

**Report of the
Advisory Committee on the
Promotion of the Fighting Spirit against SARS**

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I. Summary of Recommendations

1.1 The Advisory Committee recommended that the following values manifested in the fight against SARS should be the focus of the commemorative and promotional activities in future –

(a) *at personal level*

- professionalism / respect for the job;
- zest for life;
- a high sense of civic responsibility;

(b) *at interpersonal level*

- appreciation;
- care and compassion;
- respect and support;

(c) *at community level*

- co-operation;
- unity and solidarity;
- harmony.

1.2 The **last Sunday in June** every year should be set as a day for territory-wide activities to promote the values manifested in the crisis.

1.3 Given the number of records on remarkable events in the community during the fight against SARS already available, there is **no need to produce further records** on the subject.

1.4 Government should explore possible forms of co-operation with the Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences Society through LCSD to **hold a SARS exhibition** at the Museum of Medical Sciences.

- 1.5 Government should **identify a suitable venue for setting up a memorial site** commemorating and promoting the values manifested in the SARS crisis.
- 1.6 Consideration could be given to **name new hospital or related facilities in the public sector** after those who have made significant contributions in the crisis. This is to promote the positive values reflected through their deeds.
- 1.7 There is **no need to set up a new scholarship or trust fund** in view of the resources and efforts already made.
- 1.8 **People who have made outstanding contributions in the fight against SARS should be publicly recognized with awards and commendations.** The Advisory Committee noted the posthumous awards to the frontline practitioners. The Government and the Hospital Authority have also presented plaques and pins to different organizations and units that have helped contain the spread of the epidemic to commend their contributions in combating SARS. Awards to other individuals who have made outstanding contributions would be made under the existing mechanism.
- 1.9 Implementation of the commemorative activities could be **phased and prioritized on the basis of the level of significance, degree of complexity and cost** to be incurred as appropriate.

II. Background

2.1 Following the announcement by the Chief Executive, the Advisory Committee on the Promotion of the Fighting Spirit against SARS (“Advisory Committee”) was set up on 11 June 2003 to gather opinion from all sectors of the community with a view to finding a permanent way to commemorate the spirit of Hong Kong demonstrated in the fight against SARS.

2.2 Membership and terms of reference of the Advisory Committee are set out at Appendix 1.

App. 1

III. The Public Consultation

3.1 The Advisory Committee staged a public consultation in the period 18 June to 10 July 2003. The public was consulted on three issues –

- (a) what sort of values and spirit have been demonstrated in the SARS crisis?
- (b) what are the appropriate ways and means to commemorate and promote such values and spirit?
- (c) when will be the appropriate time to commemorate and promote this spirit?

App. 2

3.2 The public consultation paper on the subject was released on 18 June 2003, a copy of which is at Appendix 2. The paper synthesizes initial views on the above issues put forward by Members at the first meeting of the Advisory Committee on 12 June 2003. At the meeting, the Advisory Committee identified the following values and spirit manifested in the fight against SARS –

- (a) professionalism;
- (b) co-operation and solidarity;
- (c) consciousness of public hygiene;
- (d) sensibility of a civil society; and
- (e) information transparency.

3.3 As for the appropriate ways and means to commemorate and promote such values and spirit, the Advisory Committee suggested that this could be in one of the following formats or a combination of them –

- (a) memorial day;
- (b) monument or other memorial features;
- (c) recording of the SARS saga;

- (d) naming;
- (e) scholarship or trust; and
- (f) commendations and honours.

App. 3

3.4 The public were invited to send in their views through post, fax, or e-mail. To trawl for more views, three public consultation sessions were separately held in Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories on 24, 26 and 27 June 2003 respectively. A questionnaire on the subject (copy at Appendix 3) was also posted on the Internet and distributed in the consultation sessions to survey public opinion in a systematic way.

IV. Feedback

App. 4
to 6

4.1 Appendices 4 to 6 summarize the views collected, including those in forms of written submissions, returned questionnaires and comments voiced at the consultation sessions. In brief, the following views have been expressed –

(a) Written Submissions

A total of 25 submissions were received from individuals and organizations. The respondents generally agreed with the values and spirit manifested in the fight against SARS as set out in the consultation paper, in particular, “professionalism and selflessness of healthcare workers”, “solidarity of Hong Kong people” and “information transparency”.

The majority of respondents were in favour of “recording the events of the SARS saga”, “awarding commendations and honours to those who have made outstanding contribution in the fight against SARS” and “setting a day or month as the Memorial Day or month”.

(b) Questionnaire

The public completed and returned 386 questionnaires. The majority considered “professionalism and selflessness of health care workers” (78.5%) as the most outstanding quality displayed by the Hong Kong community in the fight against SARS, followed by “solidarity of Hong Kong people” (10.9%).

