

**For discussion on
1 December 2006**

Sexual Minorities Forum

Issues relating to Membership of the Sexual Minorities Forum

Purpose

In response to members' concerns over the participation of New Creation Association (NCA) in the Sexual Minorities Forum, this paper sets out the consideration of membership applications to facilitate members' discussion of this issue.

Background

2. The Sexual Minorities Forum (Forum) was set up by Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) in September 2004 to provide a channel for non-governmental organizations and the Government to exchange views on issues concerning sexual minorities in Hong Kong.

3. The objective of the Forum is to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientation and gender identity. Membership list of the Forum is at **Annex A**.

4. Any organization can apply for membership of the Forum at any time. Each application will be assessed by the Chairman of the Forum based on the criteria outlined in paragraph 5.

5. In deciding the membership of the Forum, we adhere to the principles of openness and fairness. In addition, each applicant will be assessed on the relevance of its work to the promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientation and gender identity and has to fulfil at least one of the following requirements -

(a) it is a sexual minority or transgender group, or

(b) it provides services to sexual minority or transgender community.

6. NCA made the application for membership in November 2005. The application was approved because it provided services to sexual minorities in compliance with the relevant requirement.

7. At the fifth meeting of the Forum on 13 February 2006, some members opined that NCA's presence might adversely affect discussions at the Forum and suggested to review NCA's participation in the Forum and discuss the issue at the next meeting.

Advice Sought

8. Members' views are invited on this paper.

Home Affairs Bureau
November 2006

**Sexual Minorities Forum
Membership List**

Chairman

Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1)

Members (*in alphabetical order*)

1. AIDS Concern
2. Amnesty International Hong Kong
3. Association for the Advancement of Feminism
4. Blessed Minority Christian Fellowship
5. Chi Heng Foundation
6. Civil Human Rights Front
7. Civil Rights for Sexual Diversities
8. Equal Opportunities Commission
9. F' union
10. Gender Concerns
11. Gender Rights Research Group
12. Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor
13. Hong Kong Ten Percent Club
14. Horizons
15. Human Rights Council of Hong Kong
16. International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
17. Lesbo Editorial Board
18. New Creation Association
19. Nu Tong Xue She
20. Over the Rainbow
21. Queer Sisters
22. Rainbow Action
23. Rainbow Fellowship
24. Rainbow of Hong Kong
25. The Satsanga
26. Transgender Asia Research, Education & Advocacy Centre
27. Transgender Equality and Acceptance Movement
28. Women Coalition of HKSAR

Secretary

Unit Manager, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit