

Postponement of MTP Workshop

Since earlier this week, the question arose about the risk of SARS transmission in relationship to the above referenced training workshop, and the related question about proceeding with workshop implementation.

The questions were presented to the office of the co convener (with UNAIDS SEAPICT) of the UN Regional Task Force on Drug Use and HIV Vulnerability where the workshop was initially proposed.

While the UN system, including WHO, has not issued any formal travel restrictions to Hong Kong, however, over the past 24 hours, numerous informal communications with the UN offices have pointed to an increasing level of SARS risk in that state.

Therefore, as a preventive measure, the co conveners of the UN Regional Task Force on Drug Use and HIV Vulnerability have decided to indefinitely postpone the workshop.

The Task Force regrets this turn of events, particularly in view of the emergent interests toward methadone treatment in the region, but is also cognizant of the unnecessary health risks that may arise as the result of the travel.

For your information, at the next meeting of the Regional Task Force, the situation will be reviewed with respect to contingencies for another date and venue.