

Family Council

Notes of 9th Meeting

Date: 18 March 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 3 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room (Room 1220), CGO, West Wing

Attendance

Official Members

Mr Henry TANG, Chief Secretary for Administration (Chairman)

Mr TSANG Tak-sing, Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Irene YOUNG, Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (attend on behalf of SLW)

Ms Betty IP, Deputy Secretary for Education
(attend on behalf of SED)

Prof LEE Ming Kwan, Member (2)/Central Policy Unit
(attend on behalf of H/CPU)

Ex-officio Members

Ms Kao Ching-chi, Sophia (高靜芝女士), Chairperson of the Women's Commission

Dr Leong Chi-hung, Edward (梁智鴻議員), Chairperson of the Elderly Commission

Mr Chan Chung-bun, Bunny (陳振彬先生), Chairperson of the Commission on Youth

Non-official Members

Ms CHAU Chuen-heung (周轉香女士)

Mrs KWAN HO Shiu-fong, Cecilia (關何少芳女士)

Dr KOONG May-kay, Maggie (孔美琪博士)

Ms LAI Fung-yee, Angelina (黎鳳儀女士)

Dr LEE Wai-yung (李維榕教授)

Mrs Justina LEUNG NGAI Mou-yin (梁魏懋賢女士)

Dr PANG King-chee (彭敬慈博士)

Prof SHEK Tan-lei, Daniel (石丹理教授)

Prof WONG Po-choi (黃寶財教授)

Mr WONG Ying-wai, Wilfred (王英偉先生)

Absence with apologies

Mr LEONG Kwok-kuen, Lincoln (梁國權先生)

Mr CHOW Yung, Robert (周融先生)

Ms TAO Chee-ying, Theresa (杜子瑩女士)

Dr WONG Chung-kwong (黃重光醫生)

Secretary

Miss Christine CHOW, Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Civic Affairs)²

In attendance

Mr Raymond YOUNG, Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Grace LUI, Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1)

Ms Vivian SUM, Administrative Assistant to Chief Secretary for Administration

Mr Darryl Chan, Press Secretary to Chief Secretary for Administration

Ms Jessica CHENG, Chief Executive Officer (Family Council)

Mr Charles LEUNG, Assistant Hub Manager

Welcoming Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the 9th meeting of the Family Council.

Item 1 – Confirmation of minutes of the 8th meeting of the Family Council

2. The minutes of the 8th meeting of the Council were confirmed without amendments.

Item 2 – Preliminary results of the survey on family

3. The Chairman invited Prof MK Lee of the Central Policy Unit (CPU) to present the findings of the survey. Prof Lee explained that the survey was commissioned by the CPU and covered over 8,000 households. Members noted that the survey was the largest-scale survey on family that had been carried out in Hong Kong in the last three

decades which provided up-dated empirical data on the profile and situation of families in Hong Kong. Members also noted that further research could be considered to identify, in a more in-depth manner, problems faced by the nuclear families and how the “modified extended families” could help provide better support to family members.

4. The Chairman thanked Prof Lee for the presentation. Members noted that the CPU would refine the findings and circulate an updated power-point for reference.

Item 3 – Conference on strengthening Hong Kong’s families: Obligations and care across the generations (Paper FC 1/2010)

5. The Chairman informed the meeting that the Conference would be held on 9 June 2010 and be co-organized by the CPU, the University of Hong Kong, the City University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The Conference would examine views on filial piety in the Asian and international contexts, and the measures in support of promoting filial piety and care and support across generations in Hong Kong.

6. Members noted that the Conference would provide an excellent platform for stakeholders to exchange views on a pro-family culture and the promotion of family core values. Members agreed that the Family Council should join the event as a co-organizer. The secretariat would follow up with the CPU in the provision of resource support for the Conference.

Item 4 –Progress of Work of the Sub-committees under the Family Council (Paper FC 2/2010)

7. The Chairman invited Members to note the progress of the sub-committees. He drew Members’ attention to the book “同一屋簷下的天使” which was tabled at the meeting, and thanked Members and

relevant stakeholders for the support.

8. Members then discussed how best to take forward the researches on youth drug abuse, youth prostitution, neglect of the elderly and neglect of children. While continuous efforts should be made to promote positive family core values, Members opined that the researches should adopt a family perspective and aim to provide, amongst other things, -

- an identification of the causes of the problems, considering in particular the relevance of the problems to the health and happiness of the families and their unique experiences, with a view to identifying the roles of families and how families could help tackle the problems;
- statistics/data on the seriousness of the problems and the family backgrounds, in order to identify the motives behind such acts and the “protective” factors for the family members;
- not only one-off or “vertical” findings but also “horizontal” analysis of common findings which were applicable to the four social problems;
- comparison of the situations in Hong Kong and other advanced metropolitan cities;
- recommendations on concrete measures to tackle such problems, including the roles of, and interface between, Government departments, NGOs, parents and relevant stakeholders;
- an insight of the implications for policies on families and also other social policies as appropriate.

9. Members noted that the Women’s Commission was concerned

about the situation of compensated dating in Hong Kong and it had met with the Government departments concerned to discuss the subject. The notes of the said meeting were provided to the Family Council Secretariat for reference.

10. The Chairman thanked Members for the views expressed, and remarked that the researches should aim to provide recommendations beyond the simple suggestion of strengthening family core values. If possible, the researches should also aim to identify the specific follow-up actions to tackle such problems.

11. Members noted that preliminary findings were expected to be available in the summer. Depending on the progress of the researches, the CPU would help arrange focus group discussions and/or sharing sessions for Council Members on the research findings in June/July. The Chairman suggested that depending on the progress, the Family Council might discuss the preliminary findings at the coming meeting in June.

Item 5 –Any Other Business

12. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 17 June 2010 (Thursday) at 3 p.m. at the same venue.

Family Council Secretariat
April 2010