

Commission on Poverty (CoP)
Task Force on Children and Youth
Meeting held on 9 March 2006
Gist of Discussion

The CoP Task Force on Children and Youth held its fourth meeting on 9 March 2006.

Item (1) Presentation on Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS) [CoP TFCY Paper 2/2006]

2. The Meeting was briefed on the progress of the CCDS implementation. Members took note that the CCDS, which aimed to identify the varied needs of children from 0-5 years and their families at an early stage by using MCHCs as a platform, had achieved good progress and was effective in facilitating inter-departmental cooperation and communication, as well as promoting a more proactive and systematic identification mechanism.

3. Members were glad to note that additional resources (\$20 million annually) would be provided in the Budget to improve the pilot and gradually extend the CCDS' coverage. An additional \$30 million annually would also be allocated to strengthen family support, including enhanced out-reach services from Integrated Family Service Centres to outreach the hard-to-reach parents and provide the necessary follow-up support to those at risk cases.

4. Members also discussed the screening mechanism, referral arrangements, and training for pre-school teachers in identifying problem cases, as well as the community participation in the CCDS pilots. Members would be further updated on the full review of the pilot run, which would be held in the third quarter of 2006.

Item (2) Matters Arising – Follow up on Parenting [CoP TFCY Paper 1/2006]

5. Members discussed a proposed study on how to strengthen parenting support for disadvantaged and hard-to-reach parents, as a follow up to the sharing session on parenting held last December. Members noted that the focus of the study was on the parenting needs of the high-need and high-risk parents. Members agreed that the Task Force would commission

the proposed study to explore possible ways to enhance the parenting support to economically disadvantaged and hard-to-reach parents.

Commission Secretariat

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