The preferred way to commemorate and promote such values is “setting up scholarships and trust funds” (26.4%), followed by “setting aside a day as Memorial Day” (26.2%), “naming” (14.5%) and “awarding commendations and honours” (14.5%).

Around half of the respondents preferred to keep “the day Hong Kong was removed from the list of infected areas” (49.7%) as the Memorial Day. Most (73.6%) considered that “territory-wide Cleansing Day” the most appropriate form of commemorative activity to be held regularly. As for naming, more than half of the respondents considered “hospital” as the most appropriate option.

(c) Public Consultation Sessions

Around 150 members of the public attended the three sessions. Attendees, in general, shared the Advisory Committee’s view that “professionalism” and “solidarity of Hong Kong people” were manifested in the SARS crisis. They also endorsed the ways to commemorate and promote such values and spirit as suggested in the consultation paper, in particular, through naming, memorial day, memorial activities, as well as a monument and other memorial feature.

V. Recommendations

5.1 In the light of the views collected in the public consultation and the latest situation, the Advisory Committee presented for the Chief Executive's consideration the recommendation set out in the following paragraphs.

A. Values to be Commemorated and Promoted

5.2 The Advisory Committee noted that the Hong Kong community had, in the fight against SARS, manifested a number of impressive values that are worthwhile to be commemorated and promoted. The more outstanding ones are -

(a) *at personal level*

- professionalism / respect for the job;
- zest for life;
- a high sense of civic responsibility;

(b) *at interpersonal level*

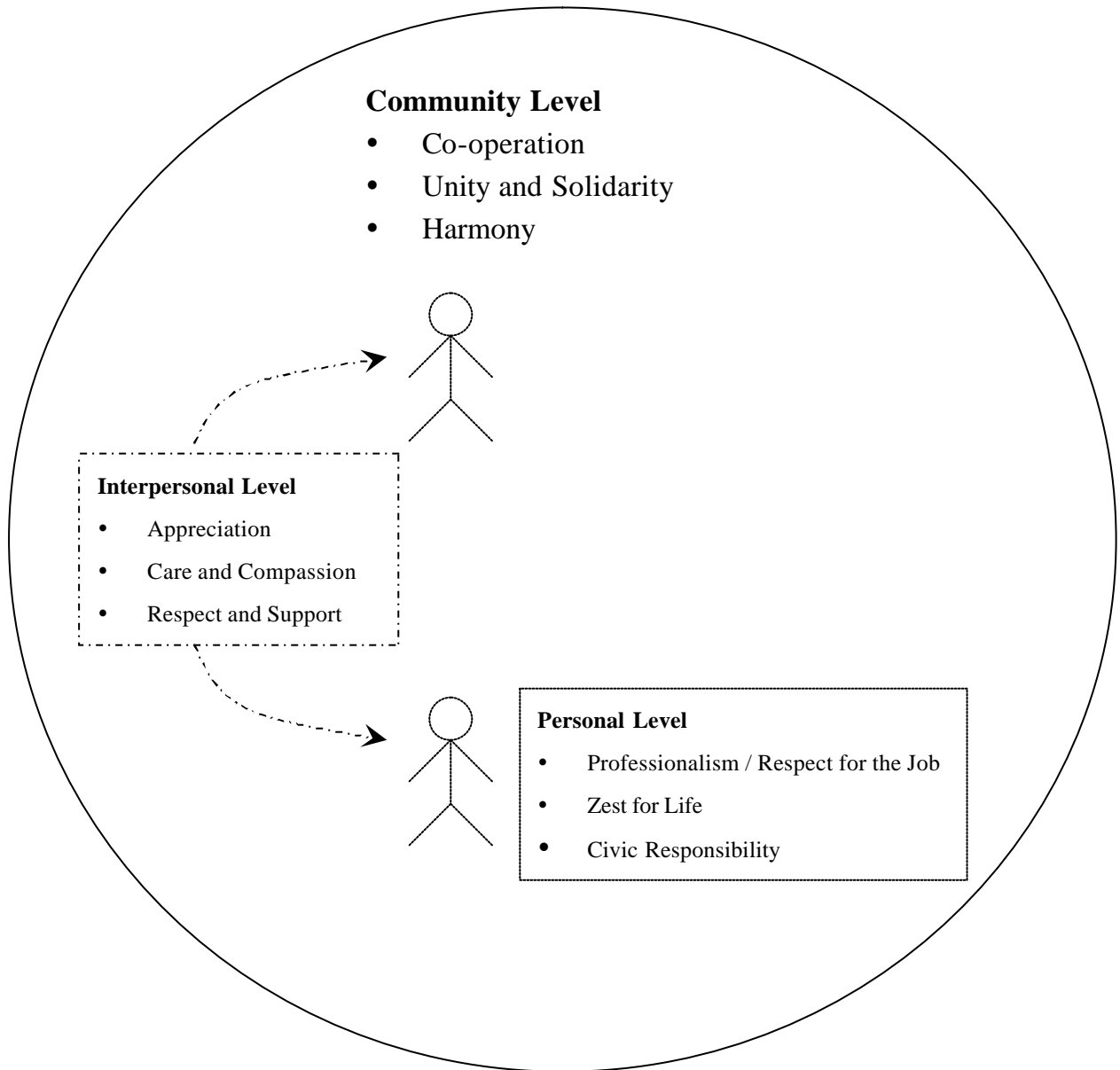
- appreciation;
- care and compassion;
- respect and support;

