Rights of Migrant Sex Workers
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NOTE: For full details of all service providers, the services provided, languages spoken, and contact details please see the full database at the end of the document.

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Profile of sex workers in Hong Kong
An increasing number of Hong Kong’s sex workers are originally from China and countries such as Thailand, Philippines, Burma, Korea and (central) Africa. These individuals are often refugees, asylum seekers or were trafficked into Hong Kong under false pretexts. The different ethnicity of workers is reflected in the areas that workers are often based, for example local and mainland Chinese often work in Sham Shui Po and Mong Kok servicing local clients whereas workers in Wan Chai are usually South East Asian. Sex work can include lounge hostess, bar waitress, masseur, social escort and the provision of services in ‘salons’, saunas or rented rooms. In Hong Kong “yeit lao yeit fong” (one room one girl) is the most common form of sex work.

Part I
Criminal implication of services provided by sex workers

Legal framework in Hong Kong relating to sex-workers
A prostitute means a prostitute of either sex
Prostitution in itself is legal in Hong Kong, but almost everything related to prostitution is not. It is illegal to:

Solicit for an immoral purpose

- Liable on conviction to a fine of $10,000, imprisonment of 6 months
- An “immoral act” refers to an act or behaviour which is not acceptable to the vast majority of the public, including
  - Initiating conversation with a customer, or using body language, expression or attire to signal availability to customer
  - Mentioning the types of available services and price, for example during conversation

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1  CAP 200, Crime Ordinance s117 (2002)
2  CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s147 (1997)
o Sexual services for commercial motivation
• Acts that do not breach the law
  o Replying to a customer who initiated the conversation
  o Any sexual act within private premises above age 18
  o Standing by the street
• In general soliciting in the street leads to arrest for soliciting immoral acts and imprisonment of 2 months

**Keep, manage or assist in the management of a vice establishment for the purpose of prostitution (brothel)**

• liable on summary conviction to imprisonment of 3 years; or on conviction on indictment to imprisonment of 10 years

**Let premises for use as a vice establishment**

• liable on conviction to a fine of HK$20,000 and imprisonment of 2 years
• this is mainly aimed at agents or those who gain from rental collections such as pimps - this law is usually not applied on its own but jointly with Section 130 (controlling individuals for the purpose of unlawful sex or prostitution) or Section 131 causing or procuring another person to prostitute

**Knowingly living on the earnings of prostitution of others**

• liable on conviction to imprisonment of 10 years
• includes pimps, partners, spouses, children, parents or those relying on income obtained through prostitution including a landlord who raises rent knowing the tenant is a sex worker

**Advertising prostitution**

• liable on conviction to imprisonment of 12 months
• advertising must be explicit including neon sign, online advertisements and message posted in chat rooms

**Controlling individuals for the purpose of unlawful sex or prostitution**

• liable on conviction to imprisonment of 14 years, including boyfriends or parents, coercing an individual to prostitute him- or herself

**Causing or procuring another person to prostitute**

• liable on conviction to imprisonment of 7 years and includes a sex-worker who introduces another person to the trade

**Trafficking persons to or from Hong Kong for the purpose of prostitution**

• liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment of 10 years

**Operating, keeping, managing, assisting in any capacity in the operation of a massage establishment without a license**

• liable on first conviction to a fine of $50,000 and imprisonment of 6 months and a fine of $100,000 and imprisonment of 2 years on any subsequent conviction

*In practice prostitution is only legal when individuals operating on their own on private premises and as long as the services are not solicited or publicly advertised.*

**Relevant Hong Kong laws concerning migrant sex-workers**

3 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s139 (1998)
4 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s143 (1998)
5 Zi Teng, *Laws Which Regulate Sex Work in Hong Kong*, at: [http://www.ziteng.org.hk/info/info_e.html](http://www.ziteng.org.hk/info/info_e.html)
6 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance s 137 (1998)
7 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance s 147A (1997)
8 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance s 130 (2000)
9 CAP200, Crimes Ordinance s 131 (2000)
10 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance s 129 (1998)
11 CAP 266, Massage Establishment Ordinance, s4 (1997)
It is illegal for holders of tourist visas, two-way visas, visas for business or for the purpose of visiting relatives to participate in any activity for financial compensation (including sex-work) or to overstay their visa.

**Breach of condition of stay**
- a breach of conditions of stay can result in a fine up to HK$50,000 (level 5)\(^{13}\) and imprisonment of 2 years

**Providing false statements and forgery of documents**
- provision of false statements, use or possession of forged documents can result on conviction in a fine of HK$150,000 and imprisonment of 14 years

**Landing and remaining in Hong Kong without permission**
- arrival and remaining in Hong Kong without permission can result on conviction to a fine of HK$600,000 and imprisonment of 7 years

**Requirement to carry proof of identity**
- everyone above the age of 15 is obliged to carry proof of identification
- proof of identity means\(^{17}\)
- a valid Hong Kong identity card
- a valid travel document
- document issued by the Commissioner of Registration acknowledging application by the individual
  - 1) to be registered under the Registration of Persons Ordinance (Cap 177); or
  - 2) for a new identity card under Regulation 13 or 14 of the Registration of Persons Regulations (Cap 177 sub. leg. A)
- a Vietnamese refugee card
- asylum seekers and CAT claimants who do not have valid travel documents may receive recognizance papers\(^{18}\) or UNHCR slips that generally suffice
- refugees will have a letter to prove that they are recognized as refugees but may also choose to show recognizance papers\(^{19}\)

**Anyone who fails to produce proof of identity**
- can be charged to a fine at level 2 (HK$2000-HK$5000)\(^{20}\) provided that s/he had a reasonable excuse for failing to produce proof of identity (loss or destruction proof of identity)\(^{21}\)
- may be arrested\(^{22}\)

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\(^{12}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s41 (1997)

\(^{13}\) CAP 221, Criminal Procedure Ordinance, s113C (2009), A level 5 Fine is $2500 to $50000. Hong Kong law either specifically states the fine or refers to one of 5 levels, and an overview of all fine levels is given at section 113C, CAP 221

\(^{14}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s42 (1999)

\(^{15}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s38 (2005)

\(^{16}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s17C (1997)

\(^{17}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s17B (1997)

\(^{18}\) Under s36(1) of the Immigration Ordinance (CAP 115) the Director of Immigration may release asylum seekers, refugees and CAT claimants from detention pending the determination of their claims. On release they are provided with so called recognizance papers. This document does not grant permission to stay in Hong Kong but will provide access to certain services and organisation in Hong Kong. In practice refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants will be sent to Castle Peak Bay Detention Centre where their identity will be established after which they will be released on recognizance. Note that recognizance will only be given to people after they have overstayed their visa.

