

CDC News (November 2006)

The 22nd CDC Meeting was held on 16 November 2006. Salient points of the discussion are as follows:

Report on the 3rd consultation on New Senior Secondary (NSS) Curriculum & Assessment (C&A) Frameworks

- It was suggested that schools could flexibly arrange their class size and EMB would conduct a project on flexible timetabling.
- Simulation on teachers and students workload and SBA workflow for 2011, 2012 and 2013 would be conducted by HKEAA.
- Students could study French or others as third language in NSS education but should not be in lieu of Chinese Language.
- After the assessment frameworks were finalized, HKEAA would proceed to develop sample questions, level descriptors, standards-referenced reporting, rubrics etc. HKEAA would continue consulting teachers and stakeholders on the development.
- HKEAA would provide professional development programmes on assessment to teachers from 2008 onwards.
- HKEAA would develop a Putonghua test to assess students' competency and the test would pitch at S3 level and would be administered from 2007.
- Training and preparation work on moderation of school-based assessment were deemed essential. Simple wordings should be used to explain to public for their understanding the concepts and principles of the moderation mechanism.
- The development of NSS curricula was overall in good progress. However, some issues would still need to be addressed. For example, the misconception of early implementation of Liberal Studies in junior secondary levels; and some university departments worried that the overall standard of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education would be pulled downward.

Report on the development of quality textbooks for the New Senior Secondary Curriculum

- For those subjects with few or no publishers showed intention to develop textbooks, EMB had approached individuals and university scholars for developing learning and teaching materials. Schools were free to make use of those materials.
- Web-resources of learning and teaching materials for NSS Liberal Studies were adequate and easily accessible by teachers.