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HONG KONG WOMEN PROFESSIONALS & ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION President's Report for 2003/2004

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it gives me great pleasure to report on the main activities and highlights of our Association during our term of office for 2003-2004. Thanks to support and contribution from all Members, our term could be described as both fruitful and exciting, with the mission of HKWPEA fittingly advanced. A variety of local and overseas activities were organized to contribute to the economic development of Hong Kong and Mainland China, as well as to address various public issues.

Our current total number of members stands at 90. Membership continues to be on invitation basis only. The ratio of entrepreneurs : professionals : senior executives in large/medium businesses is 20:20:60. We take pride in the fact that our membership spans across 20 sectors, from accounting & financial service to art & culture, from information technology to trading & retail, from education to insurance, and more.

Throughout the term, the Association organized/co-organized/participated in various activities which can be categorized under public seminars, international forums, women business start-up assistance, China, public affairs and fellowship events.

Public Seminars

We organized/co-organized five public seminars on a wide range of topics, providing Members access to diversified business intelligence, enhancing their professionalism and helping create more business opportunities. All the seminars were well supported by our target audiences and the topics covered were "Neo-industrialization in Hong Kong: Challenges and Opportunities" in January 2003, "Business Opportunities for SMEs in Environmental Protection Industry" in November 2003, "Practical Aspects of Doing Business in China" for two consecutive years in May/June 2003 and June 2004 and the "Women Business Cooperative Seminar" in June 2004. Further, a series of four small scale "IT Update Talks" were organized in the three months from July to September 2004.

International Forums

In addition to public seminars, the HKWPEA sent delegates to participate in three international seminars on women's affairs, namely, the "International Forum for Next Generation/Women Entrepreneurs" in Tokyo in February 2003, the "8th APEC Women's Leader Network Meeting" in Chiangmai in July/August 2003 and the "Global Summit of Women" in Seoul in May 2004. On all three occasions, HKWPEA delegates were invited as speakers to share their experience and expertise. Friendly bonds and exchange of views among Hong Kong women entrepreneurs and their foreign counterparts were established and strengthened on such occasions.

Women Business Start-Up Assistance Scheme

We continued to dedicate ourselves to a very important initiative that began in 2002, the aim of which was to provide women suffering from loss of employment and decreased income with business start-up assistance. Under this scheme, the Association sponsored three beneficiaries to start their own businesses. Of these three ventures, one had dropped out, one is striving diligently ahead in a highly competitive operating environment, and one can be recorded as an exemplary success. Indeed, the HKWPEA Women Business Start-up Assistance Scheme was honored to be named by the Hong Kong Women's Commission as one of the role models of "Good Practices on Empowerment of Women in Hong Kong" in June 2003. In 2004, our Women Business Start-up Assistance Scheme moved on to a second phase with a focus on helping women to go into business for themselves in a co-operative setting and with the support of a partnering NGO.

Mainland China

We continued to play a pro-active role in enhancing the profile of HKWPEA in Beijing and increasing our Members' understanding of business opportunities in China. A delegation consisting of 13 Members from the Association visited Beijing and Inner Mongolia in August 2004. During meetings with senior officials from the Ministry of Commerce, the United Front Ministry, the State Council's Hong Kong & Macau Affairs Office, the All-China Women's Federation, and the Government of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, members of our delegation impressed government officials with their insightful questions, suggestions and comments. Meetings were also organized in Hong Kong with senior PRC officials to promote understanding of the China business environment. We hosted a luncheon talk featuring Mr. Xia Deren, Mayor of Dalian when he led a trade mission to Hong Kong in September 2003, a farewell reception for former Deputy Chairman Madam Chan Fung Ying of the China Liaison Office in December 2003 and a welcome reception for Madam Guoli in March 2004 when she succeeded Madam Chan as the Deputy Chairman.

Public Affairs

In Hong Kong, we were active in voicing our stance on various public issues. We submitted position papers to the HKSAR government on issues related to the Chief Executive's Report on Administration, the Financial Secretary's Budget, Hong Kong's future planning vision and strategy, economic recovery, closer economic co-operation with the Mainland, population policy and future constitutional development. On different occasions, we invited well-known public figures such as Ms Carrie Lam, former Director of the Social Welfare Department, Ms. Amy Ip, Executive Director, Reserves Management Department of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and Mr. Allen Lee to speak on the state of social welfare, current finance and monetary situation, and the government administration environment in Hong Kong respectively.

