

WOMEN'S COMMISSION
Secretary's Report

INTRODUCTION

This paper informs Members of the activities undertaken by the Women's Commission (WoC) and Welfare Team 2 of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) since the 52nd meeting held on 3 February 2009.

ACTIVITIES HELD SINCE THE LAST MEETING

2. The activities held since the last meeting are as follows -

- 10 February 2009 : The WoC Chairperson attended the Caring Company Recognition Ceremony 2008/09 organised by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service.
- 12 February 2009 : Ms Chau Chuen-heung represented WoC to attend the meeting of the Kowloon City District Council Community Building and Social Services Committee to introduce the various initiatives of WoC and explore opportunities for collaboration. PAS(Welfare)2 and AS(Welfare)2B also attended.
- 15 February 2009 : Ms Chau Chuen-heung represented WoC to officiate at “和諧家庭在寶達計劃分享會” jointly organised by Kowloon Women's Organisations Federation, “寶達婦女會” and “寶達社區事務促進會”.
- 18 February 2009 : Ms Joanna Lau, in her capacity as Co-convenor of WoC's Working Group on Empowerment, issued a press article in Sing Tao Daily to express WoC's views on the proposed amendments to the Domestic Violence Ordinance.

The WoC Chairperson and three WoC Members¹ met with representatives of the Women's Foundation to exchange views on current women issues and discuss ways of possible collaboration. AS(Welfare)2B also attended.

The WoC Chairperson and Mr Paul Tang, Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare, officiated at the inauguration ceremony of the Capacity Building Mileage Programme Student Association together with Prof Danny Wong, Vice President (Academic) of the Open University of Hong Kong (OUHK), Prof YH Lui, Director of LiPACE of OUHK, and Mr Vincent Wong, Director of Strategic Planning of the Commercial Radio. Guest speakers of the ceremony included Mrs Lee Tsang Chiu-kwan and Ms Teresa Carpio. Three WoC Members², PAS(Welfare)2, AS(Welfare)2B and SEO(Welfare)2 also attended the ceremony.

- 25 February 2009 : PAS(Welfare)2 attended the inauguration ceremony of the “港區婦聯代表聯誼會”.
- 26 February 2009 : The WoC Chairperson officiated at the inauguration ceremony of the 2nd committee cum dinner celebrating the International Women's Day (IWD) organised by Hong Kong Island Women's Association.

The WoC Chairperson officiated at the IWD celebration cocktail reception organised by the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR. PAS(Welfare)2 also attended.

- 27 February 2009 : WoC hosted a dinner for the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) delegation led by Madam Zhao Donghua. The WoC Chairperson, together with Ms Chau Chuen-heung, Dr Yeung Ka-ching and PAS(Welfare)2, attended the dinner.

¹ Dr Miranda Chan, Mrs Stella Lau and Dr Sharmila Gurung.

² Ms Jacqueline Cheng, Ms Ko Po-ling and Ms Joanna Lau.

- 28 February 2009 : The WoC Chairperson attended the IWD celebration event organised by the “香港工商界婦女紀念三八國際婦女節常設委員會”. PAS(Welfare)2 also attended.

PAS(Welfare)2 officiated at the “迎接挑戰賀新春暨三八婦女節茶聚” organised by the Kowloon Women’s Organisation Federation.

- 2-4 March 2009 : Ms Lau Ka-shi and AS(Welfare)2B attended the 53rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women held in New York as part of the Chinese delegation. They attended a luncheon held by UNIFEM on Women and Decision Making, and also hosted a dinner for ACWF representatives.

- 5 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson, Mr Lee Luen-fai and PAS(Welfare)2 held a press conference on the results of WoC’s Survey on Community Perception on Gender Issues (the Survey). AM730, China Daily, Headline Daily, Hong Kong Commercial Daily, Hong Kong Daily News, Mingpao, South China Morning Post (SCMP), Sing Tao Daily, Ta Kung Pao and the Radio Television Hong Kong covered the results of the Survey on the following day.

- 6 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson officiated at the IWD celebration event organised by the Women’s Commission of the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions.

The WoC Chairperson officiated at the “Celebrate the Great Achievements of Women Around You” jointly organised by the Hong Kong Disneyland and the Island Women’s Federation.

WoC’s newspaper supplements on IWD were issued in Headline Daily, Oriental Daily, Sing Tao Daily, Singtao District Post and SCMP, covering the work and achievements of WoC in 2008 and 2009.

- 7 March 2009 : Ms Chau Chuen-heung represented WoC to officiate at the event “婦女義工交流工作坊” organised by the Shatin District Council.
- 8 March 2009 : WoC held a luncheon talk on “Women and Men: An Equal Partnership?” to celebrate IWD. About 250 guests participated. The WoC Chairperson; Mr Matthew Cheung, Secretary for Labour and Welfare; Ms Sun A-qing, Deputy Director General of Coordination Department, Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the HKSAR; and Mr Paul Tang, Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare officiated at the ceremony.

Speakers of the luncheon talk included Ms Teresa Au, Head of Corporate Sustainability Asia Pacific Region, HSBC; the Hon Audrey Eu, Legislative Council Member; Mr Frederick Ma, Former Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development; and Mr Shih Wing-ching, Chairman of the Centaline Group. Prof Fanny Cheung, Director of the Gender Research Centre, Chinese University of Hong Kong, was the commentator of the luncheon talk.

A series of radio promotional programmes in connection with IWD was launched between 3 and 15 March through Metro Radio, including an interview with the WoC Chairperson, a delay broadcast of the WoC luncheon talk and promotion of family friendly employment policies and practices.

The WoC Chairperson officiated at the IWD celebration event organised by the Hong Kong Ladies Dynamic Association.

The WoC Chairperson officiated at the event “為婦女加油大行動” organised by the Women’s Commission of the Kowloon Federation of Associations.

- 9 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson attended the IWD Luncheon organised by the Helena May as the Guest of Honour.
- 10 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson was interviewed by “華人經濟雜誌” to introduce the work and achievements of the WoC.
- 13 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson and Ms Lau Ka-shi attended the meeting of Tsuen Wan District Council Social Services and Community Information Committee to introduce the various initiatives of WoC and explore opportunities for collaboration. PAS(Welfare)2 and AS(Welfare)2B also attended.
- 15 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson attended the event “A Girl’s Life - 3 short films” organised by the Women’s Foundation.
- 21 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson officiated at the “粵閩桂僑慶祝三八婦女節聯歡餐舞會” jointly organised by Federation of Hong Kong Guangdong Community Organisations, Federation of Hong Kong Guangxi Community Organisations, Hong Kong Federation of Fujian Associations and “香港僑界社團聯會”.
- 25 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson was interviewed by China Business on the work and achievements of WoC.
- 27 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson attended the 15th Anniversary Dinner of the Democratic Party.
- 29 March 2009 : The WoC Chairperson officiated at the “Hong Kong Outstanding 3rd Aged Citizens Award 2008” jointly organised by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service and Hong Kong Electric.

- 30 March 2009 : WoC Chairperson, Ms Joanna Lau and Ms Jacqueline Cheng attended the CBMP Forum to gather views and opinions from stakeholders to facilitate the planning of the future development of CBMP. AS(Welfare)2B and SEO(Welfare)2 also attended.

ADVICE SOUGHT

3. Members are invited to note the activities as outlined in paragraph 2 above.

Women's Commission Secretariat
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