

CDC News (September 1999)

The first CDC meeting for 1999/2000 after its restructuring was held on 29 September 1999. The new terms of reference for the Council and its Standing Committees were briefed, followed by the confirmation of the membership for the three Standing Committees. At the meeting, the draft of *A Holistic Review of the School Curriculum - Proposed Reforms* and the *Proposed Strategies on Textbook and Textbook-related Issues* were discussed. After deliberation, the Council endorsed the proposals outlined in the two draft papers.

The proposals in *A Holistic Review of the Hong Kong School Curriculum - Proposed Reforms* highlighted its mission on setting the scene and directions for curriculum development in Hong Kong in harmony with the long term vision of lifelong learning for a knowledge-based economy and society which would ultimately contribute to improving the quality of teaching/learning. The reforms were grouped under four areas:

1. broad reform measures in line with the vision of lifelong learning and aims of education;
2. students entitlements of learning opportunities in different stages of schooling;
3. suggested agenda for more specific changes in school curriculum; and
4. enablement measures necessary for the effective implementation of the curriculum.

A series of consultation sessions would be held for various stakeholders to collect views and suggestions before drafting the final report with a coherent and open framework for Curriculum 2000 for the schools in Hong Kong.

The *Proposed Strategies on Textbook and Textbook-related Issues* presented a holistic picture of the provision of textbooks and the use of textbooks in schools. It was envisaged that there would be a change in the role of the textbooks and their significance as a teaching/learning resource because of the rapid development of knowledge in a dynamically changing world, the various educational reforms and the availability of different kinds of teaching and learning resources in the realm of information technology. The proposed strategies included raising the quality of textbooks, promoting the development and use of other forms of teaching/learning resources as alternatives or complements and changing the mind-set and beliefs of different stakeholders in the conception of textbooks, teaching/learning resources through the transformation process.

The latest development on the *Review of Education System* was discussed. The Council members expressed their concern on the removal of high-stake assessment from basic education and the reform of existing university admission requirements and public examination system.

[A Holistic Review of the School Curriculum - Proposed Reforms \(Chinese Only \)](#)

[Proposed Strategies on Textbook and Textbook-related Issues](#)