

## **Family Council**

### **Progress of Work of the Sub-committees under the Family Council**

#### **PURPOSE**

This paper invites Members to note the progress of work of the Sub-committees under the Family Council (the Council).

#### **SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF FAMILY CORE VALUES AND FAMILY EDUCATION**

2. The Sub-committee on the Promotion of Family Core Values and Family Education held a meeting on 24 July 2014. In brief, the Sub-committee reviewed the “2013/14 Family-Friendly Employers Award Scheme” (the Award Scheme) and discussed the progress of the production of family education package for families with new-born babies.

*“2013/14 Family-Friendly Employers Award Scheme”*

3. The Sub-committee was briefed on the overview of the Award Scheme. Members considered that the Award Scheme was very successful as evidenced by the overwhelming support. Through vigorous publicity and outreaching efforts, there was a remarkable increase in the enrolment (+63%).

4. A total of 1 763 companies/organisations were recognized as “Family-friendly Employers”. Among them, 91 companies/organisations were awarded "Distinguished Family-Friendly Employers" for their outstanding achievements in the implementation of family-friendly employment policies and practices (FFEPPs). In addition, 22 companies/organisations received the “Award for Innovation” to acknowledge their flexible use of innovative ideas to implement family-

friendly employment measures. Another 313 companies/organisations were awarded “Special Mention”<sup>1</sup>.

5. The Award Presentation Ceremony officiated by the Chief Secretary for Administration was held on 19 June 2014 at the Kowloon International Trade & Exhibition Centre, with more than 1,000 participants.

6. The Sub-committee was pleased with the efforts of the Council Secretariat in making the Award Scheme a success. To sustain the momentum, the Sub-committee agreed that the Award Scheme should be organised biennially and good practices of winning companies/organisations should be widely promulgated.

#### *Family education package for families with new-born babies*

7. The Sub-committee noted the progress of the production of the family education package (the package) for families with new-born babies produced by the Boys’ & Girls Clubs Association of Hong Kong. The Sub-committee was in general content with the presentation, subject to further refinement. It is expected that the package will be available in the fourth quarter of 2014. The Sub-committee will deliberate on the publicity plan to promote the package at its next meeting.

### **SUB-COMMITTEE ON FAMILY SUPPORT**

8. The Sub-committee on Family Support met on 5 June and 31 July 2014. The Sub-committee gave its advice on “Review of Family Procedure Rules” and “Judgment Summons Proceeding for the Enforcement of Maintenance Orders” and endorsed the final report of Family Survey 2013. Besides, the Sub-committee discussed the Pilot Scheme on Family Mediation Service and family studies in Hong Kong.

#### *Pilot Scheme on Family Mediation Service*

9. The Sub-committee agreed in principle the extension of the Pilot Scheme on Family Mediation Service by 18 months after taking into account the time required for conducting the study on family mediation service in Hong Kong. In deliberating how the study was conducted, the Central Policy Unit (CPU) was requested to explore the possibility of

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<sup>1</sup> For those which were awarded in 2011 and 2013/14 in recognition of their dedication to continuously promoting for their continued dedicated in promoting FFEPPs.

conducting randomized controlled trial and report progress at the next meeting.

### *Family Studies in Hong Kong*

10. To map out the future research strategy of the Council, CPU had taken stock of family studies conducted in Hong Kong in the past ten years. It was noted that 128 family studies had been conducted. To identify research gaps before formulating our research plan, the Sub-committee in principle agreed that the Council should explore the possibilities of commissioning a study to analyse the 128 family studies.

### **WAY FORWARD**

11. The Sub-committees will continue to oversee their respective programmes and activities. Members are welcome to convey their comments and suggestions to the Secretariat.

**Family Council Secretariat  
August 2014**