

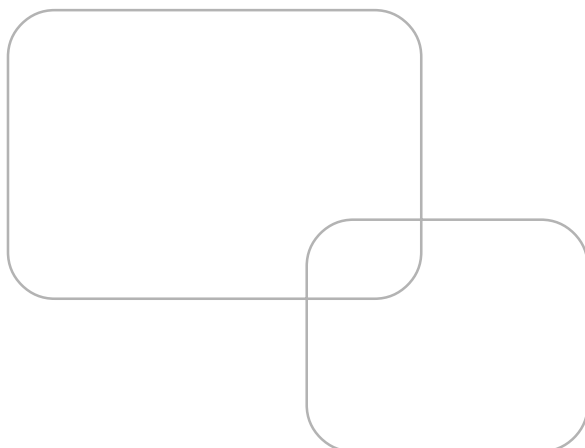
## Preface

### Description of the Programme

International Youth Exchange Programme aims to provide opportunities for youths to broaden their horizon and international perspective. It also renders them chances to exchange ideas and experiences with their counterparts in other countries.



The programme started in 1979 under the name of Commonwealth Exchange Programme with exchanges of youth between Hong Kong and Britain. In 1996, the scope of the programme has been expanded to cover other countries and renamed as International Youth Exchange Programme .



The programme is jointly organized by the Home Affairs Bureau and the Commission on Youth. The Commission on Youth is an advisory body to advise the Chief Executive on matters pertaining to youth. One of its roles is to provide opportunities for young people of Hong Kong to acquire international experience and exposure.



## ***The selection process:***

People may wonder how the Hong Kong Youth Delegates are selected. The following gives you some hints on what qualities a Delegate should possess.

### **Candidates should :**

1. be aged between 18-24;
2. be proficient in English;
3. have common sense and good academic background;
4. have good knowledge of Chinese culture;
5. be knowledgeable about Hong Kong; and
6. have volunteer/community service experience;

This year, 52 candidates were selected as youth delegates : 36 of them visited Kagoshima, Japan and the other 16 visited Brisbane, Australia from 15 to 28 August 1999.