(c) *at community level*

- co-operation; and
- unity and solidarity;
- harmony.

Such values should not be allowed to subside. They should retain prominence through educational programmes and announcement of public interests ("APIs"). They should also be a factor in the formulation and implementation of different government policies where appropriate.

Values Manifested in the SARS Crisis



B. Forms of Commemoration

5.3 The Advisory Committee would like to emphasize that we should not dwell on the memory of the SARS experience *per se*. Any commemorative activity should aim at perpetuating the values and spirit displayed in the crisis. Such activities should also serve as vehicles of civic education. The following paragraphs set out the specific recommendations of the Advisory Committee.

(a) Memorial Day

5.4 The preference is clearly for 23 June -- the day when the World Health Organization removed Hong Kong from the list of SARS-affected areas -- be made a Memorial Day. However, we consider that it is more appropriate to designate a Sunday so that territory-wide activities could be staged without the need of adding another public holiday to our calendar with all the ensuing implications, including the economic considerations. For this purpose we would suggest the *last Sunday of June*.

5.5 It should be a day of looking forward, a day to promote the values identified. Territory-wide activities could be organized on that day. For example, cleansing activities with active involvement of our young people to raise the sense of civic responsibility ---- the need to maintain a high level of public hygiene for the good of the community.

(b) Records

(i) *Publications, Audio-visual Productions and Works of Art*

5.6 In the outbreak of SARS, positive values and spirit prevailed over Hong Kong, including the expression of appreciation and approval. We witnessed many touching stories and heroic deeds, reflecting the values and spirit that our community treasures. A wide range

of records in the forms of books, television documentary and works of art have been created and produced by different sectors of the community, including publishers, the media, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and individual artists. These records would serve to perpetuate the community's collective memory.

5.7 The Advisory Committee applauds the efforts made and considers that there is no need to produce further records on the subject.

(ii) Memorial Features

5.8 The Advisory Committee noted that there was some support for a monument or other memorial features. There was also specific objection to the set up of a memorial feature, reason being a waste of people's efforts and money. In this connection, the Advisory Committee has received from the Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences Society a proposal of a permanent SARS exhibition at the Museum of Medical Sciences and Caine Lane Garden. The Society also suggested that a memorial could be displayed in the Caine Lane Garden.

5.9 The Advisory Committee supports the idea of a SARS exhibition in principle. We recommend that the Government should *explore possible forms of co-operation with the Society* through the Leisure and Culture and Services Department, which also runs and manages museums. The records to be displayed in the Museum of Medical Sciences could be more from the medical perspective, with special tribute to the professionalism and the selflessness of our health care workers and highlighting the research achievements of our medical professionals.

5.10 The Advisory Committee noted that the Caine Lane Garden serves as a neighbourhood park with a children's playground in it. It is not a suitable site for a memorial related to the SARS crisis. Instead, the Advisory Committee suggests that the Government should *identify a suitable venue for setting up a memorial site*

commemorating and promoting the values manifested in the SARS crisis.

(c) Naming

5.11 The Advisory Committee does not favour any form of activity that is conceivably a form of idolization. However, the Advisory Committee noted that the healthcare workers who sacrificed their lives in the course of duty and persons who have made significant contributions in the fight against SARS are positive role-models for the young people in particular.

5.12 As hospital is high on the preference list for naming, we suggest that consideration be given to name *new hospital or related facilities* in the public sector after those who have made significant contributions in the crisis.

(d) Scholarships and Trust Funds

5.13 The Advisory Committee noted that the public are in favour of setting up scholarships and trust funds. The Advisory Committee also noted that various funds, amongst others, for SARS-related research and for training of healthcare workers have already been established. In view of the resources and efforts already made, we consider that there is *no need to set up a new scholarship or trust fund*.

(e) Commendations and Honours

5.14 Given the clear wish expressed by respondents, we recommend that the *people who have made outstanding contributions in the fight against SARS be publicly recognized with awards and commendations*.

