# Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony: notes of the meeting on 20 July 2005

Annex

## **Hong Kong Christian Service**

# **Project Connection**

~ after-school support for ethnic minority children & their parents

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## Background Information of the Project

- The project has been launched since Nov, 2004.
- Tutorial classes have been held for non-Chinese speaking students who are studying mainly in CMI schools.
- Weekend programs have been designed for both students and parents.
- School supportive service has been provided for teachers.
- Hotline service has been launched.
- Quantitative feedback from students and parents were collected quarterly.

- 12 classes have been conducted in five districts, Tsimshatsui (4), Shamshuipo (2), Kwun Tong (1), Tuen Mun (2), Yuen Long (3).
- 113 students had been served and now there are 91 students remaining in the classes.
- 43 students come from CMI and 48 come from EMI.
- 89% of parents feel satisfied with the logistics arrangement of tutorial classes.
- 93% of parents agree that the tutors are helpful to their kids and can facilitate them in learning Chinese.

- 94% of students agree that the tutorial classes are very helpful to them in learning Chinese.
- 95% of students like attending the tutorial classes.
- 83% of parents feel stronger social support after their children joining the Project.
- 93% of teachers find that the training workshop can help them to understand more about the culture of ethnic minorities.
- 86% of teachers agree that the training can enhance their skills in relating with parents.

## 2. Aims of the focus group

- Collecting the feedback from both parents and tutors in order to supplement the quantitative findings.
- Explore the service needs of NCS and their families.
- Examine the Chinese learning situation of non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students.

#### 3. Data Collection

## 3.1 Parents (45)

- Overall understanding on the project objectives.
- Evaluation on projective objectives.
- Evaluation on staff performance.
- Perception and planning on social integration.

## 3.2 Tutors (6)

- Expectation and attitude toward the service user.
- Problems and difficulties.

## 3.3 Students (61)

 Chinese learning situation through different tests – comprehension, card matching and word pronunciation.

### 4. Results

#### 4.1 Parents

- They agree that the Project can help their kids to learn Chinese.
- Academic and social performance in Chinese has been improved.
- Help them to release tension in teaching their kids' Chinese homework.
- Satisfied with our staff performance and frequently contact with our staff.
- Their kids can integrate into Hong Kong society easily if Chinese is good.

#### 4.2 Tutors

- Most of the NCS are weak in Chinese writing and reading.
- The speaking ability is relatively good.
- Most of the NCS have a strong motivation to learn Chinese.
- Classroom discipline is tutors' concern.
- More understanding towards ethnic minorities after teaching the NCS.

#### 4.3 Students

- Most of the NCS have a gradual progress in Chinese language ability.
- Performance of female NCS is better.
- "Quality of stay in HK" has a significant relationship with the performance of Chinese learning ability.
- Performance of students in CMI schools is better.
- Worksheet, theme study and activity study are attractive to students.

#### 5. Recommendation

- Promote an idea to the parents –
   "studying in CMI school is a good way to upgrade their kids' Chinese language ability and strengthen their capacity to integrate into Hong Kong society in the future".
- Parents should send their kids to local nurseries or kindergartens at their preschool stage in order to give them more opportunities to expose to Chinese learning environment.

- The school and after-school support service should design tailor-made curriculum and teaching method for enhancing the kids' interest and motivation of learning Chinese.
- In-service training to teachers to understand the culture of ethnic minorities.
- Employ South Asian teaching assistant to liaise with parents.

- Provide more information about HK education system to parents.
- Use a holistic approach to provide services for ethnic minority.
- More manpower to run the services for them.
- The program should extend to NCS in EMI schools because they also encounter the same problems in learning Chinese.