\(^{19}\) Interview with Brian Barbour, Executive Director of HKRAC on 24 March 2011

\(^{20}\) CAP 221, Criminal Procedure Ordinance, s113C (2009), A level 2 Fine is $2000 to $5000

\(^{21}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s17C(3)(4) (1997)

\(^{22}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s17D (1997)
• may be examined by an immigration officer or immigration assistant in order to determine whether that person landed in Hong Kong unlawfully or is intending to contravene or has contravened a condition of stay\(^\text{23}\)

**Relevant Legal Entitlements of Authorities**

**Power to stop, detain and search**\(^\text{24}\) A police officer may

• stop and demand proof of identity for inspection if s/he believes the individual is acting suspiciously
• detain for a reasonable period if there is the suspicion the individual has committed an offence
• search for weapons that may threaten the safety of the police officer or the public

**Search of premises with warrant**\(^\text{25}\)

• A magistrate can grant a search warrant to authorize any police officer to enter and search premises if there is sufficient evidence to suspect that an offence has been or is being committed in connection with the premises.

**Searching premise without a warrant**\(^\text{26}\)

• The Commissioner of Police can authorize a police officer to enter premises without notice to interrogate any persons therein to check whether any missing girls or any girls under 16 are working at the premises.

**Rights of authorities to arrest and detain migrants**\(^\text{27}\)

• **Power to arrest and search suspects**\(^\text{28}\) Officers of the Immigration Service (IS) may stop, search and arrest
  - any person who fails to produce proof of identity (without warrant)\(^\text{29}\)
  - any person suspected of having committed an offence under the immigration ordinance or has landed in Hong Kong unlawfully and has not been authorized to remain\(^\text{30}\)
  - note at the time of arrest the officer should inform the individual they are under arrest and the reason

• **Detention**\(^\text{31}\)
  - following arrest, an individual may be detained at IS offices or other designated place
  - if the investigation cannot be completed immediately the individual may be released unconditionally or on bail to appear at a specified time, date and place
  - migrant sex-workers without a HKID cannot be released on bail but are not prevented from applying for bail through a lawyer to the judge or the High Court
  - if after the investigation there is sufficient evidence the individual will be charged and either (i) be released on bail to appear before a Magistrate, or (ii) be detained and brought before a Magistrate generally within 48 hours unless removed or deported under the Immigration Ordinance
  - the general principle on detention is that an individual will be released on bail by entering into a recognizance for a reasonable sum, or on cash bail for a specified

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\(^{23}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s17E (1997)

\(^{24}\) CAP 232, Police Force Ordinance, s54 (1997)

\(^{25}\) CAP 200, Crime Ordinance, s13 (1997)

\(^{26}\) CAP 213, Protection of Children and Juveniles Ordinance, s16

\(^{27}\) Department of Immigration, Guidance to an Arrested Person on Arrest and Detention


\(^{29}\) CAP 331, Immigration Service Ordinance, 12 (1997)

\(^{30}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s17D(1) (1997)

\(^{31}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s56(1A)(b) (1997)

\(^{32}\) CAP 331, Immigration Service Ordinance, s13A (1997)
amount, as soon as possible unless the offence is of a serious nature or it is reasonably considered the individual should be detained pending appearance before a Magistrate
- detention must be justified on reasonable grounds having regard to the circumstances of the case, which means normally the individual will be released on bail except
  - where the offence is of a serious nature
  - where arrest on a warrant which does not allow bail
  - risk of absconding
  - risk of repeat offending
  - risk of interfering with witnesses, impeding the investigation or attempting to obstruct the course of justice
  - the individual should be detained in their own interests to protect him/her from acts committed by themselves or others
  - the individual cannot produce a reasonable amount of bail money in circumstances where entering into recognizance with or without sureties is not appropriate

**Authorized detention for immigration-related reasons**

- **Detention for inquiry**\(^{32}\)
  - Immigrants suspected (by any member of the Immigration Service or any police member from the rank of Assistant Commissioner and above) of having violated the Immigration Ordinance can be detained for investigation for an initial period of 48 hours, which can be extended for 5 additional days.

- **Detention pending examination and decision as to landing**\(^{33}\)
  - People suspected of having arrived in Hong Kong without appropriate authorization can be held for not more than 24 hours pending the examination and for a further 24 hours pending a decision to grant or refuse permission to land.

- **Detention for inquiry relating to deportation**\(^{34}\)
  - Pursuant to a detention warrant, a foreigner can be detained for up to 14 days if there are reasonable grounds for suspecting the person is deportable because s/he has been found guilty in Hong Kong of an offence punishable by imprisonment of not less than 2 years and/or the Chief Executive deems it to be conducive to the public good.
  - If it appears to the Secretary for Security that it is desirable that a person should be further detained for the purposes outlined above; for the purpose of inquiries into activities which are prejudicial to the security of Hong Kong; or while proceedings for deportation are completed, then detention can be extended with two additional warrants of 7 days totalling a maximum of 28 days.

- **Detention of deportee for inquiries**\(^{35}\)
  - If a person who is in Hong Kong in contravention of a deportation order is to be removed from Hong Kong but their continued presence is necessary for the time being in connection with inquiries being carried on into activities of that person which are prejudicial to the security of Hong Kong and there is a risk that person will abscond then the Chief Executive may issue a warrant authorizing their detention for 14 days.
  - If deemed necessary, the Chief Executive may issue up to 2 further warrants authorising detention for a further 7 days.

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\(^{32}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s26 (1997)
\(^{33}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s27 (1997)
\(^{34}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s29 (1997)
\(^{35}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s31 (1997)
• **Detention pending removal or deportation**\(^{36}\)
  o General authorization of detention of non-residents who have been issued a deportation or removal order. In most instances, there is no specified limit on the length of detention.

• **Detention of sex-workers**
  o Normally for a maximum of 48 hours and if there is enough evidence, the detainee should be sent to court for trial within 48 hours. If police need more time to investigate and collect evidence they may apply for a maximum of 5 days detention.

