

The image features a purple-tinted background. In the upper half, a group of people are seated in a circle on chairs, facing each other in what appears to be a meeting or collaborative session. In the lower half, a large, textured ball of white rope is shown, with a single strand of the rope extending upwards from the ball and disappearing into the top of the frame. The text "Collaboration with Women's Commission" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

# Collaboration with Women's Commission



## Working together

The Commission faces a daunting task in carrying out its work. In the past three years, we have been able to roll out plan and programmes, and gain recognition for the efforts in promoting women's development due to the participation and active support of people from many sectors of society. Through such collaboration and exchanges of views, we could pool experience and create a unified force. The Commission also received much valuable advice, which encouraged and enabled us to overcome difficulties and actualise our mission "to enable women to fully realise their due status, rights and opportunities in all aspects of life." The following records the reflections of some of the Commission's collaborators.

**Shoulder to  
shoulder  
Supporting each  
other**

### Hong Kong Federation of Women

#### *From a Woman's Perspective*

The Commission has made numerous contributions to the promotion of women's rights and participation in community affairs. It frequently reminds and urges government departments when formulating policies and allocating resources to consider issues from women's perspectives and to assess the impact on women. The Commission listens and actively responds to the views of non-governmental organisations (NGOs). It also carries out significant research.

We sincerely hope the Commission can leverage on its role and functions, collaborate with all women NGOs and receive more recognition from women and every other sector of Hong Kong.

## Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centre

### *Participation of Community Representatives*

The Commission is the only body in the present government that has promotion of women's well-being as its main aim. It should thus take on a consultation and co-ordination role between various government departments to promote women's well-being at the policy-making level in the political, economic, social and education domains.

The Commission has in the past three years made known its work and message of empowerment to the public. Besides raising the community and government departments' awareness of women's needs and situation, we suggest that the Commission also takes on the role of monitoring the Government's decision-making process and long-term policies as related to women. For instance, it could utilise the data from the "Thematic Household Survey on Time Use" to review and improve government statistics and to encourage the departments concerned to follow up on the needs of women engaged in unpaid labour.

We also hope the Commission will invite representatives from community organisations to take part in its planning and review processes so as to benefit from broader experience in working for the promotion of women's interests.

## Kowloon Women's Organisations Federation

### *Interacting Under the Same Sky*

Education and training are essential means to empower women. They can enable women to improve themselves, keep abreast of the times and build up their self-respect, self-confidence, independence and self-empowerment.

The Commission consulted our organisation before promoting its parent education projects and Capacity Building Mileage Programme. Members' concern and willingness to incorporate the views of grassroots women's organisations convinced us that they were not operating at lip-service level. They have also shown they are working for the empowerment of women centrally, through organisations and on an individual level. Members have created strategies and implemented them; and connected up central, organisational and individual forces so that they complement and reinforce each other's work effectively.

**Ms Sheila CHEUNG, Executive Producer**  
**Radio Television Hong Kong**

*Meticulous Approach to Work*

Working with the Commission to produce two 10-episode television drama series “Women with Dreams” gave rise to many thoughts and feelings. I was most impressed by Members’ meticulous attitude towards their work. I remember that two days before the first series was screened, I was still in intense discussion with the Chairperson and several Members over content. At the time I thought, “Are they about to bring in more revisions now?” as Members gave their views on themes, content, characters and story-lines. Their aim was to enhance gender-sensitivity and awareness and to perfect the production but their opinions were way over what we expected.

When the Chairperson saw I was worried, she tapped me lightly on the shoulder and said: “We are here to do our heart talk!” In the end, the meeting – which lasted three hours – yielded wonderful results and after making a strenuous effort on revisions, the series was successfully aired.

The super-volunteers of the Commission put in tremendous amounts of time, effort and work. The series showed women’s empowerment to be a worthwhile endeavour so both women and men understand the importance of its theme. I hope the series encouraged people to say, “How can I help?”, for we should not only look after our own affairs but also help our family, friends and others. I also hope to have the opportunity to produce more and better women-oriented series with the Commission.