



# 新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

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## WHO/UNDCP Training Course on the Prevention of Drug Abuse and HIV Infection (Press Release)

The past decade has seen the increased production of opium and heroin in the "Golden Triangle" that leads to the spread of drug abuse and the associated human-immunodeficiency-virus (HIV) infection. This increase is not only in the South East Asian countries but also in the Western Pacific regions such as the southwestern, southern, and northwestern part of China, Macao, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, and Japan. It is therefore of utmost importance that, in fighting against such widespread drug abuse problems, professional groups in the western pacific region should be better trained and organized and better informed of the recent advances in drug abuse and in HIV-infection. Following three earlier tripartite workshops on drug abuse by China, Macao & Hong Kong, held in Hong Kong (1991), Beijing (1992) & Macao (1993), one of the suggestions was to promote technical collaborations among the three jurisdictions.

In view of this, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nation Drug Control Program (UNDCP) have, for the first time in the western pacific region, jointly sponsored a training course for the prevention and intervention of drug abuse and HIV infection. The training course will be organized and taught by professionals in Hong Kong involved in the fight against drug abuse and HIV infection, i.e. the Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN), the Narcotics Division, the Department of Health, the Hong Kong Council for Social Services, the AIDS Foundation, the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers (SARDA), and the Department of Psychiatry, Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Char-Nie Chen is the Convenor of the Organizing Committee and Director of the Course, and the Secretariat is the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The participants are by invitation only, among them 18 members will be from China, 2 from Macao, and 4 from Hong Kong; but observers may be applied through the Secretariat. The course will be run at the Shaw College, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, on **August 1-20, 1994.**

The purpose of the training course is not only to provide frontline workers with the basic knowledge for helping people overcome problems of drug abuse and prevent HIV infection and AIDS, but also to get first-hand practical experience of working in Hong Kong in the treatment centres for substance abuse and AIDS. Emphasis will be put on the close associations between drug abuse and HIV infection/AIDS. The contents of the course include common patterns of substance abuse, HIV infection and AIDS; their biological, psychological & social causes; the life of drug abusers and AIDS sufferers; programmes for prevention, treatment & rehabilitation of drug abuse and HIV-infection/AIDS; principle of harm reduction or minimization, policy and law enforcement for the control of illicit drugs; and community and professional education and training as well as research and evaluation programmes.