• **Liberty and security of persons**
  o Since unification with China in 1997, human rights law is enshrined in the Basic Law and the Bill of Rights Ordinance (CAP 383)
  o Article 39 of the Hong Kong Constitution (Basic Law) expressly states that the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the international labour conventions as applied to Hong Kong shall remain in force
  o at the constitutional level Article 28 of the Basic Law guarantees that “the freedom of the person of Hong Kong residents shall be inviolable. No Hong Kong resident shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful arrest, detention or imprisonment. Arbitrary or unlawful search of the body of any resident or deprivation or restriction of the freedom of the persons shall be prohibited” but it must be noted that the Basic Law only applies to permanent and non-permanent residents
  o the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance (BOR) is the local adaptation of the provisions of the ICCPR put into effect in Hong Kong and Article 5(1) guarantees the liberty and security of persons in accordance with Article 9 of ICCPR

• **Challenges to lawfulness of detention**
  o the remedy of habeas corpus gives effect to the Principle expressed in Article 5(4) of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinances. Applications for a writ of habeas corpus can be made under Section 22A of the High Court Ordinance or alternatively, an individual may challenge detention by way of judicial review or judicial review
  o between 1995 and 1998, 12 habeas corpus applications were made with 3 cases successful while only 3 judicial review applications were made with zero successful cases

**Recognizance as alternative to detention**\(^{37}\)

- an immigration officer and any police officer may require a detainee to enter into a recognizance in such amount and with such number of sureties as the Director or such police officer may reasonably require
- where a detainee enters into such a recognizance he may be released
- a person may be detained notwithstanding that he has entered into a recognizance.
- note that the recognizance amount is always HK$2000 (standard requirement for bail), which is recorded as “self-surety”, however practice shows that individuals are seldom in fact required to pay

**Deportation order**\(^{38}\)

- a deportation may be made against an immigrant if the immigrant has been found guilty in Hong Kong of an offence punishable by imprisonment of more than 2 years or the Chief Executive deems it necessary for the public good
- a deportation order requires the person concerned to leave Hong Kong and prohibits return either indefinitely or in accordance with the period specified in the order

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\(^{36}\)  CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s32 (1997)

\(^{37}\)  CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s36 (1997)

\(^{38}\)  CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s20 (1998)
• A deportation order shall invalidate any permission or authority to land or remain in Hong Kong given to that person before the order is made or while it is in force.
• The power to make deportation orders rests with the Secretary for Security.
• Applications for deportation orders are made by the Director of Immigration but before applying to the Secretary for Security for a deportation order the Director will notify the immigrant of his intentions to seek his deportation and invite him to make representations against the deportation.
• Any grounds put forth by the immigrant, together with the Director’s comments and recommendations, will be forwarded to the Secretary of Security for a decision as to whether a deportation should be made.
• Persons who wish to challenge decisions, acts or omissions taken, done or made under the Immigration Ordinance may:
  o Lodge a non-statutory petition to the Chief Executive in person (under Article 48 of the Basic Law).
  o Apply to the High Court to seek leave for judicial review of the decision.
  o In the case of a removal order, appeal to the Immigration Tribunal within 24 hours of being notified of the decision; and
  o In cases other than removal orders, make statutory objection under Section 53(1) of Immigration Ordinance to the Chief Secretary for Administration within 14 days of the decision. The objection will be considered by the Chief Executive.
• However, there is no statutory requirement for immigration officials to inform objectors of these avenues and it is not the practice to do so unless the person in question asks.

**Appeal against deportation order**
• Under Section 53 of the Immigration Ordinance, an immigrant against whom a deportation order has been made may lodge and objection to the decision with the Chief Secretary for Administrator within 14 days, which will be considered by the Chief Executive Council.
• Alternatively, he/she may make a petition to the Chief Executive under Article 48 of the Basic Law for suspension or rescission of the deportation order.

**Removal order**
• The Chief Executive may issue a removal order against immigrants who have not been ordinarily resident in Hong Kong for 3 or more years if considered undesirable.
• The Director, Deputy Director or an Assistant Director of Immigration may make a removal order against person if they have remained without permission, of if they have committed certain prescribed offences or if they have been refused permission to land.
• Written notice is to be served as soon as is practicable on the person informing him/her of the ground on which the order is made; and
• That if s/he wishes to appeal s/he must do so by giving written notice to an immigration officer outlining the grounds of appeal and the facts upon which s/he relies within 24 hours of receiving notice of removal order.
• Persons who wish to challenge decisions, acts or omissions taken, done or made under the Immigration Ordinance may follow the process outlined above for challenging deportation orders.

**Appeal against removal orders made by Director or Deputy Director of Immigration**
• A person with a removal order may appeal to the Immigration Tribunal against the removal order on the ground that s/he enjoys the right of abode, right to land or permission to remain in Hong Kong.

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• a person who wishes to appeal shall serve written notice of appeal, stating his grounds of appeal and the facts upon which he relies within 24 hours of being notified of the removal order
• procedural points:
  o provision as to witnesses and the production of documents are similar to those in Sections 21 and 22 of the Magistrates Ordinance (CAP 227)
  o provision for payment of an allowance to witnesses at a hearing of an appeal similar to those contained in Section 9B Criminal Procedure Ordinance (CAP 221) for the payment of an allowance to witnesses in criminal proceedings before any court
  o appeal can be heard in the absence of the appellant where he/she cannot attend by reason of illness or injury or where his/her attendance would present a threat to the health or safety of other persons at the hearing or in other circumstances
  o if the Tribunal thinks fit it may allow the appellant and respondent to be represented by legal counsel or a solicitor
  o proceedings may be conducted in English or Chinese language or both as the Tribunal thinks fit, parties to proceedings may address the Tribunal in any language, any witness may testify in any language and a legal representative may use either of both languages

Removal orders not to be executed pending appeal\(^ {42}\)
• a person shall not be removed until the time limited for an appeal has passed or the person against whom the removal order has been made declares in writing that he/she does not intend to appeal or until the appeal is determined by the Tribunal, or the appellant declares in writing that he/she is abandoning his appeal

Dismissal of appeal without hearing\(^ {43}\)
• where the Tribunal, upon an examination of the written grounds of appeal of an appellant, is satisfied that the facts would not entitle the appellant to succeed or are the same or substantially the same facts on which the appellant sought to rely on a prior unsuccessful appeal, it may dismiss the appeal without a hearing

Determination of appeals\(^ {44}\)
• the decision of the Tribunal shall be final

Release of successful appellant\(^ {45}\)
• where an appeal is successful the appellant shall be released

Suspension of deportation orders\(^ {46}\)
• the Chief Executive may suspend the deportation order made against any person on such conditions as s/he thinks fit
• during the continuance of the suspension the deportation order shall not be in force
• between 1998 and 2003, 69 deportation orders have been rescinded or suspended (from a total of 2899 deportation orders issued)

Rescission of deportation orders\(^ {47}\)
• the Chief Executive may rescind the deportation order made against any person, but the rescission of the deportation order shall not affect the power of the Chief Executive to make another such order against that person

General detention policy\(^ {48}\)

