

For information

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs
Report on the Youth Summit 2010

Purpose

This paper reports to Members the arrangements of the Youth Summit 2010 (the Summit).

Background

2. The Summit jointly organised by the Commission on Youth (the COY) and the Home Affairs Bureau was held on 6 March 2010 at the Youth Square. A brief account of the Summit is provided below.

Dates

3. The Summit had two parts, namely the Pre-Summit Session on 30 January 2010 and the Summit on 6 March 2010. The Pre-Summit Session in January aimed at preparing the youth to participate in the Summit by enabling them to collect information and exchange views preliminarily on the discussion topics.

Theme and sub-themes

4. The theme of the Summit was “Building the Future - Challenges and Opportunities for Youth” and the sub-themes were “Challenges Arising from Demographic Changes”, “Healthy Life, Healthy Mind”, “Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development” and “Versatility and Collaboration in Culture and Technology”. They covered a wide range of subjects and participants might choose to join any discussion groups according to their interests.

Preparatory Work

5. In the previous few summits, the COY invited the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (the HKCSS) to be the assisting organisation. This year, in order to expand the participants' network and to enhance overall publicity, the COY invited 17 other organisations apart from the HKCSS to assist in organising the Summit. These organisations included youth service agencies, youth groups, youth uniformed groups and student bodies. The COY convened two preparatory meetings on 15 December 2009 and 26 February 2010 and invited the attendance of the 18 assisting organisations. At the meeting on 26 February, 24 youth groups under the HKCSS with young members participating in the Summit were also invited. The main duties of the assisting organisations were to assist in promoting the Summit, recruiting participants and nominating participants to exchange views with guests and report discussion outcomes on stage. They also arranged talks for participants before the Summit to enhance their understanding of the discussion topics. The list of assisting organisations and the numbers of participants recruited are at Annex I.

6. Apart from the assisting organizations, youth members of the COY and youth volunteers also took part in the preparatory work. The volunteers were mainly past delegates of the International Youth Exchange Programme organised by the COY, and some had participated in the preparatory work of past summits. In organising the Summit this year, they assisted in collecting information on the discussion topics, facilitating group discussions, contacting participants, collating materials for reporting and so on.

7. Focus group meetings of 40 youth representatives who would exchange views with guests and report discussion outcomes on stage were held on 26 February and 3 March 2010. Through these two meetings, the youth representatives discussed and decided on their own the distribution of work for the exchange sessions with guests and reporting outcomes on stage. They also decided among themselves the questions to be raised at the sharing sessions.

Youths and Guests in Attendance

8. Over 550 youths of Hong Kong enrolled through the 18 assisting organisations attended the Summit this year, including some 130 youths from 24 youth agencies under the HKCSS. Some 100 tertiary students from the Mainland and Macau also attended the Summit. The Summit was webcasted live on the websites of the COY and youth.gov.hk (www.youth.gov.hk) to enable the public to view the Summit and raise questions to the guests via the internet.

9. The Acting Chief Executive, Mr Henry Tang, Non-Official Member of the Executive Council, Dr the Honourable Leong Che-hung, Secretary for

Labour and Welfare, Mr Matthew Cheung, Secretary for the Environment, Mr Edward Yau, Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing, Under Secretary for Education, Mr Kenneth Chen, Under Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Gabriel Leung, and Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Gregory So, attended the Summit on 6 March to listen to the youths' reports and discuss with them. Also attended and shared their experience with the youths on that day were renowned Chinese athlete, Dr Li Ning, indoor cycling athlete of Hong Kong, Mr Yu Sum-yee and 2009 Outstanding Young Person, Mr Stanley Cheung. During the exchange sessions with the Acting Chief Executive, representatives from policy bureaux and guests, the youth representatives on stage and floor participants were able to raise questions while the public watching the live webcast could also post questions via the internet. The questions which had already put into the collection box and raised via the internet but had not been dealt with due to insufficient time on that day were referred to relevant bureaux after compilation. Their responses have been uploaded to the website of the COY.

Publicity

10. The COY promoted the Summit through newspapers, its website, and the networks of the 18 assisting organisations. The convener of the Working Group on International Exchanges and Conferences under the COY, together with volunteers of the International Youth Exchange Programme and youth representatives responsible for reporting of discussion results and exchanging of views helped in promoting the Summit through interviews by the media and participation in video clip production. The videos of the Pre-Summit Session on 30 January and the Summit on 6 March have been uploaded to the website of the COY.

Protest

11. On 6 March when the Summit was held, some 20 young people staged a protest outside the venue. Staff of the Summit repeatedly invited the protestors to the online live broadcast room in the venue to watch the Summit online and raise questions to the guests. The protestors were also assured that they would be allowed to enter the theatre once there were vacant seats. However, they did not accept the invitation. Inside the theatre, someone threw a pair of shoes to the stage and a few youth participants protested. Since such acts had disturbed other participants, the persons concerned were requested to leave the venue.