(a) Recognition of Individuals

(i) Posthumous Awards to Frontline Practitioners

We noted that the six frontline healthcare staff have already been posthumously awarded the Bravery Awards for their exemplary bravery and selfless commitment displayed during the SARS epidemic.

(ii) Awards to Other Individuals

We recommend that commendations and awards should be presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions in the fight against SARS, so that their praiseworthy service, professionalism and humanitarian concern could be publicly recognised. This could be followed up under the existing mechanisms for honours and awards.

(b) Recognition of Organisations, etc.

The crisis was overcome through the teamwork of staff of different backgrounds and disciplines in various organizations or smaller units therein, including hospitals, schools, non-government organizations, universities, government departments to public health and hygiene and district administration, as well as SARS-related fund raisers. They have helped relieve the frustration and anxiety induced by the SARS crisis, and also helped contain the spread of the epidemic. Such groups and hospitals should be publicly commended.

In this regard, the Advisory Committee noted that –

- (i) the Health, Welfare and Food Bureau has earlier presented a commendation plaque to public hospitals and government departments which had contributed in

the fight against SARS; and

- (ii) the Hospital Authority has distributed a lapel pin (“Star of Life”) to its healthcare workers to commend their service and efforts in the crisis.

C. Implementation Timetable

5.15 The Advisory Committee noted the divergent views on the timing to commemorate the values and spirit manifested in the SARS crisis. The Advisory Committee considers that implementation of the commemorative activities could be *phased and prioritized* on the basis of the level of significance, degree of complexity and cost incurred as appropriate. For example, the Hospital Authority could perform the naming ceremony whenever a new and suitable hospital or facility is completed.

Way Forward

5.16 The Advisory Committee noted that the Chief Executive has accepted the recommendations as set out above. The Advisory Committee has fulfilled its task, and hands over the follow up work to the Administration.

*Advisory Committee on the
Promotion of the Fighting Spirit against SARS
May 2004*

**Advisory Committee on the
Promotion of the Fighting Spirit against SARS**

弘揚抗疫精神諮詢委員會

Membership List

Chairman

Dr. Patrick HO, JP (何志平局長
Secretary for Home Affairs 民政事務局)

Members

Dr. CHAN Choi-lai (陳載澧博士)
Dr. CHAN Man-hung (陳萬雄博士)
Mr. Leslie CHEN (陳弘志先生)
The Hon JAO Tsung-I, GBM (饒宗頤教授)
Prof. KING Yeo-chi, Ambrose, SBS, JP (金耀基教授)
Mr. LEUNG Chung-wan, Eric, MH (梁中昀先生)
The Hon LEUNG Chun-ying, GBS, JP (梁振英議員)
Dr. the Hon LO Wing-lok (勞永樂議員)
The Hon MA Fung-kwok, JP (馬逢國議員)
Ms SO Chiu-kuen, Cecilia (蘇肖娟女士)
Miss TONG Kei-yuk, Judy (湯棋涓女士)
Mr. TSANG Kee-kung (曾其鞏先生)
Dr. Rosanna WONG, DBE, JP (王 鳴博士)
Mr. Raymond Roy WONG, SBS (黃應士先生)
Dr. Raymond WU, GBS, JP (鄔維庸醫生)

Terms of Reference

- To identify the community's spirit and values made explicit in the fight against SARS;
- Record these spirit and values, so that they may be kept for generations to come;
- Study the form of memorials or activities to commemorate the event, so these values will be perpetuated;
- Through consultation, allow representatives from all walks of life to express their opinions, to overcome the anxiety, resume confidence and strengthen the community link.

Consultation Paper

Advisory Committee on the Promotion of the Fighting Spirit against SARS

1. Introduction

1.1 The outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) early this year has taken away from many people their beloved ones, affected our daily life and caused considerable economic damages. Nevertheless, during the fight against SARS, citizens of Hong Kong demonstrated excellent civic qualities and humanitarian concerns. Staff in our health care system showed their devotion and professionalism; community groups initiated donation and care campaigns for hospital workers, victims' families and other needy people; all members of society worked together to upgrade the standard of public hygiene. These civic qualities helped relieve the frustration and anxiety induced by the SARS crisis, and also helped contain the spread of the epidemic. The Chinese proverb is probably right to say that "One's true feelings will be shown in times of hardship". Hong Kong people are perhaps too well-known for their individualism and entrepreneurism that we tend to forget their communitarian and humanitarian side, which is amply manifested in hard times. Valuable things should not slip into oblivion. We deem it necessary to keep a record of things in the past months and promote the spirit behind the fight against SARS.

1.2 The Chief Executive announced on 28 May 2003 the setting up of an advisory committee to gather opinion from all sectors of the community with a view to finding a permanent way to commemorate the spirit of Hong Kong demonstrated in the SARS crisis.