\(^{42}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s53B (1998)
\(^{43}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s53C (1997)
\(^{44}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s53D (1997)
\(^{45}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s53E (1997)
\(^{46}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s54 (1997)
\(^{47}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance s55 (1997)
detention must be justified with sufficient reasons and for a period which is reasonable in all circumstances

the following factors are taken into account by the Director of Immigration/ Secretary for Security in determining whether a person should be detained or released but note that these factors are not exhaustive and are instead considered in the context of all circumstances of the case

- whether the person’s removal is possible within a reasonable time
- whether that person concerned constitutes a threat/security risk to the community
- whether there is any risk of that person’s absconding and/or (re)offending
- whether that person’s identity is resolved or satisfied to be genuine
- whether that person has close connections to or a fixed abode in Hong Kong
- whether there were other circumstances in favour of release

in addition, the following factors may favour detention

- the detainee’s removal from Hong Kong is imminent and/or immediate repatriation is being arranged for his/her departure
- the detainee is willing to leave and arrangement is underway to remove him/her
- there is no sufficient reason to believe that the detainee’s case cannot be finalized in the near future
- there is no outstanding claim in respect of the detainee’s impeding removal and no outstanding legal proceedings e.g. petition/appeal/judicial review
- if there were outstanding legal proceedings, there was no sufficient reason to believe that the legal proceedings could not be completed within a reasonable period of time
- the detainee is likely to pose a threat/security risk to the local community e.g. suspected to have connection with terrorist activities
- the detainee has conviction(s) associated with crime(s) of serious or violent nature
- the detainee has a record of violent behaviour during detention/imprisonment
- the detainee has previously absconded or escaped from custody
- the detainee has a record of breaching bail
- the detainee had failed to comply with the terms/conditions of recognizance
- the detainee failed to attend appointment(s)/scheduled interviews without reasonable excuse in response to a request by immigration officers/government investigation sections e.g. Extension Section
- the detainee is a returning removee/deportee
- the detainee is re-arrested during recognizance
- the detainee has previous convictions for criminal and/or immigration offences or reoffended in respect of the offence for which s/he was arrested
- the detainee has not produced satisfactory evidence or any proof of identity and there are no relevant documents to establish his/her identity/nationality
- there is doubt as to the detainee’s true identity (e.g. false/forged/different identity/travel documents)
- the detainee is non-cooperative or has failed to give satisfactory or reliable answers to an immigration officer’s enquiries/investigation as to his/her identity
- the detainee does not have a fixed abode or close connection (e.g. family or friends) in Hong Kong to make it likely that s/he will be easily located
- the detainee is likely to engage in unlawful employment or business if released from detention
- the detainee has expressed that s/he is not able to take care of himself/herself if released from detention
- the detainee is required to give evidence in the trial of any offence or facilitate inquiries into an offence or suspected offence
- the following factors may dissuade against detention
the detainee is a person under the age of 18
the detainee is elderly requiring close supervision/medical care
the detainee is a pregnant woman and there is no clear prospect of imminent removal
the detainee is in serious medical/mentally ill-health condition
the detainee is physically disabled requiring constant nursing care
there is satisfactory evidence that the detainee has been tortured

Relevant rights for migrant sex-workers irrespective of whether an offence had been committed

Right to liberty and security

- no one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention
- anyone who is arrested shall be informed, at the time of the arrest, of the reasons for arrest and shall promptly be informed of any charges
- anyone arrested or detained shall be brought promptly before a judge and shall be entitled to a trial within reasonable time
- anyone arrested or detained is entitled to take proceedings before a court
- anyone who has been the victim of unlawful arrest or detention shall have an enforceable right to compensation

Regarding ID checks and house raids

- individuals have the right to
  - request the police officer to show his/her identity (Police warrant card), record the officer’s name, UI (Unique Identifier) number, posting and which policy station s/he belongs to
  - refuse to provide information such as personal and family backgrounds (names of husband, school that your children go to etc), lease, and property owner
  - refuse to sign any document
  - refuse photographs to be taken of yourself or your apartment
  - be searched by an officer of the same sex

Regarding body search

- before the body search, police should
  - distribute a notice for custody search and state the cause, area and level of the body search
  - all searches should be performed by an officer of the same sex as the individual being searched
  - only officers of the same sex can be present during the search
  - location of the search should protect reasonable privacy

Regarding undercover operations

- undercover operations involve police officers posing as customers in order to gather evidence of illegal sex-work
- according to police guidelines, police officers are allowed to pay for sexual services that stop short of full intercourse while collecting evidence to support charges of illegal prostitution
- during the operation undercover police officers
  - cannot ask the price or the nature of services provided, otherwise the officer is guilty of “soliciting for an immoral purpose”
  - cannot initiate bodily contact with the sex-worker

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49 CAP 383 Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance s8 art 5 (1997)
50 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s152(3) (1997)
51 Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, *Your Guide to Services in Hong Kong* (July 2008) p63
52 Information largely provided by Zi Teng, *Laws Which Regulate Sex Work in Hong Kong*, at:
http://www.ziteng.org.hk/info/info_e.html#4
53 Legco, *Supplementary information on Police’s undercover operations against vice activities*, (Sept 2006)
o cannot accept sexual-services but note that the Police Department has not 
forbidden officers from accepting masturbation services during undercover 
operations 

o cannot receive money 

Regarding arrest 
• before the arrest, the police officer must 
• state the reason why the individual is being arrested and the charge 54 clearly give the 
Cautioned Statement (right to remain silent as protected under Common Law) 

Regarding detention 
• in police custody an individual has the right to 55 
  o seek legal assistance (see Section VI for more information about legal aid and 
translation) by 
    ▪ making private telephone calls to, or communicating in writing or in person 
      with, a solicitor or barrister 
    ▪ having a solicitor or barrister present during any interview with the Police 
    ▪ communicating in private or refusing any communication with a solicitor or 
barrister claiming to have been instructed by a third person on the 
individual's behalf 
    ▪ requesting provision of a list of solicitors published by the Law Society of 
Hong Kong 
  
  o request the Police to inform a friend or relative that they are at a police station and 
be informed of the outcome 

  o contact the relevant consulate 
    ▪ a foreign national can request the Duty Officer to contact the consulate of 
their home country in Hong Kong or if there is no consular representation 
in Hong Kong, the authorities of the individual's home country 
    ▪ contact details of Consular Representation in Hong Kong in Section IV 
    ▪ representatives from the consulate or the relevant authorities of the 
individual's home country can visit in private or arrange for a solicitor or 
barrister to visit the individual 
    ▪ the individual must be given a copy of their cautioned statements 
(questions and answers given under caution) as soon as practicable after 
the interview and they may refuse to answer subsequent questions until a 
copy is provided 

  o keep in touch 
    ▪ a reasonable opportunity to communicate with a relative or friend by 
television but if an overseas call is made, it will be at the individual's 
expense 
    ▪ the individual may request to receive visit by a friend or relative with the 
approval of the Duty Officer 
    ▪ the individual may request the Duty Officer to supply writing materials 
although any letters will be posted at the expense of the individual 

  o request for bail may be made and if remanded (detained) by order of a magistrate, 
it will be the magistrate who decides on the request to grant bail 

  o request interpretation services (see Section VI) 

  o be provided with with water and 3 meals per day and request additional food/drink 
at, subject to the approval of the Duty Officer and the inspection of such food and 
drink 

