

Red Ribbon Centre –
**UNAIDS Collaborating
Centre for Technical
Support**

Getting Set
(the technical collaboration
report 2001)

Hong Kong

2001



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I. Introduction

The Red Ribbon Centre was formally open in May 1997. It was designated an UNAIDS collaborating centre in December 1998. The years 1999 to 2001 marked the beginning of a new programme that culminates in the development of a regional perspective for the HIV prevention activities in Hong Kong. The experimental phase dawns on Autumn of the year 2001.

What has the Centre achieved? What have we learned? Should collaboration continue? If yes, how? What should be the future strategies? These are the questions that the Centre has kept asking itself in the last years. The same years saw the progressive worsening of the HIV situation in many parts of the world. We are reminded also that only very recently the Chinese government openly acknowledged the escalating HIV problems facing the country. The regional HIV patterns clearly set the scene for our development of strategies for the Centre.

This report reviews the work of *Red Ribbon Centre – UNAIDS Collaborating Centre for Technical Support* in the three years since inception. It examines both accomplishments and setbacks. New directions are proposed, which perhaps would form the framework to guide the development of the next and following phases. Details of the activities of the Centre, especially those undertaken by the HIV Prevention and Health Promotion Team of the Special Preventive Programmes, Department of Health are deliberately omitted in the Report. Interested people are advised to refer to the yearbooks published by the Red Ribbon Centre.

II. The Historical Footsteps

In Hong Kong, efforts on HIV prevention can be traced back to the year 1985, when the first case of AIDS was reported. In the same year, an AIDS counselling clinic was established by the then Medical and Health Department. Health advice, counselling and HIV testing were offered to people who're worried about contracting the virus. In 1987, the clinic was expanded to become the AIDS Counselling and Health Education Service (ACHES), and the Special Medical Consultation Clinic (SMCC). It ran the AIDS Hotline, and HIV clinic, and provided operational support to the Department's Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS. The Committee became a subsidiary forum of the Government-appointed Advisory Council on AIDS in 1990. The same year saw the inauguration of the first AIDS NGO (non-governmental organization) in Hong Kong – AIDS Concern.

Following the restructuring of the Government's medical and health services, the Special Preventive Programme (SPP) was reconstituted in 1991. The HIV clinical and public health services have since been led by the Consultant(SPP). In 1994, the programmes were expanded and relocated to the Yaumatei premise, which housed both the clinical and public health arms of the programmes.

The early nineties were characterized by rapid medical advances, changing HIV epidemiology, and the concerns of the community. It soon became clear that the provision at Yaumatei was simply inadequate to face up the challenges of HIV/AIDS even on a local level. The plan of setting up a resource centre was drawn up by SPP, with the primary objective of facilitating the participation of the community to respond to AIDS. With the support of the AIDS Trust Fund, an old maternity home at Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic was converted into an AIDS education, resource and research centre, It was named Red Ribbon Centre and its mission was rightly “to facilitate and enhance the community’s response to HIV/AIDS”. The Centre had its soft opening in December 1996, and was formally declared open by the last governor of the Hong Kong Government in May 1997.

Red Ribbon Centre has since been the base of the HIV Prevention and Health Promotion Team of the Special Preventive Programmes. In 1998, the Advisory Council on AIDS conducted a review on the AIDS programme and situation in Hong Kong. The review process has alerted AIDS programme individuals of the international responsibility Hong Kong might or could play in the fight against the global epidemic. On 8 May 1998, Dr Peter Piot, Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), visited Red Ribbon Centre. (Box 1)

Box 1. Dr Peter Piot (L) shaking hand with Rev Chu Yiu-ming, chairman of Red Ribbon Centre Management Advisory Committee on 8 May 1998.



The continued dialogue between UNAIDS and Red Ribbon Centre finally resulted in the designation of the Centre as an UNAIDS Collaborating Centre for Technical Support. The three-year agreement was signed by Dr Awa Coll-Seck, Director PSR of UNAIDS and Dr Margaret Chan, Director of Health, Hong Kong, which would lapse by the end of the year 2001.