1.3 The first meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Promotion of the Fighting Spirit against SARS was held on 12 June 2003. The committee is chaired by the Secretary for Home Affairs, membership and terms of references of the committee are at the **Annex**.

1.4 Members of the Committee are of the view that every citizen was involved in the fight against SARS. All have their stories to tell. Commemorative activities should fulfill the common wish and reflect the collective memory. Through public consultation, the Committee would secure the consent and support of citizens from all walks of life.

2. Matters to be Consulted

2.1 Views will be gathered on:

- (a) What sort of Hong Kong spirit has been demonstrated in the SARS crisis?
- (b) What are the appropriate ways to commemorate the spirit of Hong Kong?
- (c) When will be the appropriate time to commemorate this spirit?

3. The Fighting Sprit Against SARS

3.1 Members suggested the followings:

a. Professionalism

We have an excellent and devoted team of medical professionals who have not withdrawn from their posts despite all risks and dangers. The researchers in the medical faculties of the two local universities upheld the scientific principles and worked ceaselessly on the pathology of this new disease and the effective cures. Responding to the call of the profession, many doctors and health assistants volunteered to enter the SARS wards and as at 13 June 2003, eight sacrificed their lives. They lost their lives for the medical profession and for humanity.

b. Solidarity for Humanitarianism

Disregarding status and standing, all citizens were affected by the epidemic. Though they might hold different views on the effectiveness of the preventive measures, all shared the common goal and worked with concerted efforts and in good sense. Our community network contributed tremendously to give moral support to our medical staff and offer help to the victims' families and the needy. The professionals, the commercial sector, NGOs as well as the media all did their best and gave what they could give. Relations among the family, the neighbourhood, colleagues and friends were never so close and comforting. Information were shared and things exchanged. We were facing a disaster, but we were not alone.

Most impressively, Hong Kong people treated others with love

and showed solidarity in the crisis. For those who suffered from SARS and those who were rehabilitating, our citizens did not isolate them but gave them extra support morally and materially, so that they could return to normal life quickly. A foreign ship sailing past Hong Kong with suspected SARS cases was accepted by the Government according to international standards and on humanitarian grounds.

c) Consciousness for Public Hygiene

The public's consciousness for public hygiene was raised during the crisis. Apart from personal hygiene, the cleanliness of the neighbourhood and the environment also improved. Citizens began to realize that a clean household required the complement of a clean community. When one was keeping oneself clean, one was also offering protection for the others. Bad habits such as littering and stacking cast-offs received more public censure and would be more likely than ever to be corrected.

d) Rationality in a Civilized Society

The rationality shown by the Hong Kong citizens should indeed be commended. All stayed in their posts and business run as usual during the crisis. Normal life quickly resumed when the epidemic was contained. Employers and employees of the affected trades were willing to share the burden of poor business together. Citizens trusted the free market of Hong Kong and the government's regulatory system. The epidemic did not drive the prices of daily necessities up. The prices of medical products in short supply such as face-masks quickly resumed normal as we have the best logistics and market mechanism to meet the surge in demand. The havoc in some supermarkets at the beginning of the SARS outbreak caused by rumours lost its thrust, instantly after the government's announcement and assurance. In most of the time during the critical months, the citizens preserved with reason and endurance.

e) High Transparency in Information

Citizens would all agree that the status of Hong Kong as a metropolis depends on the free flow of information and the transparency in public affairs. The media fulfill their duties of a watchdog and conveyed updated information to the public. The government provided statistics on new SARS cases and affected buildings without infringing the privacy of the patients. The information urged residents to take extra caution for prevention. The citizens' right to know was respected. We

all worked with reason and the adverse influence of the SARS outbreak was contained.

Being a member of the international community, we did not hold back any of our information about SARS. The world was alerted of the new epidemic. Our research findings were shared with the rest of the world, cooperation enhanced and medical research accelerated. Our world citizenship stood the test of time.

4. Ways to Promote the Fighting Spirit Against SARS

4.1 In the fight against SARS, a disease which we know so little about, Hong Kong people have demonstrated their good sense, professionalism, care and concern. These unique qualities are essential for revitalising our city. We must treasure these qualities as they have brought about the spiritual awakening of the community at the cost of lives. To survive in adversities, including epidemic diseases, and to sustain the development of our city, we must promote the spirit that Hong Kong demonstrated in the fight against SARS. For the betterment of our society, this prized spirit could be commemorated and maintained by either one or a combination of the followings -

(a) A Memorial Day

We can set aside a day for community activities to commemorate the event. Activities such as a territory-wide cleaning campaign can be held on that day to remind people of the importance of public hygiene.

