

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

**INTRODUCTION**

This paper presents for Members' information:-

- (a) the activities undertaken by the Women's Commission (WoC) and the Women's Division since the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting;
- (b) current position regarding gender-related training for civil servants; and
- (c) progress made in the production of the WoC Report.

**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 11 November 2003:-

- 13 November 2003 : WoC hosted a lunch for the retiring Deputy Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in HKSAR, Mdm Chen Fengying. Chairperson, four WoC Members and staff members of Women's Division attended.
- 26 November 2003 : DS(Women) and P/Women met representatives of the Hong Kong Women Development Association on women's participation in the political arena. The Association carried out a study on the subject in August 2003.
- 6 December 2003 : An open forum, "A Close-up on the Media through Gender Perspectives" was co-organised by the Gender Mainstreaming

and Public Education Task Forces. There were five panel speakers from the Association for the Advancement of Feminism, Department of Sociology of the University of Hong Kong, Journalists Association, Equal Opportunities Commission, and Television Entertainment Licensing Authority. About 50 participants from women's groups, service agencies, NGOs and government departments attended the forum.

### **GENDER-RELATED TRAINING FOR CIVIL SERVANTS**

3. On 27 November 2003, the Women's Division exchanged views with the Civil Service Training and Development Institute (CSTDI) on the latter's organising gender-related training workshops for civil servants in future. CSTDI is in the final stage of staff consultation on its re-organisation. The staffing position and its capacity for taking up gender-related training would be finalised shortly. Meanwhile, CSTDI is estimating the requirements of gender-related training in 2004-05 (including demand for re-run of workshops as well as new courses for bureaux/departments who have indicated interest in receiving such training). CSTDI would also consider more cost-effective approaches for conducting these training programmes, such as organising mass seminars on basic gender concepts, adopting mixed mode using classroom instructions and self-learning material (video, training kits, etc), e-learning, etc. The option of outsourcing training programmes would also be explored.

4. As regards provision of gender-related training workshops for Gender Focal Points, Information Officers and staff of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) within 2003-04, seven tertiary institutions have been invited to submit proposals, and only one proposal has been received. We have invited views from Members, CSTDI, Information Services Department (ISD) and LCSD on the course outlines. It is intended that two workshops would be organised for Gender Focal Points, and one workshop should be provided for each of LCSD and ISD before mid February 2004.

## **PRODUCTION OF WoC REPORT**

5. The revised layout design and part of the revised draft WoC Report have been submitted for Members' consideration in early December. The copywriter is in the process of preparing the Chinese version of the Report, while seeking Members' further views in the process. It is anticipated that the first draft of the Chinese version would be completed in end-December 2003. On the basis of the Chinese text, the copywriter would go on to draft the English version which is expected to be ready in January 2004. The full WoC Report would be released in March 2004.

## **ADVICE SOUGHT**

6. Members are invited to:-

- (a) note the activities undertaken by WoC and the Women's Division since its 18<sup>th</sup> meeting (paragraph 2);
- (b) note the current position regarding the provision of gender-related training for civil servants (paragraphs 3 – 4); and
- (c) note the progress made in preparing the WoC Report (paragraphs 5).

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Women's Commission Secretariat  
10 December 2003