III. The Collaborating Centre

The Red Ribbon Centre – UNAIDS Collaborating Centre for Technical Support (UCT) is managed as a programme of the Red Ribbon Centre. As agreed between Department of Health and UNAIDS, UCT is committed to (refer to Annex A for the Terms of Collaboration):

- (a) collaborate in the following fields -
 - (i) strategic planning for HIV prevention and care;
 - (ii) technical resource networking for promoting and enhancing community responses; and
 - (iii) scientific inquiry into socio-behavioural determinants and epidemiological data for the improved understanding of HIV epidemics
- (b) engage in the following activities -
 - (i) strengthen capacities for an expanded response to HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong and in the region, by facilitating conduction of consultancies, reference services, training, planning, evaluation, exchanges and other supports, as needed;
 - (ii) identify, develop, adapt and disseminate best practices in line with strategies formulated by UNAIDS;
 - (iii) participate in UNAIDS-sponsored meetings, assist in their organisation, and engage in other advocacy-related activities towards the common goal of HIV/AIDS prevention and care;
 - (iv) provide technical support, coordinate and participate in technical resource networks established by UNAIDS, and in close collaboration with other institutions involved in the response in the region;
 - (v) promote, support and implement relevant studies and disseminate and apply results of such studies in collaborative research projects with UNAIDS.

UCT is headed by a director, who is the consultant and head of SPP. The day-to-day running of the Centre is organised by the SPP HIV Prevention and Health Promotion Team comprising a medical doctor, public health nurse in-charge, a team of public health nurses, an executive officer and the clerical team. The strategic planning of activities is guided by the Red Ribbon Centre Management Advisory Committee, which is appointed by the Director of Health. (refer to Annex B for the organization of UCT)

IV. Activity Profile 1999 - 2001

Items 3 and Item 4 of the Terms of Collaboration encompass the following five categories of activities:

- (a) Capacity building – item 4(a)
- (b) Best practice development – item 4(b)
- (c) Participation in UNAIDS activities – Items 4(c) and 3 (a)
- (d) Technical resource networking – Item 4(d) and 3(b)
- (e) Research studies – Items 4(e) and 3(c)

IV.A Capacity building

Capacity building is an important category of activities undertaken by UCT. The main formats of these activities are: (a) attachment programme; (b) involvement in consultancies and (c) organisation of workshops.

The **Lions-Red Ribbon Fellowship** is a professional attachment programme designed by UCT and sponsored by *Lions Clubs International District 303 Hong Kong and Macau*. Since 1999, a maximum of four fellows from mainland China have been supported to come to Hong Kong for an attachment to the Red Ribbon Centre for a period of two to four weeks. Fellows engage in studies, visits and exchange activities in their fields of expertise relating to HIV prevention and care. They normally conduct a seminar with AIDS workers in Hong Kong, and are required to submit a report of their work to the UCT upon completion of the fellowship programme. (Box 2)

Box 2. Dr LIU Wei, a Lions -Red Ribbon Fellow, discussing with Hong Kong experts on the HIV situation in Guangxi on 20 February 2001



Box 3. Red Ribbon Centre staff on a mission in Yunnan in March 1999



By the end of 2001, 9 fellows would have joined the scheme in the three-year period. Their areas of expertise and periods of attachments are listed in Box 4.

Public health experts from Red Ribbon Centre join as **consultants** to provide support to HIV prevention and care programmes in Mainland China and other parts of the world. (Box 3) These assignments are in Box 5.

Box 4. Lions-Red Ribbon Fellows, 1999 – 2002 (continued)