(b) A Monument or Memorial Building

A monument may be erected to commemorate the SARS victims and the noble spirit shown by members of the public in the fight against SARS.

It is also proposed to construct a building or a park to commemorate the event. In the planning stage, an open competition can be held to encourage various sectors of the community, especially students, to participate.

(c) Records

There have been many touching stories and heroic deeds in the community since the outbreak of SARS. These stories and deeds, which fully manifest the noble and selfless spirit of members of our community, can be recorded in the following

ways :

(i) To record the events for reference by future generations
Books, documentaries, VCDs and works of art can be produced to record the events and let our future generations and people from the rest of the world know of the extraordinary deeds done by ordinary people in the fight against SARS. Other activities such as workshops and essay competitions can also be organised to recount the touching stories of people from all walks of life.

(ii) To set up galleries in museums dedicated to the fight against SARS

It is suggested that a gallery be set up in the Hong Kong Museum of History or the Hong Kong Heritage Museum in recognition of the concerted efforts of the community in the fight against SARS. It is also proposed from the medical perspective that the outbreak of SARS be analysed and illustrated in the Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences, with highlights of the selfless deeds and the research achievements of our medical workers.

(d) Naming

To pay tribute to those medical and health care workers who sacrificed their lives in the course of duty and persons who have made significant contributions to the fight against SARS, we can name hospitals, parks, streets, pavilions or other buildings after them.

(e) Setting up Scholarships and Trust Funds

Scholarships and trust funds can be set up to promote medical research and encourage our younger generations to join the health care profession. They may also be named after those medical and health care workers who sacrificed their lives in the course of duty and persons who have made significant contributions to the fight against SARS.

(f) Commendations and Honours

In the fight against SARS, many people in the frontline health care services, medical research and community services have made significant contributions. Some of them have even sacrificed their lives. Their selflessness, and the care and compassion that they have for others are indeed praiseworthy

and commendable.

There are different ways of awarding commendations and honours. One alternative is to adopt the existing system for commendations and honours which the public is familiar with. This will also help maintain the authority of the existing system. On the other hand, in view of the special nature of the SARS outbreak, we can also introduce a new commendation and award mechanism for the purpose.

5. The Timing of the Commemoration

5.1 Members of the Committee held different views on the timing of the commemoration. As the number of new cases has continued to drop and “zero infection” and “zero death” have been recorded, some considered that it was time to prepare for the commemoration when the public still had a fresh memory of the event, and that commemorative activities could be launched once the disease had been further contained. On the other hand, some members held that it was too early to launch the commemorative activities when the disease had not yet been substantially contained and there was still a risk of another major outbreak.

5.2 To conclude, it is the right time now to start discussing and soliciting views on the issue so that we can be ready for the activities when the time comes. Since certain tasks, such as erecting monuments, constructing pavilions and memorial parks, etc., will take time to complete, different commemorative activities can be held as and when ready.

6. Consultation

6.1 We are well aware that the public will have different views on the issue. Hence, in drawing up our recommendations, we will take into full account the views collected from the public during the consultation period. As our intention is to perpetuate this collective memory for the betterment of our society, it is most important that consensus can be reached on the matter.

6.2 If you have any comments regarding this consultative paper, please forward them to Home Affairs Bureau by any of the following means on or before 10 July 2003 -

By post : Home Affairs Bureau
8th Floor, West Wing
Central Government Offices
11 Ice House Street
Hong Kong

By fax : 2537 6319

Access our website at : www.fight-sars.gov.hk¹

E-mail address : fight-sars@hab.gov.hk

6.3 For enquiries, please contact Home Affairs Bureau at 2810 3115.

Home Affairs Bureau
18 June 2003

¹ Before 22 June 2003, please access the webpage through <http://www.info.gov.hk/hab/fight-sars.htm>

**Advisory Committee on the
Promotion of the Fighting Spirit against SARS**

Membership List

Chairman

Dr. Patrick HO, JP Secretary for Home Affairs

Members

Dr. CHAN Man-hung	The Hon MA Fung-kwok, JP
Dr. CHAN Choi-lai	Ms SO Chiu-kuen, Cecilia
Mr. Leslie CHEN	Miss TONG Kei-yuk, Judy
The Hon JAO Tsung-I, GBM	Mr. TSANG Kee-kung
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Mr. LEUNG Chung-wan, Eric, MH	Mr. Raymond Roy WONG, SBS
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Terms of Reference

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- Through consultation, allow representatives from all walks of life to express their opinions, to overcome anxiety, to resume confidence and to strengthen the community link.

Consultation Session on the Promotion of the Fighting Spirit Against SARS

- Questionnaire Survey -

Please take several minutes to complete this questionnaire and give your views on the promotion of the fighting spirit against SARS. If you have any queries about its contents, please feel free to contact our staff. All information provided in this questionnaire will be kept confidential.

