

2. International Youth Exchange Programme

I. AIMS

The 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.

II. BACKGROUND

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 was extended to cover other countries and has been renamed as International Youth Exchange Programme since then.

III. QUALITIES OF A YOUTH DELEGATE

To become a Hong Kong Youth Delegate, one should:

- (a) be aged between 18 - 24;
- (b) be proficient in English;
- (c) have common sense and good academic background;
- (d) have good knowledge of Chinese culture;
- (e) be knowledgeable about Hong Kong;
- (f) have voluntary/community service experience; and
- (g) have a valid travel document.

IV. NOMINATIONS

All the Universities, Post-secondary Institutes, District Offices, Education Department and Social Welfare Department are invited to submit their nominations in around early April each year. Selected candidates are invited to attend a selection board arranged by the Home Affairs Bureau. Successful candidates will be arranged to visit a country as assigned by the selection board. The Hong Kong delegates will be responsible for receiving the overseas delegates when they pay their return visits to Hong Kong.