



香港愛滋病顧問局二十週年紀念
20th Anniversary of Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS

1990-2010

ACA NEWSFILE (Publication of the Advisory Council on AIDS, Hong Kong)

Editorial Board

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Calendar

18 March 2010

17th CFA

Meeting

9 April 2010

70th ACA

Meeting

A Summary of the Sixteenth CFA Meeting Held on 5 January 2010

(I) Report Back of “Asia Regional Consultation on MSM HIV/AIDS Care and Support”

The Forum received a presentation on the Consultation Meeting held in Bangkok on 17-19 Nov 2009 organized by USAID, UNDP and FHI with 100 participants from 23 countries / areas. The needs for MSM HIV/AIDS care and support services ranged from psychosocial, physical, social, economic, human rights, to legal aspects, and involved partners, family and community. Common barriers included poverty and lack of family support; limited access to health care facilities and palliative care; stigma, discrimination and violence; diverse needs of hard-to-reach sub-populations. Nevertheless there were signs that some countries were taking proactive steps to strengthen MSM care and support

services, and it was recommended that efforts be focused on the following key areas:

HIV counseling and testing

Community care and support

Positive health (dignity) and prevention

Strengthening linkages between community based MSM care and support and facility based services

Innovation and use of technology to increase service access to MSM

Enabling environments: advocacy, legislation, policy change, livelihood development, research.

(to be continued on page 6)



Kung Hei Fat Choy!

Wishing You a Prosperous Year of the Tiger!

(II) Report Back of “Meeting on Strengthening Monitoring the Health Sector Response to HIV/AIDS in the Western Pacific Region”

The Forum was updated on the WHO Meeting held in Manila on 2-4 Dec 2009, attended by government representatives from 10 countries and other key partners. Statistics from the various countries were shared, but it

was highlighted that the submission rate of reports in the Western Pacific Region was on the low side and that some indicators were still not reported by some countries. Major challenges remained in (a) collating and addressing strategic information; and (b) expanding coverage of comprehensive services to achieve universal access.

(III) Discussion on United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) Indicators 2010 and How CFA Could Contribute to the Exercise

Members were briefed on the background of the UNGASS on HIV/AIDS reporting system and noted that Hong Kong HKSAR, as part of China, was not required to submit the report as a sovereign state. However the Forum agreed that the indicators would help facilitate government and NGOs to benchmark performance, monitor progress, identify ser-

vice gaps, and map out future strategies. Given that ACA had reviewed the UNGASS indicators in 2003 and 2006, the Secretariat was tasked to provide the previous data and data source, and the definition of the indicators for members’ reference. The Forum would discuss at the next meeting the way forward towards developing a common data set for AIDS organizations to collect key information with standardized definitions suitable for the local context.

(IV) Publicity Activities Organized by RRC for World AIDS Day

The Forum noted the following publicity activities organised by the Red Ribbon Centre to commemorate World AIDS Day 2009:

The 22nd World AIDS Day show in Shenzhen on 29 November 2009;
New API “Travel Smart, Play Safe” featuring Miss Miriam Yeung Chin-wah;
AIDS-related programme “Let’s get

touched” on Commercial Radio;
Promoting HIV awareness through television programme “Off Pedder”; and
Promoting safer sex campaign at strategic locations targeting cross-border and airport travellers.

Members also shared the promotional activities organized by their NGOs and particularly noted the enthusiastic public response to radio programmes encouraging HIV testing.

Council News /Activities

The 69th ACA Meeting

The 69th ACA Meeting was held on 15 January 2010. There were three major items on the agenda:

HIV Strategy and Situation in Macao
“Find one Treat one” ; a Strategy to Prevent HIV-1 Spread in Hong Kong
20th Anniversary of Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (1990-2010)

Surveillance

Summary table on the updated HIV/AIDS situation through the reporting system as at 30 Sept 2009

	This Quarter (Jul to Sept 2009)		Cumulative (Total)	
	HIV	AIDS	HIV	AIDS
Total	123	15	4372	1086

For more details please visit:www.aids2010.org

What's New!



AIDS 2010

XVIII INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE
JULY | 18-23 | 2010 | VIENNA AUSTRIA

Rights Here, Right Now



Reply from Commissioner of Police on the issue of confiscation of condom

ACA Chairman issued a letter to the Commissioner of Police on 31 July 2009 and an extract of reply from the Police is as follows :

Prostitution itself is not illegal in Hong Kong and police will not take enforcement action against sex workers who do not break the law. Police enforcement priority is against those organized prostitution activities that exploit sex workers and prostitution involving underage persons and visitors.

The Police would like to reiterate the statement of the Secretary of Security that “the Police will not make an arrest solely on the ground that items such as condoms or lubricants are seized from the person concerned”. Simply having condoms in a person’s possession is not an offence under the existing leg-

islation. However, if a person is involved in illegal prostitution activity, the fact that the person is in possession of condoms will form the circumstantial evidence to prove the person’s involvement in prostitution activity.

With regard to the suggestion for the police to maintain communications with NGOs and sex workers, there has indeed been a liaison mechanism in place since May 2008 and officers at different levels will meet NGOs and sex workers regularly to address matters of mutual concern. Police will reassure them that police will not arrest sex workers solely because they are found in possession of condoms when police meet them again to alleviate the sex workers’ concern.

**AIDS Hotline
2780 2211**

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