WOMEN'S COMMISSION Notes of the 70th Meeting held on 11 September 2012

<u>Present:</u> Mrs Stella LAU (Chairperson)

Miss Annie TAM (Vice-chairperson)

Ms AU YEUNG Po-chun Dr Raees Begum BAIG

Dr Ronnie HUI

Prof LAM Ching-man

Ms Leona LAM Ms LAM Yuk Chun Mrs Ayesha M LAU Mr Christopher LAW Dr Trisha LEAHY

Ms Ally LEE

Mrs Miranda LEUNG Ms Catherine WONG Mr Robert WONG Ms Sandy WONG Ms Constance YUE

Mr FUNG Man-chung Assistant Director (Family and

Child Welfare), Social Welfare

Department

Absent with Ms Teresa AU

Apologies: Dr Polly CHEUNG

Dr Maggie KOONG Dr LEUNG Lai-ching Ms WONG Shu-ming

Miss Emily CHAN Assistant Secretary 5B,

Constitutional and Mainland

Affairs Bureau

<u>In</u> Ms Doris CHEUNG DS (Welfare)1 attendance: Mrs Alison LAU PAS (Welfare)2

Mr Louis LO AS (Welfare)2A (Secretary)

Miss Jeanne FUNG AS (Welfare)2B Mr Andrew FAN AS (Welfare)2C Ms Cheryl TSANG SEO(Welfare)2 Miss Ida TSE PPO(Welfare)2
Mr LEUNG Shek-hay RPO(Welfare)2
Ms Shirley CHAN EA(Welfare)2

For Agenda <u>Department of Health</u> Principal Medical & Health Item 1: Officer (Primary Care)

Opening Remarks by the Chairperson

1.1 <u>The Chairperson</u> welcomed Dr Anne FUNG to the meeting to brief members on the primary care development strategy in Hong Kong.

<u>Item 1: Primary Care Development Strategy in Hong Kong</u> (WoC 10/12)

- 2.1 <u>The Administration</u> introduced the paper WoC 10/12.
- 2.2 <u>Members</u> in general supported the introduction of primary care in Hong Kong. However, some <u>Members</u> suggested reviewing the term "基層醫療" as it could be easily misunderstood by the public.
- 2.3 Some <u>Members</u> were concerned as to how primary care could be introduced to clinics under the Hospital Authority (HA), and how we could have better control on the amount of drug use on patients to avoid high/over dosage which appeared to be quite common among family doctors
- 2.4 Some <u>Members</u> asked whether community health centres (CHCs) would be established in all districts. Other <u>Members</u> opined that the number of women health centres as well as mammography and cervical screening services provided by the Health Department were insufficient.
- 2.5 In response to Members' comments, <u>the Administration</u> said that careful consideration had been given to the Chinese translation of "primary care". Instead of revising the Chinese translation, more efforts would be put to explain the concept of "primary care" to the

general public.

- 2.6 As regards the promulgation of the "family doctor" concept in general out-patient clinics operated by the HA, <u>the Administration</u> explained that doctors in HA clinics could access the medical records of patients to review their medical history, and that the same doctor would be arranged to follow up patients with chronic diseases where possible.
- 2.7 On the use of drugs by family doctors, the Administration said that the reference frameworks on diabetes mellitus and hypertension care which had been developed by the Task Force on Conceptual Model and Preventive Protocols could provide a common reference to healthcare professionals on the management of patients including the use of drugs. The introduction of the concept of family doctors could also help reduce inappropriate use of drugs as family doctors were conversant with the conditions of patients and could provide appropriate treatment to them.
- 2.8 On CHCs, <u>the Administration</u> said that CHC/CHC-network would be established in different districts in Hong Kong in the long run. In planning the provision of CHC/CHC-network services in different districts, the needs and availability of health services for women would be taken into account. As regards the level of fee for cervical screening, <u>the Administration</u> said that subsidies were already provided by the Government and that further details would be provided to members after the meeting

[Post-meeting notes: Subsequent to the meeting, the Administration supplemented that the fee level chargeable to Eligible Persons (EPs) seeking cervical screening services at the Maternal and Child Health Centres of the Department of Health under the Cervical Screening Programme (CSP) was deliberated at the LegCo Panel on Health Services meetings in 2004. Bearing in mind that the fee charged should not deter the target group including the less privileged from using the screening services, the government agreed to provide a subsidy level of over 50% and the charge for EPs was finally set at \$100.]

Item 2: Funding Scheme for Women's Development (WoC 11/12)

- 3.1 <u>The Working Group on Collaboration</u> introduced the paper WoC 11/12.
- 3.2 <u>Members</u> raised the following views and suggestions regarding the funding scheme
 - details/ good practices of the programmes organised should be made known to the public to facilitate sharing of experience.
 - programmes organised should have sustainable effects on participants and the community, and one-off entertaining event should be discouraged;
 - more efforts should be made to publicise the Funding Scheme and longer time should be allowed for applications; and
 - details of the funding applications be provided to all members for reference.
- 3.3 <u>The Chairperson</u> thanked members' comments and tasked the Working Group on Collaboration to consider and follow up the suggestions. She added that WoC would welcome NGOs which intended to organize similar programmes to submit joint applications so that they could share their experience and network. On the continuity of programmes, <u>the Chairperson</u> said that the theme of "Women Wellness" could continue to be used for several years to allow organisations sufficient time to work on this topic to create greater and more sustainable impact.

Item 3: Confirmation of Minutes of the 69th Meeting (WoC 12/12)

4.1 The minutes of the 69th meeting were confirmed without amendment.

Item 4: Verbal Reports by Working Groups

5.1 <u>The Meeting</u> noted the verbal reports made by the respective working groups.

Item 5: Secretary's Report (WoC 13/12)

6.1 The Meeting noted the paper WoC 13/12.

Item 6: Any Other Business

7.1 <u>Some members</u> noted that the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEx) published a consultation paper on 7 September 2012 on board diversity and suggested that WoC should prepare a response in order to promote women on board. The Meeting agreed with the suggestion and <u>the Secretariat</u> undertook to prepare a draft submission for members' comment.

[Post-meeting Notes: The Secretariat issued a draft letter to members for comment on 14 September 2012. The revised letter incorporating comments from members was sent to HKEx on 21 September 2012.]

7.2 <u>The Chairperson</u> reported that in the coming term of Legislative Council, 15.7% of the members were female. In response to members' request, the Secretariat would find out the percentage of female candidates running for offices in the Legislative Council and send it to members for information.

[Post-meeting Notes: Statistics in relation to the Legislative Council election 2012 were sent to Members on 14 September 2012.]

7.3 <u>The Chairperson</u> informed the meeting that Dr Raees Begum BAIG would resign from WoC with effect from 1 October 2012 due to other work commitment. The Meeting thanked Dr BAIG for her contribution and support to the work of WoC.

Women's Commission Secretariat December 2012