

Editorial Board

Executive Editor: Mrs Ellen LAU, ACA Secretariat



Vol. 19, No. 8 – August 2012 (issue no. 224)

AIDS Hotline: 2780 2211

IN THIS ISSUE WE HAVE

- Agenda of 26th CFA Meetingpage 29
- Report Back Seminarpage 29
- A Summary of the 25th CFA Meeting held on 14 June 2012pages 30-31
- The XIX International AIDS Conference held in USA from 22 to 27 July 2012.....page 32

~ Calendar ~

**26th CFA Meeting
5 September 2012**

**80th ACA Meeting
5 October 2012**

Meeting & Event

26th CFA Meeting

Date : 5 September 2012 (Wednesday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Conference Room,
Red Ribbon Centre,
2/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey
Club Clinic,
200 Junction Road East,
Kowloon

Two main items on the Agenda -

- Use of condom as prostitution evidence
- MSM in private sex party

The XIX International AIDS Conference - Report Back Seminar

Date : 7 September 2012 (Friday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Lecture Theatre,
Centre for Health Protection,
147C Argyle Street,
Kowloon

Speakers : Dr Susan Fan,
Dr Kenny Chan,
Ms Victoria Kwong,
and other Delegates

A Summary of the 25th CFA Meeting held on 14 June 2012

(I) Inviting relevant stakeholders/interested parties for dialogue

Members noted that stakeholders who might broaden the perspective of CFA could be invited to attend the CFA Meeting upon discussion of certain topics. Consideration might be given to discuss the following items –

- a. Life skills-based HIV education;
- b. Sexual health needs of ethnic minorities in Hong Kong from places with high HIV prevalence; and
- c. Abandon condom as prostitution evidence.

(II) Attendance in CFA by non-members

Members noted that a total of four non-members would join this CFA Meeting as observers upon discussion of the three relevant agenda items and they would be allowed to speak up at the end of each agenda item if time permitted. *(Upon the Convener's invitation, two observers spoke up at the meeting while the remaining two did not have any comments to make).*

(III) Concerns and comments on funding mechanism of AIDS Trust Fund

Members noted that the Chairpersons of ACA and ATF had met on 26 March 2012 to exchange views on funding for local AIDS response (including concerns and comments raised in the 24th CFA Meeting held on 22 March 2012). Members also noted that ongoing monitoring and evaluation would be conducted by ACA on an annual basis to assess the implementation of the measures proposed (under the Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2012-2016) in the coming four years.

(IV) Report on the progress of AIDS response indicators

The field testing of the questionnaires for the four target groups were drafted by Department of Health (DH) and sent to NGOs with relevant work targeting respective target groups for action on 18 May 2012. Members shared their views in conducting this exercise while others gave their opinions on the format of the questionnaires and the manner that the field testing should be carried out for better efficiency / future reference. Further discussion with organizations involved would be made to finalize the questionnaires and arrangement for formal roll out.

(V) Summary of discussion on HIV-infected healthcare workers in Panel on Health Services of Legislative Council

Members noted that this subject was discussed in the regular meeting of the Panel on Health Service of Legislative Council on 14 May 2012 and the information paper prepared by the Administration emphasized that –

- a. HIV transmission from healthcare worker to patient in healthhcare settings was rare and never documented locally;
- b. all local hospitals adhered to standard infection control measures which effectively minimized transmission of blood-borne pathogens (including HIV) in health care settings;
- c. voluntary testing for HIV was the best way to protect personal privacy, and people in need were encouraged to seek counseling and appropriate treatment;
- d. there was no justification for restricting practice of health care workers on the basis of the HIV status alone; and
- e. the local mechanism, which aligned with international recommendations, had been working well to protect public health.

(VI) Presentation on findings of the PRiSM 2011

A PowerPoint presentation on the findings of the PRiSM 2011 was conducted at the meeting. Members noted that through DH's initiation and efforts, PRiSM 2011 was planned with the following objectives –

- a. determining HIV prevalence in MSM;
- b. assessing coverage of prevention interventions; and
- c. evaluating the profile of risk behaviours.

Moreover, DH would conduct further analysis on these data for preparing a fact sheet and discuss with organizations involved to come up with a publicity strategy.

(VII) Visit to Shenzhen Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Shenzhen CDC)

Members noted that colleagues of the Special Preventive Programme (SPP) were going to visit the Shenzhen CDC on 3 July 2012 to discuss enhanced collaboration across the border among other issues. Some Members proposed that SPP colleagues should raise these matters to Shenzhen CDC for discussion –

- a. NGOs should be allowed to conduct voluntary counseling and testing for HIV (VCT) on an anonymous basis since the protection of privacy of testing recipients in Shenzhen was a great concern;
- b. Counseling should be more emphasized in VCT provided by Shenzhen CDC;
- c. More intervention and education were necessary for the young MSM;
- d. Events (in form of conferences or seminars) should be held jointly by the HKSAR Government (DH) and the Shenzhen CDC; and
- e. Frequent communication and exchange of information / data between HKSAR Government (DH) and the Shenzhen CDC was necessary and essential.

ACA NEWSFILE



**XIX INTERNATIONAL AIDS
CONFERENCE JULY 22 - 27
WASHINGTON DC USA**



The Chairperson of the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA), Dr Susan FAN Yun-sun participated in the XIX International AIDS Conference during the period from 22 to 27 July 2012. Dr FAN will share her valuable experience with local AIDS workers in early September 2012. You may wish to visit <http://www.aids2012.org> for more information related to the Conference.

Snapshot