NAME OF FELLOW	AFFILIATION	FELLOWSHIP PERIOD	ASSIGNMENT

Dr SHAN Guangnai	Senior Fellow, Chinese Academy of Social Science	8 Mar – 21 Apr 1999	Research on prostitution in Hong Kong
Dr WANG Quanyi	Lecturer, Peking Union Medical College	9 – 22 Oct 2000	Study of counselling for and support to people living with HIV/AIDS
Ms ZHAO Chengzheng	Associate professor, National Institute of Drug Dependence	1 – 13 Dec 2000	HIV and drug use – comparison between Hong Kong and Mainland China
Dr LIU Wei	Director, Guangxi Centre for HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control	16 – 21 Feb 2001 (plus a second period under planning)	Study of the Hong Kong experience in HIV prevention and control
Dr GAN Zhigao	Director, Department of Disease Control of Antiepidemic Station, Liuzhou, Guangxi	17 – 30 Jul 2001	Study of the Hong Kong experience in HIV prevention and health promotion in drug users
Dr Ren Xiaohui	Lecturer, Cheng Du West China University of Medical Science	30 Aug – 13 Sep 2001	Study of the HIV prevention intervention in women
Dr Chen Jie	Deputy Director, Guangxi Centre for Disease Control and Prevention	26 Sep – 3 Oct 2001 (plus a second period under planning)	Study of the Hong Kong experience in the application methadone intervention for HIV prevention in drug users
Dr ZHU Min	Programme adviser, Yunnan Provincial Education Commission	14 – 27 Oct 2001 (to be confirmed)	Sharing of Hong Kong and Yunnan experience in HIV education for youth and schools
Dr CHAN Zhongdan	Director, Wuhan Anti-epidemic Station	10 – 23 Oct 2001	Study of the means of peer education for HIV prevention

Box 5. Consultancies conducted through the UCT Programme, 1999 - 2001

DATE	CONSULTANT(S) / TRAINERS(S)	LOCATION	MISSION
22 – 24 Mar 1999	Ms Victoria KWONG & CHU Lai Wah	Dali, Yunnan	Dali Medical College International Symposium on HIV/AIDS prevention, transmission, care and healthy living
20 – 22 Oct 1999	Dr SS Lee	Geneva	International consultation on HIV/AIDS reporting and disclosure
19 – 28 Nov 1999	Dr KH Wong	Hainan & Guangxi	Evaluation of China AIDS Network STD/AIDS Prevention among women in the service industry
25 – 31 Aug 2000	Ms Elise CHU & Georgiana CHEUNG	Inner Mongolia	National Training Course on AIDS counselling and laboratory safety
4 – 9 Sep 2000	Dr SS Lee	Urumqi, Xinjiang	UNDCP project on assessment methodologies for non-captive groups and community-based interventions

Workshops are specially designed training programmes organised under the auspices of the UCT. These were normally three to five day programmes developed upon request of public health or other agencies to facilitate the development of policy on HIV prevention, care and control. (Box 6) In the three year period, three workshops have been organized for different agencies from the Mainland. (Box 7) On the other hand, brief half-to-one day **visits** from overseas agencies were commonly received by the Centre. A total of 39 visits involving some 186 people from around the world have been handled.

Box 6. A group from the Mainland visiting a methadone clinic in Hong Kong on 28 December 2000



Box 7. Workshops for Mainland delegates, 1999 - 2001

DATE	AGENCY	PATICIPANTS
30 Nov – 4 Dec 1998	Ministries	8 professionals and administrators from the Ministries of Health and Civil Affairs, Bureau of Broadcast and TV Administration, Chinese academy of Preventive Medicine
1 – 4 Aug 2000	Ministry of Railway and Ministry of Health	9 professionals and administrators
27 – 29 Dec 2000	Guangzhou municipal government	19 professionals and administrators from the sectors of health, justice, planning, finance, publicity, and public security
December 2001 (scheduled)	Fujian Health Department	12 experts from the Fujian Health Bureau

IV.B Best practice development

There were three levels of activities relating to best practice development. **Firstly**, best practice documents received from UNAIDS were shelved in the Centre's library for the information of people working on HIV/AIDS programme.

Box 8. Red Ribbon Centre library



(Box 8) Whereas appropriate, they're distributed to agencies in Hong Kong. **Secondly**, a series of model programmes in Hong Kong have been identified. These were published in the 2000 yearbook of Red Ribbon Centre. **Thirdly**, the Centre worked closely with UNAIDS in the identification of best practices of international importance. One was the promotion of harm reduction through the methadone clinics. This is in the process of being published in a best practice series developed by the UNAIDS Regional Task Force on Drug Use and HIV Vulnerability.

IV.C Participation in UNAIDS activities

UCT has joined in UNAIDS meetings with a common goal of HIV prevention

and care. One notable example is the participation in a meeting in Guangxi focusing on strategic planning. This and other activities are listed in the table in Box 9.

