

.Calendar.

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

2:30pm 10 July 1998

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

6pm 21 May 1998

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

date to be confirmed

**XIVth Scientific
Committee on AIDS
(SCA) 9:30am 8 June 1998**

Dr Piot in Hong Kong

DR PETER PIOT, Executive Director of UNAIDS will be visiting Hong Kong on 8 May. Dr Piot will be meeting with Government officials, members of the Advisory Council on AIDS and community representatives. He will officiate at the first anniversary gathering of Red Ribbon Centre, where he would be meeting with NGOs working on AIDS. He would also deliver a keynote speech at a joint function of the Council and Hong Kong Baptist University.

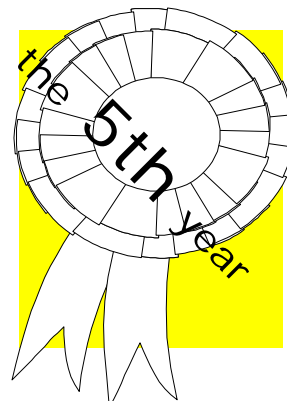
Dr Piot was with the World Health Organisation's Global Programme on AIDS, before being appointed to his current position. As a scientist and a leader in AIDS programmes, his visit would provide a stimulus to all of us involved in different aspects of HIV/AIDS prevention and care. His visit also falls on the same time as the Council's review exercise, giving additional meaning to our local efforts in Hong Kong.



Dr Piot is on a trip to the Mainland. His visit emphasises the importance of creating partnership with the Mainland and the international community. ❁

Force For Change

In April, UNAIDS announced the theme of the 1998 World AIDS Campaign (previously World AIDS Day): **Force for Change: World AIDS Campaign with young People**. Objectives of the new Campaign are given on page 2. ❁



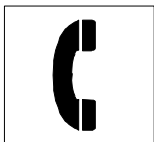
AIDS HOTLINE 27802211

Objectives of World AIDS Campaign 1998

1. To promote young people's genuine participation.
2. To promote policies action for young people's health and development using a human rights framework.
3. To increase awareness of the impact of HIV/AIDS on young people and young people's impact on course of the epidemic.
4. To mobilise social and private sectors to work in partnership on young people's health and development.
5. To monitor the campaign. ❀

HOTLINE

THE AIDS Hotline (27802211) is undergoing major reforms. All messages have been revised, and new information added. Callers may choose to listen to messages, to arrange for blood tests, or to talk with the nurse-counsellors. Fax copies of the messages are also available. The pre-recorded messages are in Cantonese, Putonghua and English. The system now handles 6000-7000 calls per month. ❀



Sex Education

A Sex Education Carnival will be held at the Shatin Central Park on 3 May 1998 (11 am to 6 pm). The function is organised by Family Planning Association, which will feature display booths, games stalls, seminars, video shows etc. Red Ribbon Centre will be participating in the Carnival to give sex education an additional dimension on AIDS. ❀

CONFERENCE CANCELLED

THE plan of holding the second Hong Kong AIDS Conference in November 1998 has been cancelled. On 20 April, the Advisory Council on AIDS examined the proposal again. In view of the tight schedule and the plan of holding other activities towards the end of the year, the Council had resolved to cancel the planned Conference. ❀

Dr Sex Hotline

23372121

BYOL

THE next BYOL Seminar will be presented by Ms Atty CHING LAI at the Red Ribbon Centre on 1 May (1-2pm). The presentation is titled *AIDS Education on Youth - an Interactive Model*.

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. ❀

Training Courses

THIS year, two courses organised by SPACE (School of Professional and Continuing Education of Hong Kong University) relating to AIDS have just started: *Introductory Course on HIV/AIDS for Nurses* (beginning 22 April), and *Update Course on Communicable Diseases* (beginning 1 May). Both courses target health care professionals. The programmes are organised in conjunction with AIDS Unit, Department of Health. ❁

ACA and DH AIDS Unit
<http://www.info.gov.hk/aids>

Cumulative HIV/AIDS Statistics in Hong Kong updated 31 March 1998

		total	(AIDS)
Gender	male	866	(290)
	female	139	(32)
Ethnicity	Chinese	693	(239)
	non-Chinese	312	(83)
Transmission	heterosexual	536	(180)
	homosexual	234	(79)
	bisexual	58	(24)
	Injecting drug use	16	(5)
	blood/bl products	67	(15)
	perinatal	4	(2)
	undetermined	90	(17)
TOTAL		1005	(322)

Department of Health, Hong Kong



Quarterly Statistics

ON 5 May, 1998, Department of Health will be releasing the reported HIV/AIDS statistics for the first quarter of 1998. The cumulative number of HIV infected has passed 1000.

HIV/AIDS

surveillance is conducted by the Department of Health's AIDS Unit. It comprises a voluntary reporting system contributed by laboratories and medical practitioners, prevalence studies in selected communities and unlinked anonymous screening. The programme is supervised by the Scientific Committee of the Advisory Council on AIDS. Analysis of the quarterly information is published in Hong Kong STD/AIDS Update, a joint publication of AIDS Unit and Social Hygiene Service, Department of Health.. ❁

ERROR

The 'year' in the quarterly statistics in the last three issues (February, March and April 1998) had been misprinted as 1998. It should be 31 December 1997 instead. - *the editor*

Reporting to the Council

AT the 25th Meeting of the Advisory Council on AIDS on 20 April, Members examined the draft *Internal assessment Report* compiled by the Council Secretariat. The *Report* is meant to be a briefing document to facilitate consultants in their examination of the Hong Kong programmes and situation in the second part of the Review. It was resolved that the *Report* should be made available also to members of committees/task forces as well as NGOs. The draft may be revised, subject to comments received in due course, before a final Review Report is published in the middle of the year.

Members also considered the possibility of changing the name of the Report to better reflect its nature as a situation paper. The writing of the Internal Assessment Report is supervised by a Steering Committee appointed by the Council. ❁

DRAFT REPORT

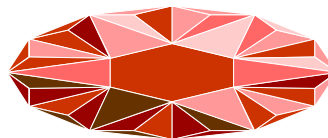
THE report is a 200+ page document with six chapters covering major areas of HIV/AIDS situation and programme. An Executive Summary provides an overview. The supplements gave a summary of data collected through a questionnaire survey conducted in February. The Report has been distributed to Members, asking for their comments to reach the Council Secretariat by early May. ❁

Review

Consultation

THE third consultation meeting had been held on 28 April. This meeting was attended by two consultants - Professor John Bartlett, a renowned clinician, and Mr Nick Prescott, an economist. The meeting was participated by service providers, NGOs and interested individuals. The fourth consultation meeting (with the other two consultant) will be held a week later ❁

Consultants



Four external consultants will be examining the HIV/AIDS situation and programmes in Hong Kong. They will be here in the three weeks beginning 27 April, though the period of stay for individual consultant varies.

The four consultants are: (1) Professor John Bartlett of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is the chief of Infectious Diseases and has been involved in the drafting of the HIV management guidelines in the States. (2) Mr Nicholas Prescott, an economist, (3) Dr Clement Chan-Kam, UNAIDS programme development officer and Asia-Pacific Team Leader. (4) Dr Tim Brown of East-West Centre's Programme on Population, Hawaii. ❁