

## .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 13 August 1998

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

date to be confirmed

**XVth Scientific  
Committee on AIDS  
(SCA) date to be confirmed**

## Moving Ahead Together

AFTER two months' hard work, the second phase of the AIDS situation and programme review is coming to an end. The external consultancy report is being distributed to Council members, as well as members of committees/task forces, and NGOs. The report has been prepared by four external consultants: Dr Tim Brown, Dr Clement Chan-Kam, Mr Nicholas Prescott and Professor John Bartlett.

The consultancy report is titled "Moving Ahead Together - expanding Hong Kong's Response to AIDS". The title highlights three important concepts in the future development of Hong Kong's AIDS programme, that we must **move** (rather than becoming static), we must work **together** (Government, community, academics), and we must **expand** our responses. Some key recommendations are on page 4.

The Advisory Council on AIDS is meeting on 10 July to examine the report. Your opinions are welcomed, which could reach the Secretariat (in writing), or you may want to convey your ideas to any ACA members. ❁

THE 12th World AIDS Conference will be held from 28 June to July 3 in Geneva, Switzerland. Carrying the theme of "Bridging the gap", the Conference intends to focus international attention on the need to bridge the gaps in the development of AIDS prevention programmes and access to treatment.

Over thirty persons from Hong Kong will be participating in the Conference, from the community and the Government. About twenty papers would

be presented by local workers. Exhibition booths would be set up, and there will be a satellite meeting hosted by Hong Kong AIDS Foundation.

Dr Conrad Lam and Dr Homer Tso would be representing the Council in the participation of the Conference. ❁



## Geneva Conference

DR SEX HOTLINE 2337 2121

## News / Activities

### External Consultancy Report

THE final consultancy report on *AIDS programme and situation review* is made up of the following sections:

1. Introduction - adapting to a changing world
2. Lessons from the global pandemic
3. Hong Kong's evolving epidemic
4. Hong Kong's response to date
5. Recommendations for strengthening Hong Kong's response
6. A proposal for moving forward together

[see page 4 for details]

### BYOL

There will be no BYOL seminars in July.

### New Course

AN Intermediate Course on HIV/AIDS for Nurses has been started by AIDS Unit in collaboration with School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPACE), University of Hong Kong. Run from mid-June to end August, the Course features weekly sessions presented by local experts, plus workshops on counselling, and a case conference. ❀

### Calling for Satellite Meetings

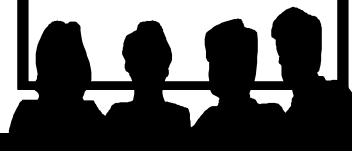
THE Advisory Council on AIDS has joined as an official partner of *HOPE Worldwide's* Health Corps Conferenc entitled "Prevention of AIDS in Asia".

*HOPE Worldwide* has appealed to local AIDS workers and NGOs for suggestions of hosting Satellite meetings in mid-November. The Conference is scheduled for 13 to 19 November. ❀

### Hotline re-launching

A round of exhibition was staged on 6 and 7 June to publicise the **AIDS Hotline (27802211)**, which has recently been brought updated. Callers may choose to listen to pre-recorded messages, talk with counsellors, or request an HIV test. The exhibition was set up at the New Town Plaza. ❀

AIDS Hotline  
2780 2211



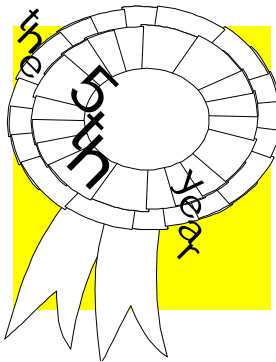
### Mainland Visitors

SOME twelve mainland experts visited the Red Ribbon Centre, Department of Health's HIV clinic and Social Hygiene Service on 4 June. They were participants of a WHO meeting on Communicable Diseases held from 2-4 June 1998. On 17 June, Professor KANG Lai-ye visited the Centre to exchange views on HIV surveillance and management.

Professor KANG is the Director of National Prevention and Control of AIDS Shanghai Training Centre. He is also the Director of Shanghai Municipal AIDS Surveillance Centre. ❀

# Committee News

## ACA NEWSFILE



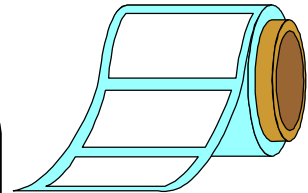
## Clinical Guidelines

THE Scientific Committee on AIDS had met on 8 June. Among other issues, Members examined the Committee's process of formulating guidelines on the clinical and scientific aspects of HIV/AIDS. Members agreed that there should be clear definition of the target audience and objectives. Whereas principles might be laid down, their scientific basis should be spelt out clearly.

Recommendations on action would be given as necessary.

The Committee resolved to prepare a new format for guidelines formulation. ❄

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



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

		total	(AIDS)
<b>Gender</b>	male	866	(290)
	female	139	(32)
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Chinese	693	(239)
	non-Chinese	312	(83)
<b>Transmission</b>	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)

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1005 (322)</b>
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Department of Health, Hong Kong



## New API

THE Task Force on media and Publicity of the Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS (CEPAIDS) is planning to screen a new API (announcement of public interest) towards the end of the year. The Task Force has consulted CEPAIDS members, reviewed previous strategies and survey findings. The decision was to focus on safer sex as a means to prevent HIV infection. The Task Force is now working on the contents. ❄

## Moving Ahead Together - expanding Hong Kong's response to AIDS

The external review team for the Advisory Council on AIDS review of Hong Kong's AIDS situation and programmes

THE external consultants considered it necessary to work together to expand the response to AIDS in Hong Kong. Three main areas have been focussed: (1) proposal to implement a community planning process, (2) setting programme directions through the AIDS Trust Fund, and (3) refine the role of the Advisory Council on AIDS.

A community planning process is proposed to involve NGOs (AIDS-NGOs and mainstream NGOs), people living with HIV/AIDS, vulnerable communities, epidemiologists, behavioural scientists and other HIV/AIDS expertise. The setting up of a committee is proposed to draw up specific activities in key areas and identify capacity building needs. The recommendations should then be forwarded to the

### Key Recommendations:

- shift from publicity and education to prevention
- focus on six priority areas - travellers, commercial sex workers and clients, men who have sex with men, youth, injecting drug users, STD clinic attendees
- maintain the Government's commitment to HIV/AIDS treatment
- expand clinical and laboratory capacity to provide appropriate HIV care
- assess service needs of people living with HIV/AIDS
- focus on good infection control practice with emphasis on universal precaution
- integrate HIV services into mainstream services
- strengthen surveillance, including behavioural surveillance.

Council for the AIDS Trust Fund and the Advisory Council on AIDS.

Proposed changes to the AIDS Trust Fund are: to fund priority projects (taking reference from the community planning process), improve technical review and evaluation, support longer term projects, support capacity-building projects, and broaden the definition of acceptable projects to include areas which

indirectly influence HIV prevention and care as well as direct HIV activities. Co-financing, partnership and plan for sustainability should be encouraged.

As for the Advisory Council, it is proposed to combine prevention and care in strategy deliberation, to address the promotion of acceptance of people living with HIV/AIDS as one discrete area, and to widen community involvement. ❁