Please drop the completed questionnaire into the collection box at the exit or return it to our staff at the end of the session.

Please tick the appropriate box

(1) Qualities Displayed by the Hong Kong Community in the Fight Against SARS

1. Please rank, in order of priority, the qualities that have been fully displayed by the Hong Kong community in the fight against SARS (i.e. “1” for the most outstanding quality, “2” for the next one, and so on).

	<u>Qualities Displayed</u> <u>(in order of priority)</u>
(a) Professionalism and selflessness of medical and health workers	_____
(b) Solidarity of Hong Kong people	_____
(c) Consciousness for public hygiene	_____
(d) Rationality in a civilised society	_____
(e) High transparency in information	_____

2. Apart from those qualities mentioned above, what other positive values have been shown in the fight against SARS in Hong Kong? (If so, please specify)

(2) Ways to Promote the Fighting Spirit Against SARS

3. Please arrange, in order of priority, the ways of promoting the fighting spirit against SARS. (Mark “1” for the most appropriate one, “2” for the next appropriate one, and so on)

	<u>Appropriateness</u> <u>(in order of priority)</u>
(a) Setting aside a day as Memorial Day	_____
(b) Organising commemorative events regularly	_____
(c) Erecting a monument or memorial building	_____
(d) Recording the events in the fight against SARS	_____
(e) Naming after those medical and health care workers who sacrificed their lives and persons who have made significant contributions to the community	_____
(f) Setting up scholarships and trust funds to promote medical research and encourage the younger generation to join the health care profession	_____
(g) Awarding commendations and honours to members of the health care profession and persons who have made significant contributions to the community	_____

Please give your views on the following ways of commemoration

(a) *Memorial Day*

4. If a day is set aside as Memorial Day, which of the followings do you think is the most appropriate? (Please choose one only)

The first day of SARS outbreak The day the travel advisory against Hong Kong was lifted
The day Hong Kong was removed from the list of infected areas

Others (please specify): _____

(b) *Commemorative Activities*

5. If a commemorative activity is to be held regularly, which of the followings do you think is the most appropriate? (Please choose one only)

Territory-wide Cleansing Day Territory-wide Sports Day
Tree Planting Day Mass Concert
Mass Religious Gathering Seminar/Forum
Exhibition

Others (please specify): _____

6. Regarding the commemorative activity which you consider most appropriate, how often do you think it should be held? (Please choose one only)

Once every six months Once every year Once every two years

Others (please specify): _____

(c) *A Monument or Memorial Building*

7. Which of the followings do you think is the most appropriate if a monument or memorial building is to be constructed? (Please choose one only)

Memorial park/square Commemorative sculpture Monument

Others (please specify): _____

(d) *Records of the Fight Against SARS*

8. Which of the following do you think is the most appropriate to record the fight against SARS? (Please choose one only)

Written records Video recording Works of art

Others (please specify): _____

9. Which of the following museums do you think is the most appropriate for setting up a gallery dedicated to commemorate the fight against SARS? (Please choose one only)

Hong Kong Museum of History Hong Kong Heritage Museum
Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences

Others (please specify): _____

(e) Naming

10. If one of the following is to be named after those medical and health care workers who sacrificed their lives in the course of duty and persons who have made significant contributions to the community in the fight against SARS, which one do you think is the most appropriate ? (Please choose one only)

Hospital
Park

School
Country park

Street
Nature trail

Others (please specify): _____

11. Do you have other suggestions on how to promote the fighting spirit against SARS ? (If so, please specify)

(3) Personal Data

12. Sex :

Male

Female

13. Age :

17 or below
25 – 29
40 – 44
55 – 59

18 – 19
30 – 34
45 – 49
60 – 64

20 – 24
35 – 39
50 – 54
65 and above

14. Education Level :

Primary or below
Junior secondary (Form1 to Form3)
Senior secondary (Form 4 to Form 5)
Matriculation (Form 6 to Form 7)
Tertiary and above

15. Occupation / Economic Status :

Manager and Executive
Clerical worker
Technical or non-technical worker
/ Domestic helper
Retiree

Professional / Associate professional
Service worker or salesperson
Homemaker
Student
Unemployed person / Job seeker

Others (Please specify): _____

– End –

Please check if you have answered all questions before returning this questionnaire. Thank you for your co-operation.
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Public Consultation

Analysis of Written Submissions : a Summary

A total of 25 submissions were received between 12 June and 18 July 2003.

Values and Spirit Manifested

2. On the values and spirit manifested by the Hong Kong community in the fight against SARS, the respondents generally agreed with those listed in the consultation paper. They noted in particular “professionalism and selflessness of healthcare workers”, “solidarity of Hong Kong people” and “information transparency”.