54 Department of Immigration, Guidance to an Arrested Person on Arrest and Detention 
55 CAP 331C, Immigration Service (Treatment of Detained Persons) Order (1997) and Your Guide to Services 
o demand medical attention if required
• these rights are conditional on there being no unreasonable delay or hindrance that
would reasonably likely to be caused to the process of investigation or administration of justice

Breaches of individuals rights
• making a claim of police misconduct
  o complain to the duty officer of the police station
  o call 999 hotline
  o call Zi Teng: +852 2332 7182 (24hrs legal assistance hotline)
  o call Complaints and Internal Investigation Branch (CIIB): +852 2866 7700
  o call Independent Commission Against Corruption: +852 2526 6366
• for information as to legal aid/translation service see Section VII

Part II
Legal entitlement to stay in Hong Kong

Legal entitlement to stay in Hong Kong

Everyone needs an entry visa/permit to work, study, establish or join in any business or take up
residence or to stay in Hong Kong as a visitor longer than the allowed visa free period, unless they have
the right to abode or land. 56

Entry Visa
• an application for an entry visa to enter Hong Kong for a visit (leisure, social or business)
may be favourably considered if
  o the applicant’s bona fides are not in doubt;
  o the applicant has adequate funds to cover the duration of his/her stay without
working; and
  o where the application is for a transit visa/permit; s/he holds an onward ticket to
the place of his/her destination

Right of abode in Hong Kong 57

• Hong Kong permanent residents enjoy the right of abode in Hong Kong
• they have the right to
  o land in Hong Kong
  o be free from any condition of stay in Hong Kong
  o not be deported or removed from Hong Kong
• 6 categories of people are eligible to enjoy the right of abode in Hong Kong
  a) a Chinese citizen born in Hong Kong before of after the establishment of Hong Kong
  b) a Chinese citizen who has resided in Hong Kong for a continuous period of not less than
  7 years before or after the establishment of Hong Kong
  c) a Chinese national born outside Hong Kong to a parent who was a Chinese citizen falling
within category (a) or (b)
  d) a person not of Chinese nationality who has entered Hong Kong with a valid travel
document and has resided in Hong Kong for a continuous period of not less than 7 years
  e) a person under 21 years born in Hong Kong to a parent who is a permanent resident of
Hong Kong under category (d)
  f) a person other than those in categories (a) to (e) who, before the establishment of Hong
Kong, had the right of abode in Hong Kong only
• Further information
  o Right of Abode Section of Immigration
  o Enquiry hotline: +852 2824 6111

56  CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s7 (1997)
57  CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s2A (1997)
Right to land to Hong Kong\(^{58}\)
- if an individual loses the right of abode in Hong Kong s/he will automatically acquire the right to land in Hong Kong which allows him/her to
  - land in Hong Kong;
  - to be free from any condition of stay (including a limit of stay) in Hong Kong;
  - and not to be removed from Hong Kong
- a person may ascertain whether s/he has lost the status of a permanent resident of Hong Kong by applying for verification of eligibility for permanent identity card with the Right of Abode Section of the Immigration Department.

Hong Kong Identity (ID) card\(^{59}\)
- all Hong Kong residents aged 11 or over are required to register for an identity card within 30 days of arrival in Hong Kong
- the first ID card is free of charge but fees are charged for replacement HKID cards
- applications should be made to the Registration of Persons Office of the Immigration Department as listed below and applicants are advised to make prior appointments before going to the offices.
- Offices:
  - Hong Kong Office: 8/F, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai. Tel: +852 2824 6111
  - Kowloon Office: 3/F, Cheung Sha Wan, Government Offices, 3030 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon. Tel: +852 2150 7933
  - Kwun Tong Office: Shop Nos. 25-35 & 43-45, 43-45, G/F Wharf T&T Square, 123 Hoi Bun Road. Kwun Tong, Kowloon. Tel: +852 2755 9545
  - Fo Tan Office: Shops 405-406, 4/F Jubilee Court, Shopping Centre, 2-18 Lok King Street, Fo Tan, New Territories. Tel: +852 2653 3116
  - Yuen Long Office: Shop B, G/F, Manhattan Plaza, 23 Sai Ching Street, Yuen Long. Tel: +852 2475 4114
- applicants should bring
  - new arrivals should bring a valid travel document, passport, entry permit, One-Way permit or affidavit showing residential status in Hong Kong
  - Hong Kong resident should bring juvenile identity card, previous identity card, passport or other travel documents
- more information
  - Immigration Department
  - Hotline: +852 2824 6111
  - Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk

Conditions of stay
For individuals who have the right of abode and right to land, there are no restrictions and the individual is free to enter Hong Kong freely to live, study and work without any restrictions. In all other cases there are usually restrictions on how long an individual is allowed to stay and whether s/he is allowed to work or not. Most visas, in particular two-way visas, tourist visas and business visas, do not allow an individual to undertake paid or unpaid work.

\(^{58}\) CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s2AAA (1997)
\(^{59}\) Immigration Department, General Information on Hong Kong Identity Cards, at http://www.gov.hk/en/residents/immigration/idcard/hkid/geninfor.htm
Breach of condition of stay

- a breach of conditions of stay (for example by undertaking paid or unpaid work or staying for longer than the permitted period) can result in a fine up to HK$50,000 and imprisonment of 2 years

Providing false statements and forgery of documents

- provide false statements, use or possession of forged documents can result on conviction in a fine of HK$150,000 and imprisonment of 14 years

Landing and remaining in Hong Kong without permission

- arriving and remaining in Hong Kong without permission can result on conviction to a fine up to HK$600,000 and imprisonment of 7 years
- this applies for migrants arriving in Hong Kong and overstaying their visa

Refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants

There are no clear statistics on the number of refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants in Hong Kong. According to SoCo in 2006, there were 1,800 asylum seekers of which 78% were from Asia and 21% from Africa. Vision First provided the following unofficial statistics
Open CAT claims by ex(domestic helpers approx. 600
Open CAT claims 6750
CAT claims rejected in 2010 >400
Open UNHCR claims <500
UNHCR refugees approx. 150 (including children)
UNHCR refugees recognized each year >20

Refugees Pursuant to the 1951 Refugee Convention, a refugee is any person who owing to a well founded fear of being prosecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his/her nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, unwilling to avail himself/herself of the protection of that country.

