

# ***Description of the Programme***

**International Youth Exchange Programme aims to provide opportunities for youth 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 extended to cover other countries and renamed as International Youth Exchange Programme since then.**

**The programme was jointly organized by the Home Affairs Bureau and the Commission on Youth. The Commission on Youth was an advisory body set up by the government to advise the government on matters pertaining to youth. One role of it is to provide opportunities for young people of Hong Kong to acquire international experience and exposure.**

# ***The Selection Process***

People might like to know how the Hong Kong Delegates are selected, here is the selection process that each of the Delegates have to undergo.

## **A. Nomination**

Candidates are nominated by different schools, universities and organisations.

## **B. Selection Criteria**

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;**
- 6. have volunteer/ community service experience; and**
- 7. have a valid travel passport.**

## **C. Hong Kong Youth Delegates 2000**

Finally, 70 delegates were selected as the Hong Kong Youth Delegates after interview.

38 of them were sent to visit Japan, 22 to visit Australia, and we other

12 youth delegates were sent to visit the United Kingdom from 19<sup>th</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2000.