

**For discussion on  
13 February 2006**

LC Paper No. CB(2)1029/05-06(03)

## **LEGCO PANEL ON WELFARE SERVICES**

### **International Festival of Inclusive Arts**

#### **PURPOSE**

This paper introduces the International Festival of Inclusive Arts 2006 (IFIA) organised by the Health, Welfare and Food Bureau and seeks views and support from Members of the LegCo Panel on Welfare Services.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

2. The objective of the rehabilitation policy in Hong Kong is to provide effective measures to help people with disabilities to integrate into the community. This includes facilitating them to participate in economic and recreational activities. On top of addressing their basic needs, we also seek to help them to live a fuller and enriched life. An inclusive culture is fundamental to

achieving full integration.

3. The IFIA will be held from 3 to 10 December 2006. It is a new initiative in the Chief Executive's Policy Address that aims to nurture an inclusive culture. It is also the first of its kind in Hong Kong seeking to encourage people with or without disabilities to cooperate and to exchange experiences in the arts activities, and through this we hope to build a more caring and accepting society.

## **ORGANISERS**

4. The IFIA is organised by the Health, Welfare and Food Bureau, co-organised by the Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong, sponsored by the S K Yee Fund and supported by the Hong Kong Council for Social Service and the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust.

5. A Working Group has been formed to oversee the preparation of the festival. It is chaired by the Deputy Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food (Family and Women) and comprises representatives of the co-organiser and supporting organizations, Members of Rehabilitation Advisory Committee, relevant experts, government bureaux and departments, as well the Hong Kong

Council of Social Service and the Joint Council for the Physically and Mentally Disabled Hong Kong representing the social welfare and rehabilitation sector.

6. The implementation of the IFIA is mainly conducted by the Arts with the Disabled Association (ADA), in collaboration with other supporting organizations and interested parties. Under ADA, a series of sub-groups comprising relevant experts have been formed to formulate and execute detailed implementation plans.

7. ADA was formed as a non-government organization (NGO) in 1986 following the success of the first Hong Kong Festival of Arts with the Disabled. Embracing the mission of “arts are for everyone”, it is the only NGO in Hong Kong dedicated to promoting equal opportunity for persons with disability to enjoy, take part in and have access to the arts. It is experienced in organizing exhibition, stage performances, festivals, training classes and workshops across all art forms with the objective to generate interest of and to empower individuals of different abilities and the community.

## **COMMUNITY COLLABORATION**

6. Cultivation of an inclusive culture and artistic creativity cannot come to fruition overnight. Through this Festival, we hope to arouse the public's interests and concerns on the ability and special needs of the PWDs and to create a long-term impact. We have been seeking to involve the community at large and developing a plan to reach out to different sectors.

7. From the beginning, we will seek the support and views of all the 18 District Councils on the project. We have visited 16 District Councils (two more to follow) and introduced to them the concept, objective and programme plan of the IFIA. On top of enlisting their support for the IFIA, we have also asked the District Councils to encourage the organization of activities echoing the theme of inclusive arts in their respective districts throughout the year. The District Councils visited have given their unanimous support and provided us with invaluable suggestions on both the Festival and the promotion of the concept of inclusiveness. We will continue to follow up with relevant coordinator of each District to generate synergy between our events.

8. Educating the young ones is also an essential part of our task. We intend to mobilize educational institutions of different levels, including mainstream and special schools, to participate in

the IFIA. Apart from recruiting participants and volunteers from schools, we are also developing special programmes targeting educators and students. These include symposium, exhibition tours, workshops, project on fashion design for people with special needs and accessible architecture design contest.

9. The IFIA also provides a good opportunity for corporations to demonstrate their concern for the community and to contribute on their social responsibility. Corporations can take part by encouraging their staff members to form volunteer teams to help with the implementation of various parts of the event. They may also sponsor the event in cash or in kind. A number of corporations and professional group have indicated interests already in taking part in this meaningful event.

## **PROGRAMME**

10. The content of the week-long event includes a series of indoor and outdoor performances, carnival, visual arts exhibitions, symposium, workshops and other cultural and arts activities.

11. The Opening Ceremony of the Festival will take place in the afternoon of 3 December 2006. Local renowned performers

and artists with or without disabilities will share the stage. We are also planning to organise a large-scale drum performance on both sides of the Victoria Harbour, which will involve over 11,000 participants and will enter the event into the Guinness World Records. The annual celebration of the International Day of Disabled Persons (IDDP) will also be a key element of the Opening of the Festival.

12. Apart from local artists with or without disabilities, we have also invited artists with disabilities from overseas and the Mainland to perform or to exhibit their art work in Hong Kong. Our citizens will have the chance to appreciate their artistic talents. We will also organise workshops for local and overseas artists with or without disabilities and other interested people to share and to exchange their experiences in the arts. These performances, visual arts exhibitions and workshops will take place at different venues all over Hong Kong. A schedule of the programme is at *Annex A*.

## **BUDGET**

13. The total budget of the IFIA is about HK\$5.5 million. S K Yee Fund has already approved a sponsorship of

HK\$2 million for the project. We are seeking sponsorship and donations in cash or in kind from corporations and the general public. Health, Welfare and Food Bureau is expected to bear about HK\$3 million of the projected expenditure.

## **WAY FORWARD**

14. The IFIA is a part of our long-term public education efforts to foster an inclusive culture in our community. Subject to its outcome, we hope that it will become a regular event, to be held periodically, say about once every three years, aiming to build an inclusive society in which every person can fully develop and utilize his/her talents.

## **ADVICE SOUGHT**

15. Members are invited to note the organization of the event and to give suggestions on the enhancement of the promotion of a caring and accepting society for people of all abilities.

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau

February 2006

**International Festival of Inclusive Arts  
3-10 December 2006**

**Programme Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Programme</u>
3 Dec (Sun)	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ <i>Drumming Across the Harbour</i></li><li>◆ Stage performances</li><li>◆ SAORI Catwalk</li></ul> <p>Gala Performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Percussion</li><li>◆ Classical Quartet</li><li>◆ Cantonese Opera</li><li>◆ Drama</li></ul> <p>Exhibitions (with artist demonstrations, guided tours and workshops from 3 to 10 Dec)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ SAORI – fashion and community creation</li><li>◆ Local and overseas artists’ work (including calligraphy, ceramics, fabric art, installation, painting, photography, etc.)</li><li>◆ Local students’ work</li></ul>
4 Dec (Mon)	Symposium: <i>Arts and Inclusion – Opportunities and Challenges</i>  Workshop led by local and overseas artists
5 Dec (Tue)	Workshop led by local and overseas artists
6 Dec (Wed)	Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Dance</li></ul>

- ◆ Drama
- ◆ Multi-talent performance

7 Dec (Thu) Workshop led by local and overseas artists

8 Dec (Fri) Performance  
◆ Multi-talent performances

9 Dec (Sat) Jockey Club Arts for the Disabled Scheme  
Annual Performance

10 Dec (Sun) Finale Outdoor Carnival  
(Outdoor Fun Fair with sensory experience  
activities)

#### Closing Performance

- ◆ Drama
- ◆ Dance
- ◆ Shadow Play