Asylum seekers According to the UNHCR, an asylum seeker is any person who is seeking protection as a refugee and is waiting to have his/her claim assessed. If this person is found to have a genuine claim s/he becomes a refugee.

CAT claimants an asylum seeker can also lodge an application under Article 3 of the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT).

After their arrival in Hong Kong asylum seekers, refugees and CAT claimants cannot be repatriated (non-refoulement principle), although anecdotal evidence suggests there are cases where individuals have been returned without due process. Individuals who are not sent back will initially be kept in airport detention and then transferred to Castle Peak Bay Detention Centre. Once identity and security checks are finalized, they will be released on recognizance. This recognizance paper has no official status but provides access to certain services.

Law and policy relating to asylum seekers and refugees

- Hong Kong has no legislation or coherent policy governing the treatment of asylum seekers, refugees, or CAT claimants. And although the Refugee Convention and Protocol apply to the People’s Republic of China, they have not been extended to Hong Kong SAR so that there is no protected status for refugees or asylum seekers in Hong Kong law or policy

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60 CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s41 (1997)
61 CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s42 (1999)
62 CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s38 (2005)
• the Government’s current approach is to treat all arrivals in accordance with the Immigration Ordinance (CAP 115) and immigration guidelines which do not mention or require different treatment for asylum seekers or refugees

• Hong Kong relies on the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) Hong Kong Sub-Office to process asylum seekers’ applications but there is no formal system for directing asylum seekers to UNHCR and access to UNHCR depends on individual initiative and knowledge or on the discretion of the immigration officer

• UNHCR refugee status determination process (RSD)
  o register with UNHCR at which time they will be put in detention at the airport or Castle Peak Bay Immigration Centre
  o first instance interviews with UNHCR either over the phone or in person at the detention centre or UNHCR offices, using interpretation services where necessary
  o if refugee status is recognized UNHCR must resettle them to third countries that are willing to offer them protection
  o resettlement countries each have their own processes and often subject the refugees to additional interviews and currently refugees from Hong Kong are only resettled to USA and Canada and only very few each year are resettled (approx 16)
  o refugees that are not resettled remain in Hong Kong but still do not have legal status in Hong Kong and are therefore unable to work and access many services
  o UNHCR communicates its decision on the status of the asylum seeker to the Director of Immigration, who has unfettered discretion to decide whether or not to abide by the decision, as determined by the High Court in its 2006 decision in AK v Director of Immigration
  o if refugee status is denied the applicant is returned to their country of origin, subject to any appeal lodged with UNHCR (which is a review based on the papers taken from an interview with the appellant) and if the appeal fails the applicant may apply for re-opening
  o if refugee status has been denied and no further permission to remain in Hong Kong is granted, the individual is required to leave the country

UNHCR RSD procedure has been widely criticized for lacking a number of guarantees ensuring procedural fairness including transparency, providing written reasons for refusal, independent appeals, provision for legal assistance, and judicial review.

_Daly, M. ‘Note on the Situation of Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Convention Against Torture (‘CAT’) Claimants in the Hong Kong SAR prepared for Joint Meeting of the Legislative Council Panels on Welfare Services and Security, 18-7-2006, LC Paper No. CB(2)2761/05-06(2)_

**Law and policy relating to CAT claimants**

• the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) has been extended to Hong Kong since 1992 and Hong Kong Government has put in place an administrative mechanism for torture claims

• in 2010, several legally-aided torture claimants un成功fully launched various legal challenges against enforcement actions and policies of the Government, challenging the policy of not granting an extension of stay to torture claimants or allowing screened torture claimants to work in Hong Kong

• claim procedure
  o little information is available on the actual process for lodging a claim under CAT but the claim needs to be lodged to the Director of Immigration and is handled by the Torture Claim Assessment Division of the Immigration Department
• on lodging a CAT claim, the individual is taken to the Castle Peak Bay Immigration Centre (CIC) for security and identity check and then the individual will be released on recognizance until their claim is processed
• if the claim is established s/he will not be removed to the country where there are substantial grounds for believing that he would be in danger of subjected to torture, although removal to another country will be considered but note that thus far only 1 CAT claim has been successful and this was forced by judicial review in 2008
• if the claim fails s/he will be removed from Hong Kong, however, s/he may appeal (petition) against the refusal decision
• more information
  ▪ Enforcement and Torture Claim Assessment Branch: +852 2829 3838
  ▪ Immigration hotline: +852 2824 6111
  ▪ Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk
• petition (appeal) against the determination of a torture claim
  ▪ If the claimant is not satisfied with the determination by the Immigration Department, s/he may lodge a petition within 14 days from the date of the notice of determination to the Chief Executive under Article 48(13) of the Basic Law
  ▪ the petition will be considered by the Adjudicator of the Security Bureau under the authority delegated from the Chief Executive
  ▪ if circumstances warrant, an oral hearing with the petitioner and representative(s) from the Immigration Department may be conducted s/he may be represented by lawyer at the hearing
  ▪ the determination of the appeal shall be final
  ▪ the notice of petition must be completed either in English or Chinese
• more information
  ▪ Petition Teams in Rooms 3007-10
  ▪ Address: 30/F Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai
  ▪ Tel: +852 2294 2981
• recognizance
  ▪ On release from CIC the individual will be issued with a “Recognizance Paper” (alternative to detention) so they may freely move around Hong Kong although in practice, recognizance provides notice that the holder is a refugee and has no legal visa and enjoys no rights

**Situation of refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants while awaiting status determination**

**RSD and CAT claim procedures can take a long time and during this time asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants are generally treated as unauthorized immigrants and are therefore denied access to basic services and vulnerable to detention and deportation.**

- According to the Hong Kong Human Rights Commission, asylum seekers “are denied access to health care, education, welfare, and housing, and care furthermore subject to detention. If they approach the immigration department to extend visas or get recognizance they are often rejected and will be asked to leave the country”.
- officially Hong Kong Administration has advised that the fact that a person is a refugee, asylum seeker or torture claimant does not in itself lead to that person’s prosecution or detention in Hong Kong and that enforcement actions will only be made if the person

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63 Security Bureau, ‘Petition against the Determination of a Torture Claim’
http://www.sb.gov.hk/eng/special/pdfs/petition_against_the_determination.pdf
64 Security Bureau, ‘Frequently Asked Questions on Lodging a Petition’
65 CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s36 (1997)
concerned has breached Hong Kong laws such as undertaking illegal employment or overstaying. 66

• in July 2008, the Hong Kong Court of Appeal ruled that the powers to detain under Section 32 of the Immigration Ordinance pending verification of a torture claim were lawful under domestic law but that they violated Article 5(1) of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights and there was no published policy describing the circumstances under which the Government could exercise its power to detain pending verification of the torture claims. 67

• in practice asylum seekers and refugees in Hong Kong continue to be arbitrarily detained.