Details of Discussion

12. The summary of the discussion outcomes reported by the youth representatives at the Summit on 6 March is at [Annex II](#). Draft record of proceedings of the Summit and the responses from various bureaux to the

questions raised have been sent to Legislative Council Secretariat for Members' reference.

Exchange Sessions with Youths

13. Participants of the Summit were enthusiastic in advancing their opinions, reflecting that youths nowadays had their own views and were keen to express it to the Government. To continue the constructive dialogue, the COY will organise a series of thematic youth exchange sessions in the coming year, inviting representatives of different policy bureaux to exchange views with youths on various policies. Enrolment of the sessions will be open to youths interested in the discussion topics. The first session on Football Development in Hong Kong was held on 8 May 2010, during which the Under Secretary for Home Affairs, Ms Florence Hui, exchanged views with youths. Another session on Non-Means-Tested Loan Scheme was held on 2 June 2010, at which the Under Secretary for Education, Mr Kenneth Chen, exchanged views with youths. Representatives of the Environment Bureau will attend the coming session to listen to the voices of young people.

Suggestions for organising the next Summit

14. After the completion of the Summit, relevant working group of the COY, the assisting organisations and youth groups reviewed the arrangements on 15 March. Further discussion was held at the plenary meeting of the COY on 17 March. Suggestions were made on the enrolment system, theme and sub-themes, and arrangements regarding the programme rundown, publicity and assisting organisations of the Summit for future reference.

Enrolment

15. This year's Summit attracted participants from different backgrounds including students, employed youths and other youths through a large number of assisting organisations and youth groups under them. This is more effective than previous summits with only one assisting organisation. To attract even more young people from different backgrounds to participate in the Summit, the COY considered that registration through open enrolment could be accepted in parallel with inviting assisting organisations to promote youths' participation in the Summit.

Assisting Organisations

16. The COY recognised the great contributions by the assisting organisations towards the preparation and organisation of the Summit. It also considered that more organisations should be invited to act as assisting organisations and communication with them should be strengthened with a

view to drawing on their opinions to make future summits more successful.

The Theme and Discussion Topics

17. At the Summit, some youths expressed that pre-setting the theme had made it difficult for them to discuss matters of their concern. The COY opined that the selected theme and sub-themes were closely related to youth development. Pre-setting the theme enabled participants to gather information beforehand for focused discussions at the Summit. At the Pre-Summit Session in January, participants raised subjects of their concern regarding the theme and discussion topics, including youths' starting businesses and employment, environmental protection and conservation, student financial assistance/loan arrangements, etc, for further discussion and conclusion at the Summit on 6 March. As regards future summits, the COY will consider how to strengthen the collection of youths' views on the discussion topics, and determine the theme taking into account the social environment and the particular circumstances.

Preparatory Work

18. This year's Summit was led by a group of youth volunteers who assisted in publicity, gathering information, contacting participants and co-ordinating the reporting of group discussion outcomes. This had contributed to enhancing the youths' sense of participation in the Summit. The COY opines that this youth-led approach should continue to be adopted for future summits.

Programme Rundown of the Summit

19. The on-stage exchange sessions included a number of sub-sessions, and were well received by the youths. Discussion in certain session was so rich that it was hard to end it. Members opined that a better time control should be exercised in the future and consideration should be given to focusing on exchanges and reporting of group discussion outcomes in the summit.

Publicity

20. Publicity of the Summit was mainly launched through newspapers, the networks of the assisting organisations, and website of the COY as well as the government's youth portal. Members opined that the overall publicity for future summits should be enhanced with increased use of online platforms, such as social networking sites.

Conclusion

21. To conclude, the COY opined that the Summit had showcased

youths' enthusiasm for the development of their community and provided opportunities for government representatives and guests in attendance to listen to the voices of the youth directly, thus achieving the aim of establishing a platform for young people to express their views.

22. Members are invited to note the above report.

Home Affairs Bureau

June 2010

Youth Summit 2010
List of Assisting Organisations

Organisation	No. of Participants
1. The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	31
2. Hong Kong Association of Youth Development	15
3. The Hong Kong Award for Young People	15
4. Hong Kong Model United Nations Club	67
5. Hong Kong United Youth Association	49
6. Junior Chamber International Hong Kong	4
7. Scout Association of Hong Kong	20
8. The Boys' Brigade, Hong Kong	2
9. Civil Aid Service Cadet Corps	7
10. The Girls' Brigade Hong Kong	3
11. Hong Kong Adventure Corps	4
12. Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps	9
13. The Hong Kong Girl Guides Association	17
14. Hong Kong Red Cross	11
15. Hong Kong Road Safety Association	3
16. Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps	18
17. Hong Kong St John Ambulance Brigade Cadet Command	7
18. The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS)	134

