**Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to the Provision of
Boarding Places, Senior Secondary Education and Employment
Opportunities for Children with Special Educational Needs (SEN)**

Responses to Follow-up Actions Raised at Meeting Held on 23 April 2007

1. **Enrolment of students with SEN in each of the UGC-funded institutions.**

   A breakdown of the enrolment figures is at the Appendix.

2. **The Administration should formulate policies and devise special measures to encourage enrolment of students with SEN in Post-secondary and UGC-funded institutions.**

   All UGC-funded institutions are autonomous statutory bodies governed by their respective ordinances. They enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy in main areas including selection of students, and control of curricula and academic standards. The Administration fully respects the autonomy of tertiary institutions in their academic development and internal management. However, we have conveyed Member's views and suggestions to UGC for their consideration.

   Admission to the UGC-funded institutions is based on merits. The UGC-funded institutions welcome all eligible applicants, including students with SEN, to apply for admission. Moreover, all institutions have implemented measures to assist students with SEN in their applications. There is a sub-system under the Joint University Programmes Admissions System (JUPAS) for applicants with SEN to enable such applicants to find out as early as possible the special assistance and facilities that institutions could provide to them on their admission. The sub-system also helps institutions identify those applicants with SEN so that institutions could provide assistance and advice at an early stage. For students not applying through the JUPAS route, institutions would render suitable assistance to those who have made known their SEN in their application for admission.

The UGC-funded institutions are also providing assistance and facilitation to SEN students as far as practicable upon their admission. These services and assistances include provision of specific equipment or special support services to facilitate students' learning, designation of a counselor/staff to provide support and assistance to SEN students, etc. In addition, institutions may give students with SEN priority in the allocation of student hostel and provide special provisions and facilities for them.

The Administration also notes that institutions have already put in place flexible arrangements to facilitate the admission of students with SEN as well as support measures for these students after admission which address their needs in learning and daily campus life.

3. **To work out innovative approach to assist students with SEN to pursue post-secondary and continue education and to facilitate the operation of community college.**

For students with SEN pursuing the ordinary curriculum, they will have equal opportunities as their counterparts in the access to post-secondary programmes. For students with intellectual disability (ID) who would pursue the New Senior Secondary (ID) curriculum, we will continue to work with parties concerned to review the existing pathways and to explore further opportunities with reference to the expected learning outcomes of students after completion of NSS. It should be noted that we are still working on the Learning Outcomes Framework (LOF) of the NSS (ID) curriculum, which will give information on what level of achievement the students will be able to achieve.

Education Bureau
August 2007

**Number of Students with SEN enrolled in UGC-funded Sub-degree/Undergraduate Programmes
the 2003/04 – 2005/06 Academic Years**

Level of study	Institution	Academic year		
		2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
Sub-degree	City University of Hong Kong	12	10	6
	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	3	2	6
	Sub-total	15	12	12
Undergraduate	City University of Hong Kong	9	11	10
	Hong Kong Baptist University	10	14	10
	Lingnan University	6	2	4
	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	20	16	12
	The Hong Kong Institute of Education	1	2	2
	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	11	8	5
	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	25	23	29
	The University of Hong Kong	27	33	37
	Sub-total	109	109	109
Total		124	121	121

Source: Statistical returns to the University Grants Committee