Box 9. Participation in UN meetings, 1999 – 2001

DATE			
22 Apr 1999	UNAIDS APICT Task Force on Drug Use and HIV Vulnerability meeting	Bangkok, Thailand	Dr SS Lee (Task Force member)
26 Oct 1999	V International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific – UNAIDS Symposium: Mapping the Beat: Drug use and HIV vulnerability in Asia	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Dr SS Lee (speaker): Building the foundation for HIV prevention in drug users
3 Sep 2000	IX International Congress of World Federation of Public Health Associations – UNAIDS symposium on HIV/AIDS	Beijing	Dr SS Lee (speaker); The Red Ribbon Experience
18 Apr 2001	UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS and Ministry of Health Joint Feedback Seminar on Strategic Planning for AIDS Prevention and Care	Nanning, Guangxi	Dr SS Lee
23 – 25 Apr 2001	Ministerial Segment of UN ESCAP 57 th Session – regional preparation for UNGASS	Bangkok, Thailand	Dr SS Lee
2 – 4 May 2001	UN Regional Task Force on Drug Use and HIV Vulnerability meeting	Denpasar, Indonesia	Dr SS Lee (Task Force member)
4 – 8 Jun 2001	UN ESCAP III Asia-pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on Human Resources Development for Youth (theme on HIV/AIDS)	Bangkok, Thailand	Dr KH Wong
12 Jun 2001	World Bank Third Asian Development Forum Policy Seminar: the dual burden of HIV/AIDS and TB in the future economy	Bangkok, Thailand	Dr SS Lee (speaker): the why's and how's of behaviour change

25 – 27 Jun 2001	United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS	New York, USA	Dr SS Lee, Dr Margaret Chan (Director of Health) in China delegation
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In 1999, UCT responded to UNAIDS' s call for an expanded advocacy role in HIV prevention and care through the appointment of celebrity as ambassador. Miss Miriam Yeung, a famous pop singer was appointed the UNAIDS Hong Kong Ambassador to help spread the AIDS message. (Box 10, 11) In the last years, she was engaged in the following activities:

- (a) Participation in youth activities to appeal for a better understanding as well as promoting acceptance of people living with HIV/AIDS – These activities included mini-concerts, youth parties and other gatherings (Box 12) in Hong Kong;
- (b) Dedicating a song “Positive Response” to AIDS, and the production of a VCD for distribution in Hong Kong and Mainland China;
- (c) Joining support group activities with people living with HIV/AIDS.
- (d) Featuring in a media campaign on HIV prevention – Titling “Safety Seven”, the Campaign lasted for seven weeks with short radio drama broadcasted also on webpage, together with parallel advertisement in the printed media and the public transport system.

Box 10. Miss Miriam Yeung, the UNAIDS Hong Kong Ambassador at a promotional event on World AIDS Day 2000



Box 11. Miriam's VCD in support of promoting acceptance of people living with HIV/AIDS



Box 12. Activities of UNAIDS Hong Kong Ambassador, 1999 - 2001

DATE	EVENT
1 Dec 1999	World AIDS Campaign "I Care" Party for youth
26 Feb 2000	"Youth Action on AIDS" Funding Scheme Prize Presentation Ceremony cum Exhibition
20 May 2000	"Let us share, show our concern" Red Ribbon Centre Third Anniversary Publicity Function and Open Day
5 Oct 2000	Gathering with people living with HIV/AIDS
1 Dec 2000	World AIDS Campaign "Positive Response" Day with the distribution of VCD of a song "Positive Response"
26 Feb to 9 Apr 2001	Radio show "Safety Seven"
26 May 2001	"Building a Harmonious Community" Red Ribbon Centre Fourth Anniversary Publicity Function and Drawing Contest
1 Dec 2001	World AIDS Day "I care do you" campaign (scheduled)

IV.D Technical resource networking

Red Ribbon Centre operates a resource centre rich in its production and collection of education materials in Chinese (and English). These include posters, leaflets, comic books and other education items developed by the SPP HIV Prevention and health promotion Team. The Centre also functions as the publisher of SPP's other programmes on clinical services, policy development and surveillance as well as research. Policy guidance, technical guidelines, medical and nursing manuals are therefore the other category of resource materials produced through Red Ribbon Centre.