Participating Organisations under the HKCSS

- a. Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service Ngau Tau Kok Youth Integrated Service Centre
- b. Breakthrough
- c. Caritas Jockey Club Integrated Service for Young People - Shek Tong Tsui
- d. Caritas Mok Cheung Sui Kun Community Centre
- e. Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association
- f. Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council
- g. Hong Kong Playground Association
- h. ELCHK-Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre
- i. Salvation Army
- j. Kids' Dream
- k. Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Jockey Club Tai Kok Tsui Integrated Services Centre
- l. The Boys' & Girls Clubs Association of Hong Kong
- m. ELCHK Tai Wo Integrated Youth Service Centre
- n. Christian Family Service Centre
- o. New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
- p. Salvation Army Tuen Mun Integrated Services Centre for Young People
- q. Sai Kung District Community Centre
- r. Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong
- s. Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service
- t. Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association
- u. Tung Wah Groups of Hospitals Tuen Mun Integrated Services Centre
- v. Hong Kong Christian Service
- w. InterChallenge
- x. DotAsia Organisation

Youth Summit 2010

Summary of Discussion¹

Group A: Challenges Arising from Demographic Changes

- Need to increase, encourage and review talent training by the Government
 - Providing more internship opportunities
 - Meeting the needs of modern society and different trades and professions
 - Increasing the variety of professional training (e.g. professional cook training)
 - Taking into account the needs of different industries
- Promotion or education on retirement planning
 - Training on financial planning (e.g. making investment)
 - Basing on family
 - Long-term retirement plan
- Review of social welfare planning
 - Proper allocation of social resources to those in need
- Inter-generational harmony
 - The Government should promote leisure and cultural facilities on the basis of family
- Maintaining the productivity of the elderly
 - Flexible retirement age

¹ Source: Youth representatives' report on the outcomes of discussion on the 4 topics at the Youth Summit 2010 in the afternoon of 6 March.

Group B: Healthy Life, Healthy Mind

Drug Abuse and Trafficking

Education

- Target groups
 - Cooperation of parents
- Details
 - Programme: preventive, emphasis on both “renew” and “reborn”
 - Introducing cards for providing information (Public)
 - Identifying drug abusers
 - Helplines

Cross-Border Cooperation

- Strengthening cooperation in interception with Mainland
- Large-scale border checks
 - New equipment
 - Drug detector dogs

Rehabilitation

- New modes of treatment proposed: e.g. Zheng Sheng College’s mode
 - Emphasis on both drug treatment and education as well as reintegration into the community

Internet Addiction

Family

- Parents learning proactively
- Parent - child computer courses
- Guidance

Business Sector

- Reminders on duration of usage
- Network providers
 - Filtering

Social Welfare Agencies and Schools

- “3+3+4” academic structure: other learning experiences
 - Developing internet literacy, proper way of usage and good attitude

- Online social workers
 - Identifying young people with problems on online platforms
 - Intervening early and providing support

Group C: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development

Town Planning

- Drawing the experiences of Sha Tin and Tseung Kwan O in the development of Tin Shui Wai
- Development of commercial buildings in Tin Shui Wai
- Sky garden and building greening
- Avoiding improper allocation of resources
- Revitalisation of old districts
- Strengthening consultation

Environmental Protection

- Reducing waste
- Increasing the variety of recycle bins
- Introducing Quality Green Label
- Products to be sold with bags for recycling
- Policies: incentive-based
- Government financial support to green industries

Sustainable Development

- Keeping the human touch of the community
- Promoting creative industries
- Balancing between community asset and values
- Paying regard to the characteristics of different districts
- Considering more the views of the lower class
- Promoting collaboration among various sectors

Green Culture

- Financial support for overseas exchanges
- Environmental protection as a compulsory subject in order to promote the concept among students gradually
- Attaching importance of environmental protection education for all age groups
- Enhancing environmental protection education, let youths learn about the worst consequences
- Strengthening moral education to teach the youths to respect the environment

Group D: Versatility and Collaboration in Culture and Technology

Utilisation of information technology to consolidate and adopt views

Suggestion 1: Collecting views in the form of e-group

- Details: There are diverse views among the public. The views shared by individuals with common interests should be presented in a single paper with justifications and submitted in the name of a group. Not only submission from physical entities but also those from virtual entities should be accepted.

Suggestion 2: Privacy protection for personal opinion

- Details: As all residents have identity cards, the Government should enable each to post a maximum of ten comments through electronic means, including touch screen displays and government electronic service access, to the official database. All personal data should be kept confidential.

Suggestion 3: Scientific statistical method

- Details: The Government could fully utilise the statistical formula of computer search engine to analyse the ten subjects of greatest concern and respond to them on a regular basis.

Suggestion 4: Tertiary students - led

- Details: Tertiary students should be involved in the design of Government network and information technology consultation platform. The development of institutional and monitoring measures on statistics and privacy policy should be tertiary students - led.

Cultivation of Creativity

Support to Youth Business Start-ups

- Coaching by the experienced
 - Technical support
 - Assistance in promotion

Resource Support

- Increasing facilities
- Establishing different funds to provide start-up business funding to young people
- Need to review vetting mechanism and procedures for application