Fellowship

A total of 10 fellowship events (including eight working luncheons/dinners and two visits) were organized. We invited skin expert, Dr. Louis Shih and our Members, namely, Dr. Rebecca Lee, Ms. Mabel Mak, Ms. Amy Wong and Dr. Polly Cheung to speak at our fellowship events. To expand the horizons of our Members, we organized a visit to the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology in March 2003 to learn about nanotechnology, and also a visit to the Hong Kong International Terminals in October 2003 to learn about its latest development plans. When the HKWPEA delegation visited Inner Mongolia, sightseeing and horse-riding activities were tied to the program, which in turn made the trip most enjoyable. And of course, memories of the 2003 Christmas Dinner starring our own Members as fashion show models would be long cherished.

All of the above was made possible through the dedication and selfless efforts of the Board of Directors and all HKWPEA Members. I wish to thank our Chartered President Marina Wong in particular for the excellent foundation which she established for HKWPEA during her three terms of presidency, and for the unfailing guidance and support which she had given to me and the Board in the past two years. I'm also thankful to Vice Presidents Ella Cheong and Caroline Mak, and to all Board Members, who in spite of their heavy travel, work and family commitments, have jointly provided the HKWPEA with leadership, commitment and creativity. I should also register a note of appreciation to Louisa Lui, Jennie Ng, Victoria Lee, Margaret Tang, Dorothy Choi, Michelle Li, Shiu Po-yan, Claudia Hui, Winnie Kwong from the offices of Amway, Price Waterhouse, Wilkinson & Grist, Mannings, Falcon Insurance, Challenge Holdings and PR Network for their excellent administrative and secretarial support services, to Bauhinia Web Page Design for its development/maintenance support of the HKWPEA website, to Wilgrist Nominees Limited and Asialink Corporate Services Limited for their company secretarial services and to Y.K. Ha & Co. for its audit service.

And to all Members of HKWPEA, may I once again offer a special bouquet of thanks. Little could be accomplished without your encouragement, participation and contribution. The future of HKWPEA is in our hands!

With best wishes for continued success,

Sincerely,



Eva Cheng
President

September 10, 2004

名譽贊助人
陳方安生

名譽顧問
梁愛詩

名譽會長
伍淑清

創會會長
黃汝璞

執行委員會

會長
鄭李錦芬

副會長
張淑姬

副會長
麥瑞琮

名譽秘書
管胡金愛

名譽司庫
林康繼弘

執行委員會會員
何淑貞

執行委員會會員
高靜芝

執行委員會會員
彭思梅

執行委員會會員
葛珮帆

執行委員會會員
杜錦然

執行委員會會員
余詩思

工作小組組長

社會服務
麥樂嫻

公共事務
余詩思

香港聯絡
葛珮帆

中國內地聯絡
區曉龍

國際聯絡
杜錦然

會員拓展
彭思梅

會員聯誼
何淑貞

法律事務
唐美馨

公共關係
韓淑儀

香港女工商及專業人員聯會

會長年報—2003/2004

各位尊敬的會員：

我很高興代表執行委員會全體成員，就今屆執行委員會在2003及2004年任期內展開的一系列主要活動和項目向大家作一個總結匯報。在過去的任期中，感謝全體會員的支持和積極貢獻，我們取得令人興奮的豐碩成就，本會的宗旨也得以進一步提升。同時，我們在本地和海外舉辦了一系列的活動，有效地促進香港和中國內地經濟的交流與發展。此外，我們也探討了港人關心的多項議題。

目前，我們共有90名正式會員，全部會員均是以個人名義接受邀請加入的。會員中的企業家、專業人士和大、中企業高級行政人員的比例是20:20:60。讓我們引以自豪的是，我們的會員來自20多個不同界別，從會計、金融服務界到文化界，從資訊科技界到貿易零售界，從教育界到保險業界等，具有廣泛的代表性。

在過去一年多的任期內，本會組織、合辦、協辦和參與了各類項目和活動，包括：公開研討會、國際論壇、婦女創業支援計劃、與中國內地的交流、公共事務和聯誼活動等。

公開研討會

我們先後主辦或協辦了5個研討會，主題廣泛，為會員提供各種各樣的商業資訊，拓展他們的專業知識，創造更多商機。所有研討會都深受聽眾的熱烈支持，當中包括2003年1月舉辦的「香港新工業化：挑戰與契機」研討會、2003年11月舉辦的「中小企業環保商機研討會」、分別於2003年5月和6月，以及2004年6月連續兩年舉辦的「中國商管實戰經驗分享研討會」和2004年6月舉辦的「擁抱艷陽天：婦女合作創業研討會」。除此之外，我們在2004年7月至9月還舉辦了4場小型的科技資訊座談會。

國際論壇

除了主辦公開研討會，本會還派出代表參加了3個以婦女事務為主題的國際論壇，包括2003年2月在日本東京舉辦的「新一代女企業家國際研討會」、2003年7月8月在泰國清邁舉辦的「亞太經合組織婦女領導人會議」，以及2004年5月在韓國漢城舉辦的「世界婦女高峰會」。在這三個國際會議中，本會代表都獲邀在大會上發言，與來自世界各地的婦女分享我們的經驗和專才，同時也大大促進了香港女企業家與國際同行間的交流 and 友誼。