Extending visas

Extension of stay for visitors
• who: anyone with a visitor visa
• when: Applications may be made in person before or within 7 days from expiry of the limit of stay
• where:
  o foreign (i.e. non-Mainland) visitors may make the applications to the Extension Section or any Immigration Branch Offices (except Hong Kong Island Travel documents Issuing Office.
  o contact details
    ▪ Extension Section on 5/F, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai. +852 2824 6111
    ▪ East Kowloon Office, 2/F, Sceneway Plaza, Sceneway Garden Road, Lam Tin. +852 2347 3492
    ▪ M/Floor, Yau Ma Tei Car park Building, 250 Shanghai Street, Yau Ma Tei. +852 23594426
    ▪ Sha Tin Office, 3/F Sha Tin Government Office, 1 Sheung Wo Che Road, Sha Tin. +852 2158 6419
    ▪ Immigration and Registration of Persons, Fo Tan Office, 405 &406, 4/F Jubilee Court Shopping Centre, 2-18 Lok King Street, Fo Tan. +852 2651 8644
    ▪ Immigration and Registration of Persons – Yuen Long Office, Shop B, G/F, Manhattan Plaza, 23 Sai Ching Street, Yuen Long. +852 2475 4145
  o visitors from Mainland China can only make the applications to the Extension Section on 5/F, Immigration Tower
• what to bring:
  o travel documents;
  o evidence to support the need to prolong the stay in Hong Kong eg ;
  o onward/return tickets; evidence showing adequate funds etc; and
  o completed form ID91
• Processing time: applications will normally be finalized the same day
• costs: $160
• more information
  o Tel: +852 2824 6111
  o Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk

Extension of stay for non-permanent residents/visitors

66 Legislative Council, Review of the Torture Claim Screening Mechanisms ‘Background brief prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 6 July 2009’ Ref CB2/PL/SE. at 11
• who: non-permanent residents in Hong Kong. Not applicable to foreign domestic helpers and entrants admitted under the Capital Investment Entrance Scheme and their dependents
• when: application can be made within 4 weeks before the expiry of limit of stay
• where: application can be made to Extension Section, 5/F Immigration Tower or any Immigration Branch Offices (except Hong Kong Island Travel Documents Issuing Office) as listed above
• what to bring:
  o travel documents;
  o HK identity card;
  o completed form ID91; and
  o depending on current status
    ▪ for extension of employment or training: current employment letter stating the applicant’s position and remuneration;
    ▪ for extension of student status: letter of continued studies;
    ▪ for extension of dependent status: sponsor’s travel document or Hong Kong permanent Identity Card, form ID481A; and form ID481B
• processing time: applications will be finalized within 2-3 weeks upon receipt of all necessary documents
• cost: $160
• appointment booking for applying for extension of stay
  o Phone: +852 2598 0888
• note visas cannot be renewed for the purpose of seeking asylum

Extension of stay for foreign domestic helpers
• who: foreign domestic helper applicants applying for an extension of stay under the sponsorship of the same employer, including contract renewal and completion of the remaining period of the current contract, may use the new arrangements
• when: within 8 weeks before the expiry of the domestic helper’s limit of stay
• where: in the drop-in boxes located at Foreign Domestic Helpers Section, 3/F, Immigration Tower, Wan Chai, Hong Kong or by post to the Foreign Domestic Helpers Section or by online submission via the Hong Kong Government website (www.gov.hk/esapplication)
• supporting documents
  o application form ID 998A
  o application form ID 998B (only for contract renewal)
  o an original copy of the new Employment Contract (ID 407) (only for contract renewal) copy of the helpers’ travel documents including the pages showing his/her personal particulars, latest visa label; and latest landing endorsement
  o copy of proof of employer’s financial positions
  o copy of proof of employer’s residential address
  o employer’s supporting letter to confirm continuous employment (only for completion of remaining period under current contract)
• processing time: within 10 working days
• cost: $160

Migration of dependant family members
Dependants of Hong Kong residents
• who:
• the following dependants of a person who is a Hong Kong permanent resident or a resident not subject to a limit of stay (i.e. a resident with the right to land or on unconditional stay) may apply to join him/her for residence
  ▪ his/her spouse;
  ▪ his/her unmarried dependent children under the age of 18; and
  ▪ his/her parent aged 60 or above
• for a person who has been admitted into Hong Kong to take up employment or study or who is permitted to remain in Hong Kong as a capital investment entrant or an entrant under the Quality Admission Scheme, the following dependants may apply to join him/her for residence
  ▪ his/her spouse; and
  ▪ his/her unmarried dependent child under the age of 18
• note that this entry arrangement does not apply to
  ▪ Chinese residents of the Mainland (except in certain circumstances)
  ▪ former Mainland Chinese residents residing in Macau SAR who have acquired residence in Macau through channels other than the One-Way Permit Scheme; and
  ▪ nationals of Afghanistan, Albania, Cuba and Democratic People ‘s Republic of Korea
• supporting documents:
  o application for Entry for Residence form ID 997 Part A (completed by applicant) and Part B (completed by sponsor)
  o recent photograph
  o photocopy of applicant’s travel document containing personal particulars and page containing latest arrival stamp/extension of stay label
  o photocopy of applicants HKID (if any)
  o photocopy of proof of the applicants relationship with the sponsor (eg marriage certificate, birth certificate, family letters etc)
  o photocopy of applicants Macao identity card (for Macao residents only)
  o photocopy of applicant’s household registration in Taiwan and Taiwan identity card (for Taiwan residents only)
• where:
  o all supporting documents should be submitted by the applicant or local sponsor to: Receipt and Despatch Unit, Hong Kong Immigration Department, 2/F Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai
  o applicants residing overseas may submit their application with the relevant supporting document in person to the nearest Chinese diplomatic and consular mission in their place of domicile
• costs: $160
• processing time: up to 6 weeks

