

**WOMEN'S COMMISSION**  
**Secretary's Report**

**INTRODUCTION**

This paper presents for Members' information on the following:-

- (a) the activities undertaken by the Women's Commission (WoC) and the Women's Division since the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting; and
- (b) the APEC Women Leaders' Network 2003 to be held from 30 July to 3 August 2003 in Chiangmai, Thailand.

**ACTIVITIES HELD SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

2. The WoC and the Women's Division carried out the following activities since the last meeting held on 8 April 2003:-

- 7 June 2003 : A forum on Good Practices on the Empowerment of Women was organised. The event was attended by some 200 participants. Representatives of organisations whose practices had been selected for inclusion in the booklet of good empowerment practices, together with their beneficiaries shared their experience and learning points of good empowerment practices.
- 14 June 2003 : A working session was held to discuss interested parties on practical issues related to the implementation of the draft Framework of Collaboration. A total of 42 participants from 25 organisations turned up.

- 28 June 2003 : WoC visited and met 19 representatives from the Eastern District Council, Area Committees and local organisations in Eastern District.

### **APEC WOMEN LEADERS NETWORK 2003**

3. The APEC Women Leaders' Network (WLN) is now confirmed to be held from 30 July 2003 to 3 August 2003 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Members were informed via WoC Paper 04/03 that the theme of the coming WLN meeting was "Women Make a World of Difference: Partnerships for Gender and Development", and the three sub-themes to be discussed would be "knowledge creation, sharing and management through partnerships"; "promotion of human security for women"; and "women entrepreneurship through creative partnership". Workshops will be held under each sub-theme. Members may wish to note that Professor Fanny Cheung and a representative from the Hong Kong Business and Professional Women Association will speak at the meeting.

4. The Hong Kong delegation will be led by the Chairperson, WoC who is the WLN Focal Point for Hong Kong. As suggested by Members at the meeting, the Women's Division has discussed the matter with the Chairperson and some 30 invitations had been sent to women personalities of different sectors in Hong Kong. Information on WLN meeting has also been posted on the WoC website.

5. In this connection, Members would recall at the last meeting, the Commission noted that four Members would attend the WLN meeting with funding support from HWFB. One Member who indicated interest had later confirmed her availability to join the Hong Kong delegation. Members were consulted on 25 June 2003 by e-mail on the resource arrangement for WoC Members. So far, Members have not indicated objection to provide full resource support to all the five Members attending the meeting; and Members were supportive of the suggestion that the funding support should include registration fee, accommodation and economy class round-trip passage between Hong Kong and Chiang Mai (all on reimbursement basis). In the light of Members' views, necessary arrangements will be made accordingly.

## **ADVICE SOUGHT**

6. Members are invited to:-
- (a) note the activities undertaken by WoC and the Women's Division since its 15<sup>th</sup> meeting (paragraph 2); and
  - (b) note the progress of APEC Women Leaders' Network 2003 meeting to be held from 30 July to 3 August 2003 in Chiangmai, Thailand (paragraphs 3 – 5).

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Women's Commission Secretariat  
27 June 2003