sets of indicators to assess the level of achievement of individual targets. They also agreed to regularly review and evaluate the progress of individual targets at coming CFA meetings. As regards target 4 to review ATF funding mechanism to improve effective funding of community-based response, members agreed to form a working group to look at AFT funding mechanism and to make recommendations to the Council for the AIDS Trust Fund on funding allocation to AIDS NGOs. Rev CHU Yiu-ming was appointed as the convener of the working group to review the funding mechanism.

### ➤LegCo Health Panel's Meeting on Prevention of HIV/AIDS on 12 March 2007

Members were aware that the Legislative Council Panel on Health Services had a discussion on the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS on 12 March 2007. LegCo members were briefed on the latest situation of HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong and the Government's work in preventing and controlling HIV/AIDS. 9 NGOs with AIDS services attended the panel meeting and made their presentation to the panel. Members presented themselves at the panel meeting generally felt that it was a very useful occasion to raise their concern to LegCo members but the airtime for attending NGOs was apparently not adequate. Members noted the LegCo paper including all NGO's submissions.



## ***CFA's visit to AIDS NGO***

As mentioned previously in CFA, the Convener and CFA members would visit AIDS NGOs to enhance communication between CFA, ATF and NGOs. As arranged by the CFA secretariat, Dr Susan Fan led the visiting party and met the key figures of *AIDS Concern* and *Hong Kong AIDS Foundation* on March 1, *Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention* and *Boys and Girls Club Association* on March 19 and *CHOICE, Society for AIDS Care* and *Action For Reach Out* on March 22. All visits were made in the afternoon. Members of the Council for the AIDS Trust Fund including Dr Dennis YU, Dr Cecilia CHAN and Mrs Eliza LEUNG also joined one of those visits.



The visiting party were briefed on the major work of the NGOs visited and had a good understanding on the problems faced by them. The second round of the visit will be continued in April.



*Society of  
Rehabilitation  
and Crime*



**CHOICE**



*Society for AIDS Care*

*Boys and Girls Club  
Association*



*Action For Reach  
Out*