Ways to Commemorate and Promote the Fighting Spirit against SARS

3. The majority of respondents supported the suggestions as set out in the consultation paper on commemorating the fighting spirit against SARS, particularly “Recording the events in the fight against SARS”, “awarding commendations and honours”, “erecting a monument or other memorial features”, “setting up scholarships or trust funds” and “setting aside a day/month as the Memorial Day/Month”.

4. Other proposals put forward mainly included “issuance of commemorative stamps, first day covers and postcards, etc”, “setting up a dedicated exhibition hall/organizing thematic exhibitions”, “publication of books/picture collections to recount the events in the fight against SARS” and “compilation of teaching material based on the events in the fight against SARS”.

Timetable

5. Only a small number of respondents commented on the timing of the commemorative activities and their views were divergent. Some considered that it was now the right time to launch commemorative activities,. However, some held that activities should only be launched when there was no risk of another major outbreak of SARS.

Public Consultation

Findings of the Questionnaire Survey : a Summary

A total of 386 completed questionnaires were received between 19 June and 15 July 2003.

Values and Spirit Manifested

2. Most respondents considered that the most outstanding quality displayed by the Hong Kong community in the fight against SARS was “professionalism and selflessness of health care workers” (78.5%), followed by “solidarity of Hong Kong people” (10.9%) and “information transparency” (9.6%). Some also held the community had manifested the positive value of “Cherishing our lives” (2.5%) in the fight against SARS.

Ways to Commemorate and Promote the Fighting Spirit against SARS

3. “Setting up scholarships and trust funds” (26.4%) comes first as the most appropriate way to commemorate and promote the fighting spirit against SARS, followed by “setting aside a day as Memorial Day” (26.2%), “naming” (14.5%), “awarding commendations and honours” (14.5%) and “recording the events in the fight against SARS” (13.2%). Some respondents also proposed “compilation of civic education materials for primary and secondary schools based on the events in the fight against SARS” (5.4%).

4. Specific views on the forms of commemoration include –

(a) Memorial Day

“The day Hong Kong was removed from the list of infected areas” (49.7%) comes first as the most appropriate day to commemorate the SARS crisis, followed by “the first day of SARS outbreak” (30.1%).

(b) Commemorative Activities

“Territory-wide cleansing day” (73.6%) is the most popular choice. Most of the respondents who held this view (80.3%) considered that this activity should be held once a year.

(c) A Monument or Other Memorial Features

Most selected “a memorial park/square” (48.2%), followed by “monument” (23.6%) and “commemorative sculpture” (16.6%).

(d) Records of the Fight against SARS

“Video recording” (50.0%) comes first as the most appropriate means to record the fight against SARS, followed by “written records” (28.5%) and “works of art” (16.3%).

Most chose the “Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences” (54.9%) as the most appropriate location for setting up a gallery dedicated to commemorate the fight against SARS, with “Hong Kong Museum of History” (38.1%) being the next.

(e) Naming

Most chose “hospital” (52.1%), followed by “park” (15.0%) and “nature trail” (14.5%).

Public Consultation

Summary of Views collected in the Consultation Sessions

Three consultation sessions were held on 24, 26 and 27 June 2003 in Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories respectively. Around 150 members of the public attended these sessions.

Values and Spirit Manifested

2. Regarding the values and spirit displayed by the Hong Kong community in the fight against SARS, participants generally agreed with those set out in the consultation paper, especially “professionalism and selflessness of health care workers” and “solidarity of Hong Kong people”.

Ways to Commemorate and Promote the Fighting Spirit against SARS

3. Participants supported the proposals as set out in the consultation paper, especially “erecting a monument or other memorial features”, “organizing commemorative events regularly”, “setting aside a day as Memorial Day”, “naming” and “awarding commendations and honours”. Specific comments on individual proposals are as follows –

(a) A Monument or Other Memorial Features

The most preferred option is “a memorial park/square”, followed by “commemorative sculpture” and “monument”.

(b) Commemorative Activities

“Activities for the youth and students” is the most preferred option, followed by “territory-wide cleansing day” and “mass concert”.

(c) Memorial Day

Most preferred “the day Hong Kong was removed from the list of infected areas”.

(d) Naming

The most preferred option is “hospital”, followed by “park”.

4. Other proposals put forward by participants mainly included “compilation of teaching materials based on the events in the fight against SARS”, “publication of pamphlets/books to recount the events in the fight against SARS”, “setting up a dedicated exhibition hall/organizing thematic exhibitions” and “laying a time capsule”.

Timetable

5. Only a small number of participants commented on the timing of the commemorative activities and the views varied. Some would like to see the proposals being implemented as soon as possible, but some considered that it was not the right time when there were still SARS patients in hospitals.