婦女創業支援計劃

2002年，本會推出「婦女創業支援計劃」，旨在幫助失業和低收入的女性創業，突破經濟困境。透過該計劃，我們已經資助了3位受益人開創自己的事業。目前其中一人已經選擇退出，另一人正在競爭激烈的市場中努力奮鬥，還有一人已經在經營上取得成功，樹立了良好的榜樣。本會的「婦女創業支援計劃」獲婦女事務委員會評選為「增強婦女能力優良措施」。2004年，我們開展「婦女合作創業支援計劃」，主要集中協助婦女在非政府組織的支援下開展業務。

與中國內地的交流

本會繼續積極加強香港女工商及專業人員聯會與中央政府的溝通及加強會員對中國內地市場的了解。2004年8月，本會組織了13人的代表團訪問北京和內蒙古自治區，與商務部、統戰部、國務院港澳辦、全國婦聯和內蒙古自治區政府的高級官員會面。代表團成員在會談中主動提出多項問題，及精闢的意見和建議，給內地官員留下深刻的印象。此外，我們也不時在香港舉辦與內地官員的座談會，加深會員對內地營商環境的了解。在大連市市長夏德仁先生2003年9月率領代表團訪港期間，我們也邀請他出席午餐會。此外，我們還在2003年12月，為中聯辦前副主任陳鳳英女士舉辦了離任惜別晚宴。2004年3月，我們也為中聯辦新上任的副主任郭莉女士舉行了歡迎宴會。

公共事務

就港人關心的問題，本會義不容遲地向政府發表意見。我們曾致函香港特別行政區政府，對香港特區政府的施政、財政預算、規劃遠景及策略、經濟復甦、經濟合作、人口政策以及香港政治體制的發展發表意見。我們還分別邀請了前社會福利署署長林鄭月娥女士、香港金融管理局儲備管理部助理總裁葉約德女士和李鵬飛先生等社會知名人士在本會舉辦的會議上就香港社會福利、金融財經、政府行政等問題發表了精闢的演講。

聯誼活動

我們先後舉辦了10項大大小小的聯誼活動，包括8個午餐會/晚宴和2次參觀訪問。我們邀請了皮膚科專家史太祖醫生及本會的會員李樂詩博士、麥樂嫦女士、黃美雲女士和張淑儀醫生作為本會的聯誼活動講者嘉賓。為了讓會員增廣見聞，我們在2003年3月安排會員參觀香港科技大學，了解納米技術的最新研究成果，並在2003年10月參觀和記黃埔葵涌貨櫃碼頭，了解貨櫃碼頭最新的發展計劃。在本會代表團訪問內蒙古期間，我們也安排代表團參加觀光、騎馬等活動，給大家留下快樂時光。而在2003年的聖誕晚會上，眾會員自編自演的時裝表演更給大家留下美好難忘的回憶。

上述所有項目和活動得以成功，實在要歸功於香港女工商及專業人員聯會執行委員會成員和全體會員的共同努力和無私奉獻。我要特別感謝創會會長黃汝璞女士，在她擔任會長的3個任期內，為香港女工商及專業人員聯會的發展奠定穩固的基礎，並在過去兩年，給予執行委員會和本人寶貴的指導和支持。我還要感謝副會長張淑姬、麥瑞琮和所有執行委員會成員，她們在繁忙的工作、公幹和家庭生活中，仍然履行承諾，共同為香港女工商及專業人員聯會發揮領導才能，提供創見。在此，我也要感謝分別在安利公司、羅兵咸永道會計師事務所、高露雲律師行、萬寧公司、富勤保險公司、信溢策略公司和公關網絡工作的呂淑琮、吳麗霞、李慧冰、鄧婉華、蔡多蓮、李慧慈、邵寶茵、許慧珊和鄭詠蓮等多位女士，感謝她們提供行政和秘書支援服務。我還要感謝寶萊網頁設計為香港女工商及專業人員聯會的網站提供網頁設計、日常維護和技術支援，Wilgrist Nominees Limited和Asialink Corporate Services Limited 提供公司法定秘書服務，及夏玉君會計師事務所提供審計服務。

各位尊敬的會員，請讓我再次向大家致以最衷心的感謝。沒有你們的鼓勵、參與和貢獻，我們根本無法取得今天的成就。展望未來，我們的前途就掌握在大家的手中，希望我們齊心協力、共同締造更美好的明天！

香港女工商及專業人員聯會 會長



鄭李錦芬 謹致

二〇〇四年九月十日