As the "international arm" of Red Ribbon Centre, UCT has been communicating actively with agencies around the world to support activities in other countries through our distribution of resource materials for reference purposes. All the newly produced items are regularly distributed to all provinces in the Mainland through the UNAIDS China Office in Beijing. The number of sets of items (including leaflets, posters, videos, periodicals) amount to about 200 per month.

Beginning March 1999, a periodical "The Node" has been published regularly to update on the activities of the UCT



programme. Nine issues would have been published by the end of the three-year period. (Box 13)

IV.E Research studies

In collaboration with the University of Hong Kong, UCT has engaged in a continuous study to better understand the HIV epidemiology in the Pearl River Delta Region. Two workshops (First and Second Workshop on HIV Surveillance and Epidemiology in the Pearl River Delta Region) were held, in December 1998 and June 2000, with the participation of public health experts from 12 cities in the region. These activities have helped to consolidate the network of health professionals in HIV and behavioural surveillance. Two proceedings have also been published to record the events and to disseminate the conclusions in these fora. (Box 14)

Box 14. The second Pearl River Delta Workshop in June 2000



V. Accomplishments and Constraints

V.A What has the Collaborating Centre accomplished?

In the first three years of operation as a collaborating centre, UCT has gradually gained the **recognition** in Hong Kong and the Mainland as a reference point on HIV prevention and care. This was achieved through the active, continued and systematic exchanges between the Centre and the region. The exchange here refers to that of activities as well as information. (Box 15)

The consolidation of a **technical network** in the Mainland and Hong Kong is the foundation of the recognition. Over the years, there were the regular distribution of reference education materials to all corners of the country, communication through publications and internet, and the participation of Centre staff in international meetings. The Virtual AIDS Office (www.aids.gov.hk) is the internet link between the AIDS programme in Hong Kong and other parts of the world. The initiative is developed and maintained by Red Ribbon Centre and used by UCT as a tool for networking.

Over the years, UCT has become a **training centre** for building capacity of people working on HIV/AIDS. This came as a natural extension of the profile of SPP in its development of training for health and social service professionals in Hong Kong. Notably, the organisation of tailored workshops and the regular visits of fellows to Red Ribbon Centre are both regularized programmes for people from the Mainland. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the support of UNAIDS China Office.

Box 15. Dr Emile Fox (left) of UNAIDS China, presented a plaque to Dr SS Lee (second from left) of the Collaborating Centre in the presence of Dr Margaret Chan, Director of Health, and Dr Homer Tso chairman of the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS on 24 August 2001.



V.B The Constraints

UCT has encountered difficulties in its pursuance of the goals enshrined in the terms of collaboration. **First** of all, the specific capacity needs in the HIV/AIDS programmes differ between Hong Kong and the Mainland. Some examples of these discrepancies are: methadone maintenance is an established programme in Hong Kong, while it is still a theory across the border; injection drug use is a main factor behind HIV spread in Mainland China but not in Kong Kong; there is active participation of bilateral and multilateral agents in the Mainland but not in Hong Kong..... In designing UCT programmes, effective strategies are needed to incorporate Hong Kong' s strength in the region' s support service. **Secondly**, the critical mass of expertise that has been involved in the UCT programmes is small. The expansion of Hong Kong' s response to HIV/AIDS is crucial. This expansion refers to the community, the health sector as well as the academia. There is therefore the dilemma that Hong Kong' s HIV response cannot be expanded without taking into consideration the Mainland and regional factor, while regional activities can hardly be undertaken without an expanded response in Hong Kong.

VI. Developing Strategies for the Next Phase

The first three years' operation of Red Ribbon Centre as an UCT is itself an experiment in exploring means of collaboration between SPP in Hong Kong,

our neighbouring cities and UNAIDS. The simplest conclusion that can be drawn is that the system has worked, though there are gaps alongside achievement. The following factors are considered in designing the next phase - the changing HIV epidemiology, identification of needs in national AIDS programmes, potential and capacity of Red Ribbon Centre.

