

**For discussion on
20 April 2007**

Sexual Minorities Forum

Public Education and Publicity Programme

Purpose

This paper updates members on the preparation work for the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Awareness Day 2007 and the latest position of the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme 2007-08.

Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Awareness Day 2007

2. To promote equal opportunities for persons of different sexual orientation, the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (the Unit) organized an Awareness Day in January 2006 at the Piazza, Kowloon Park. Highlights of the event included an opening ceremony, drama and singing performances on stage, and game booths for public participation.

3. To continue our efforts in this area, the Unit will organize the Awareness Day 2007 on 6 May 2007 (Sunday). The event's format is largely based on the Awareness Day held last year. The details are as follows:-

Date: 6 May 2007 (Sunday)

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Venue: Piazza Areas A and B, Hong Kong Cultural Centre

Chairman of Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs, Hon CHOY So-yuk; Founding member of Chi Heng Foundation, Mr. Chung TO; Director of Hong Kong Christian Institute, Ms Rose WU; and Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr. Donald TONG will officiate at the

opening ceremony of the Awareness Day 2007. After the opening ceremony, there will be singing performance by one of the successful applicants for the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme 2006-07. Same as last year, there will be eight game booths for public participation, with two of them operated by the Home Affairs Bureau and the rest by NGOs. On the latter, we invited applications on 21 March 2007 and six NGOs who are also SMF members have been selected for operating the game booths.

4. To draw on input of members in the organization of the Awareness Day 2007, a working group comprising three members of the SMF has been formed. Two meetings were held on 5 January 2007 and 11 April 2007 and the comments and views of members have been taken into account for the preparation of the Awareness Day 2007. For example, a location with more people flow is chosen. To strengthen publicity efforts for the Awareness Day 2007, we shall display roadside banners in Yau Tsim Wong District this time and distribute publicity materials around the venue on the Awareness Day to attract more people to participate in the event.

Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme 2007-08

5. Applications for funding from the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme 2007-08 were invited starting from 2 April 2007. The deadline for applications is 23 April 2007. A briefing session was held on 16 April 2007 to enable applicants to obtain a better understanding of the Scheme. Applicants will be informed of the results of their applications in writing by the end of May 2007.

Advice Sought

6. Members are invited to note the content of the paper and to participate in the Awareness Day 2007.

Home Affairs Bureau
April 2007