

ACA NEWSFILE

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

Editor: Dr S S Lee, ACA Secretary

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.Calendar.

**XXVth Meeting of
the Advisory
Council on AIDS
(ACA)**

2:30pm 20 April 1998

**XXIXth Meeting of
the Committee on
Education and
Publicity on AIDS
(CEPAIDS)**

5:30pm 14 May 1998

**XVth Meeting of
AIDS Services
Development
Committee (ASDC)**

2:30pm 27 March 1998

**XIIIrd Scientific
Committee on AIDS
(SCA)**

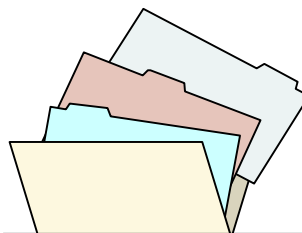
9:30am 5 March 1998

Committee Meetings

THE Scientific Committee on AIDS will be holding its 13th meeting on 5 March. Members will be examining the minutes of an earlier meeting on HIV treatment held jointly with AIDS Services Development Committee. Other issues for deliberation are: antenatal HIV testing, STD survey, and revised principles on HIV treatment.

The Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS met on 9 February. The meeting examined a paper reviewing the use of the media in the communication on AIDS, and another one on enhancing the future role of the Committee. The Secretariat was taking the opportunity to document various aspects of AIDS prevention/education in the last decade, and to seek the input of members in their evaluation. Such approach would also strengthen the analytical part of the programme review now underway (see last page).

The AIDS Services Development Committee will be meeting towards the end of March. In view of the medical advances made in last years, the Committee will look at the progress of the development of community-based care, and whether new strategies are needed in due course. ❁



UNAIDS

has issued a press release jointly with the High Commission for Human Rights on their publication of the International Guideliness on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights. Details could be accessed from UNAIDS website www.unaids.org

AIDS HOTLINE 27802211

Advisory Council on AIDS Secretariat

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Council News / Activities

Youth Action on AIDS

ON 28 February, The *Youth Action on AIDS* Funding Scheme Prize Presentation Ceremony was held at the Red Ribbon Centre.

The Ceremony was officiated by Miss HO Ka-lai, an Asian Fencing champion, Mr Gregory Leung, Deputy Secretary for Health and Welfare, Mr Carlos Leung, Assistant Director of Social Welfare, and Miss Kay Ku, Assistant Director of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service.

Since 1991, the Task Force on Youth (previously Youth Working Group) of the Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS has been organising the programmes to support youth groups in their development of AIDS education activities for young people. So far 105 groups have received funding and technical support under the Scheme. In 1997, 21 groups were supported. The Task Force on Youth welcomes submission from youth groups.

The best project awards went to : YWCA Tuen Mun Integrated Social Service Centre, St Paul's Convent School, and Peer Counsellors's Society of Haking Wong Technical Institute.

Enquiries: Red Ribbon Centre 23046268. ❀

AIDS Advocacy

THE Chairman, together with Dr Homer Tso and the Secretary, had met with representatives of AIDS Advocacy Group (Alliance) on 27 November 1997. The discussion focused on the standard of treatment received by patients with HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong. The Group undertook to prepare the minutes for the meeting, which became available in February 1998. The Chairman has revised the draft minutes and is waiting for the Group's confirmation, and its agreement to release to all Members. ❀

The theme of the 1998 World AIDS Campaign will focus on YOUTH!

Dr Sex Hotline
23372121

BYOL

THE next **BYOL** Seminar will be presented by Dr G A Plum at the Red Ribbon Centre on 6 March (1-2pm). The presentation is titled *The changing role of NGOs working in HIV/AIDS in Australia.*

BYOL (bring-your-own-lunch) is an update continuing education series run on a monthly basis for those working in the field of HIV/AIDS. ❀

Activities

Chinese New Year Fair

MEMBERS touring the Chinese New Year Flower Fair should have no problems getting in touch with AIDS messages. The Department of Health set up two stalls to promote awareness on various health issues. The project was organised by Central Health Education Unit, Oral Health Education Unit and AIDS Unit. Hong Kong AIDS Foundation also set up its stall at the same Fair in Victoria Park. The first time that AIDS messages appeared in the Flower Fair was 1993, when the CEPAIDS Publicity Working Group, in association with AIDS Unit, set up a publicity stall in Victoria Pak. ❁

HOPE Worldwide Conference

THE Advisory Council on AIDS has joined as a partner of HOPE Worldwide's coming AIDS Conference to be held in November in Hong Kong. Titled *Prevention of AIDS in Asia*, the Conference will focus on AIDS in an Asian perspective. There will be speakers and participants from the States, Hong Kong, the Mainland and around the world.

Other partners of this scientific meeting (13-19 November) are Harvard AIDS Institute, UNAIDS and UNICEF. The Conference will feature state-of-art presentations, discussions, and field visits to organisations in Asia. ❁

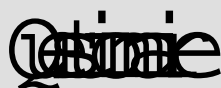
		total	(AIDS)
Gender	male	829	(278)
	female	128	(31)
Ethnicity	Chinese	656	(230)
	non-Chinese	301	(79)
Transmission	heterosexual	506	(171)
	homosexual	228	(77)
	bisexual	56	(23)
	Injecting drug use	16	(5)
	blood/bl products	67	(15)
	perinatal	4	(2)
	undetermined	80	(16)
TOTAL		957	(309)

Department of Health, Hong Kong



Visit the New Hong Kong Virtual AIDS Office of Advisory Council on AIDS and DH AIDS Unit <http://www.info.gov.hk/aids>

Starting from the last issue of ACA Newsfile, the Secretariat has been keeping all Members updated on the progress of the review. As the Chairman has indicated, this is a project of all of us, not only that of the Government or just the Council.



ONE means of documenting activities of the AIDS programme is through the conduction of a questionnaire survey. The survey targets primarily service providers, but also welcomes the input of individuals and those who may not be working full time on AIDS. The deadline for returning the forms is 20 February.

First Consultation Meeting

THE first consultation meeting was held on 13 February. Attended by 22 persons from the major AIDS-NGOs and members of Advisory Council/committees, the meeting was the first of its kind to collect views on the review project.

Dr Conrad Lam, the chairman, introduced the objectives of the review, followed by Dr S S Lee's elaboration on the process, and Dr Teresa Choi's remarks on the questionnaire survey. Dr Lam emphasised the importance of openness and independence, and the need of collecting input from the community. There was very useful exchange of views on areas of methodology, representation of the steering committee, qualitative versus quantitative analysis, and the role of PHAs (people living with HIV/AIDS).

The Secretariat apologises that in view of the time and resource constraint, a Chinese translation of the Questionnaire is not possible. Secretariat staff are pleased to discuss with anyone on the content, and trust that NGOs and Council/committee members would offer assistance to respondents in the course of data collection.



Any Comments?

THE Council is seeking comments from anyone on all aspects of the AIDS situation and programmes in Hong Kong. Written comments should reach the Council Secretariat either by post, fax or email. All comments will be collated and included in an appendix to be compiled for the reference of the external consultants, who will be in Hong Kong in early May. Comments could fall into any one of the six areas: (1) situation and surveillance, (2) HIV prevention and health promotion, (3) HIV care, (4) policy, (5) programme structure, and (6) financial assessment.