VI.A Changing HIV epidemiology

Globally HIV infection has continued to spread relentlessly, through unprotected sex, needle-sharing in injection drug users, and from infected mothers to their babies. The relative importance of each of these risk factors varies widely from place to place. In Hong Kong, sexual transmission dominates; across the order in Mainland China, however, injection drug use and the use of contaminated blood are the common factors underlying HIV spread. In terms of prevalence, the challenge for Hong Kong is to maintain HIV at low level. In the neighbouring countries where the epidemic is fueled by drug injection and/or sex trade, the emphasis is on the prevention of future spread. Finally treatment advances have somewhat minimised mother-to-child HIV spread. This has achieved a varied degree of success in Asia.

In conceptualizing the strategy for the next phase of development of the UCT, there is the need to have two dimensions for its programmes – a global dimension on general issues relating to HIV spread, and a more regional dimension touching upon specific problems, for example, promotion of harm reduction to prevent future spread of HIV in injection drug users in Mainland China.

VI.B Identification of needs in national programmes

While there is the common goal of curbing HIV spread in all countries, the actual programme is shaped by the local policy. In generic terms, the common needs of all countries are (a) advocacy for effective interventions, (b) capacity building of technical people involved in HIV prevention and care, and (c) resource.

VI.C Potential and capacity of Red Ribbon Centre

UCT is operated as a special programme of the Red Ribbon Centre. Naturally, the best programmes would be those that Red Ribbon Centre is most competent in undertaking. Training activities, resource networking and identification of best practices are the strengths of the Centre. The potential of the Centre could be maximised by tapping on the technical resources existent in Hong Kong and the region. The corollary is that the UCT should be more focused in the development of training activities. This would meet the needs of region as a result of changes of regional epidemiology.

VII. Plan for 2002 to 2004

In planning for the coming three years, it is proposed to firstly, consolidate

current activities; and secondly, pursue new initiatives.

VII.A Consolidation of current activities

Workshops and fellowship are now the established means of **capacity-building** under the UCT programme. In consolidating these activities, it is necessary to embark on the continued development of expertise by the Department of Health's Special Preventive Programmes, covering not only public health arena but also clinical medicine and programme management. This would, if successful, ensure the sustainability of technical programmes in the region. It is currently estimated that between two to four workshops would need to be organized per year for Mainland professionals and programme managers. There is also a high demand for fellowship placement. In the last three years, only nine applicants could be accepted to undertake the fellowship in Hong Kong. The growth of the core expertise team in Red Ribbon Centre is a pre-requisite for sustaining and possibly expanding the programme.

Technical resource networking is the programme area that has been steadily maturing over the years. Resource would be identified to assure that such networking can continue to grow. As in the previous years, such networking would be most meaningful for all corners of the country, as Red Ribbon Centre is currently one of the largest producers of Chinese language HIV education materials. On the other hand, **research** has been relatively slow in progress. Regional research is almost impossible without first laying the necessary foundation and infrastructure, and before that, the sharing of knowledge and experiences among researchers. The assessment of the HIV situation in the Pearl River Delta Region will continue to be the experiment for the coming years.

Participation in **UNAIDS activities** would remain a priority in the work of the Collaborating Centre. The appointment of Singer Miriam Yeung has strengthened the advocacy role of the Centre and has contributed to arousing awareness of young people towards HIV/AIDS. Miriam Yeung's popularity beyond Hong Kong would contribute to an expanded response in the region. It is proposed to invite her to serve as the ambassador for another two years upon expiry of her current term of office.

Understandably, one useful means of building capacity is to promulgate **best practices**. The strengths of Hong Kong's HIV/AIDS programme are (a) the integration of existing health and social services, and (b) innovation, especially in communication and information dissemination. Some of these shall be written up as best practices for the reference of national programmes in the region and around the world.

VII.B New initiatives

It is proposed that Red Ribbon Centre shall be focusing on the **building of capacity** in its development of programmes as a UNAIDS collaborating centre for the next three years. The new focus is in line with the terms of

collaboration drawn up three years ago. The following crystallizes the plans to realize the new focus:

Development of formal training– Structured courses would be designed to meet the needs of professionals in the region. The objective is to systematise training activities on HIV prevention and care. The technical experiences of Special Preventive Programmes in the last fifteen years shall enable Red Ribbon Centre to develop training modules relevant to Hong Kong and the neighbouring cities. In the design of these courses, the following strategies are proposed:

- (a) observance of the prevention and care continuum, a model that has been adopted for a long time in Hong Kong
- (b) integration with related disciplines and specialties in clinical science and public health, for example, infection control, clinical infectious diseases.
- (c) Collaboration with other expertise agencies in Hong Kong and the region, including clinical services, universities and community-based organizations

Expansion of the UCT– Both physical and scope expansions are contemplated. Physical expansion (space and facilities) of Red Ribbon Centre is needed to improve the delivery of capacity building functions under the UCT programmes. On the other hand, expansion here also refers to that of the scope of training. While Red Ribbon Centre focuses on HIV prevention and health promotion, the UCT programme could incorporate also the Integrated Treatment Centre (ITC) run by Special Preventive Programmes in its development of training initiatives. ITC is a clinical unit that integrates HIV care, STD training, infection control practice and research.

VIII. Acknowledgement

The setting up of the UCT programme has been an exciting learning experience for professional staff of the Special Preventive Programmes. The HIV Prevention and Health promotion Team acknowledges the support of the directorates of the Department of Health, Red Ribbon Centre Management Advisory Committee, Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS and UNAIDS China Office.

Annex A: Terms of Collaboration



UNAIDS

UNICEF • UNDP • UNFPA

UNESCO • WHO • WORLD BANK

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

TERMS OF COLLABORATION

UNAIDS COLLABORATING CENTRE

The Red Ribbon Centre in Hong Kong and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) hereby agree to enter into collaboration as described by the following Terms of Collaboration.

Under these Terms of Collaboration, the Red Ribbon Centre in Hong Kong agrees to:

- (1) act as a UNAIDS Collaborating Centre for a fixed period of three years beginning from the date of signature by both parties below.
- (2) appoint a Director/Focal Point for the UNAIDS Collaborating Centre who will ensure implementation of the Terms of Collaboration and will act as the interlocutor for all activities and issues concerning collaboration with UNAIDS, its partners, and other actors addressing themselves to the UNAIDS Collaborating Centre.
- (3) within the areas of its expertise and as appropriate, collaborate in the following fields :
 - (a) strategic planning for HIV prevention and care
 - (b) technical resource networking for promoting and enhancing community responses
 - (c) scientific inquiry into socio-behavioural determinants and epidemiological data for the improved understanding of HIV epidemics
- (4) support the goals and activities of UNAIDS by engaging in the following activities:
 - (a) strengthen capacities for an expanded response to HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong and in the region, by facilitating conduction of consultancies, reference services, training, planning, evaluation, exchanges and other support, as needed
 - (b) identify, develop, adapt and disseminate best practices in line with strategies formulated by UNAIDS.
 - (b) participate in UNAIDS-sponsored meetings, assist in their organisation, and engage in other advocacy-related activities towards the common goal of HIV/AIDS prevention and care

- (d) provide technical support, coordinate and participate in technical resource networks established by UNAIDS, and in close collaboration with other institutions involved in the response in the region
 - (e) promote, support and implement relevant studies and disseminate and apply results of such studies in collaborative research projects with UNAIDS.
- (5) provide a brief Annual Report describing and evaluating the activities implemented in collaboration with UNAIDS.
- (6) adhere to the "Rules and Regulations of UNAIDS Collaborating Centres".

Within the framework of the above listed terms of collaboration, UNAIDS agrees to designate the Red Ribbon Centre in Hong Kong as a UNAIDS Collaborating Centre and to work with the Red Ribbon Centre as outlined in the "Rules and Regulations of UNAIDS Collaborating Centres".

Signed :

Date : 28/12/98

Date : 26/11/98

For the Red Ribbon Centre:



Dr Margaret Chan
Director of Health
Hong Kong

For UNAIDS:



Dr Awa Coll-Seck
Director PSR
UNAIDS Geneva

Annex B: Organization of Red Ribbon Centre UNAIDS Collaborating Centre for Technical Support