**Dependents of refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants**
• due to the lack of a formal refugee/asylum seeker policy, no information is available regarding the treatment of claims from family groups and whether such claims will be determined individually or as a group
• generally, children under 18 are considered within the claim made by their parents – unless something specific happened to the child to justify separate consideration
• the country of resettlement will usually process the family as a whole
• generally when a family arrives in Hong Kong, one person is treated as the principal applicant, but other family members will be interviewed
Health care system in Hong Kong

The Hong Kong health care system is divided in public and private health care services

Public health care

- **Out-patient clinics**
  - for routine medical treatment, the most convenient and affordable choice is one of Hong Kong’s many out-patient clinics and more serious illness will be referred to a specialist clinic or hospital for further treatment
  - for appointments, the Hospital Authority has an automated phone-appointment service so patients call the relevant out-patient clinic and input information as instructed before being given an appointment time and a reference number
  - on arrival at an out-patient clinic the patient must first register and then pay a registration fee and a Hong Kong ID will be required for registration
  - office hours for general out-patient clinics are usually Mon-Fri 9:00am-1:00pm, 2:00pm-5:00pm and Sat 9:00am-1:00pm
  - there are currently 48 specialist out-patient clinics and 74 general out-patient clinics in Hong Kong with locations and contact details can at
    - general out-patient clinics
    - specialist out-patient clinics

- **Public hospitals**
  - patients need to register at the Hospital’s Admission office and are required to bring identification documents and their admission slip for scheduled admission
  - if you have an inquiry on the services provided by the Hong Kong public hospitals, call the Hospital Authority One Stop Enquiry Service on 2300-6555
  - there are currently 41 hospitals and institutions in Hong Kong and location and contact details can be found at
  - there are 16 public hospitals with Accident & Emergency (A&E) Services that provide full range of accident and emergency services 24 hours a day and location and contact details of Accident & Emergency Departments are available at

- **Department of Health Specialist Clinics** (see list above)
  - an overview of clinics and health centres can be found at
  - information about doctor services available during long holidays can be obtained from the Medilink hotline at 90000-222-322 (Cantonese, Mandarin and English)

Private health care

while most of the private hospitals have 24-hour out-patient clinics, these clinics are not meant to provide the same kind of emergency services rendered at the A & E departments of public hospitals

Costs

- subsidized (public) healthcare is available to holders of Hong Kong ID cards, children aged under 11 years who are Hong Kong residents and other persons approved by the Director of Health
- full fees are payable by non-eligible persons
- various options exist for Hong Kong ID card holders who cannot afford subsidized health care
  - recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) do not have to pay public health care expenses (not available for illegal immigrants, including refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants who have overstayed their visa)
  - for vulnerable groups in the community who do not receive CSSA (low income patients, chronically ill patients and elderly) there is a medical waiver which entitles the person, on request, to free medical care and applications can be made at the Medical Social Services Units of public hospitals and clinics or from the Social Welfare Department (Integrated Family Services Centres & the Family and Child protective Services Units of the Social Welfare Department (IFSCs/FCPSUs of SWD) with more information on the criteria available at http://www.ha.org.hk/haho/hacd/122630e.htm
    - addresses and telephone numbers of the Medical Social Services Units of SWD http://www.swd.gov.hk/doc/rehab/MSSU-SWD_Eng_042011.pdf
    - addresses and telephone numbers of the Medical Social Services Units under Hospital Authority http://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubsvc/page_medical/sub_medical_soc/
- further information
  - Social Welfare Department (SWD)
    - Address: 8/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen’s Road East, Wan Chai
    - Hotline: +852 2343 2255
    - Fax: +852 2838 0114
    - Email: swdenq@swd.gov.hk
    - Website: www.swd.gov.hk
  - Hospital Authority (manages Hong Kong Public health care system)
    - Address: Hospital Authority Building, 147 Argyle Street, Kowloon
    - Tel: +852 2300 6555
    - Fax: +852 2890 7726
    - HA Infoline: +852 2882 4866
    - Email: enquiry@ha.org.hk
    - Website: www.ha.org.hk

Organisations assisting asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants/people with recognition papers

With their recognition papers refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants can be treated at Public Accident & Emergency hospitals and they can apply for a Medical Waiver through Social Welfare Department (SWD) offices at hospitals. Various service providers offer assistant to refugees and asylum seekers including

- Vision First
  - assists refugees and asylum seekers to access medical services
  - a private doctor offers medical consultations, advice and treatment to registered Vision First Members
  - facilitates access to dental and optical services
both female and male staff

- **ASTC Programme, ISS-HK**
  - asylum seekers and refugees may be eligible for the medical waiver through the ASTC programme of ISS-HK (supported by SWD) and the waiver will need to be requested from SWD

- **Christian Action Chungking Mansion Service for Refugees and Asylum seekers**
  - provide some medical services and assist in gaining access to health care in Hong Kong

- organisations such as UNHCR and HKRAC will aim to assist individuals in finding specialized treatment if no public assistance is available

**Mental health services**

*The term mental health services describes services that deal with a wide range of mental health related issues including but not limited to counselling, psychological treatment, psycho-social support and psychiatric treatment. The nature of the services provided differs significantly between organisations and contact should be sought with the relevant organisation for further information.*

- **Social Welfare Department (SWD)**
  - **Medical Social Services** SWD operates 33 medical social services units in public hospitals, specialist clinics and out-patient clinics with medical social workers providing patients and their families with individual and group counselling, financial aid, housing assistance or referral to other community resources to facilitate their treatment, rehabilitation and re-integration into society
    - non-CSSA recipients can apply for a medical fee waiver through the SWD (including asylum seekers, refugees and CAT claimants with their recognizance papers)
    - more information at medical social services unit at hospital or clinic or through the SWD Hotline at +852 2343 2255
  - **Clinical Psychological Service** provides psychological assessment and psychotherapy
    - services are free of charge
    - more information
      - SWD Hotline: +852 2343 2255

- **Hong Kong Christian Service – Family Networks**
  - clinical psychological service and counselling services subsidized by the Government and free of charge
  - applications directly or on referral from other agencies
  - open to residents within service boundary in Tsim Sha Tsui and Yua Ma Tei
  - service mostly in Cantonese but some counsellors also speak Putonghua or English
  - opening hours
    - 9:00am-1:00pm (Mon-Fri)
    - 2:00pm-5:30pm (Mon Fri)
    - 5:30pm-9:00pm (Tue, Thur, Fri)

**Organisations also assisting asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants/people with recognizance papers**

- **Social Welfare Department (see above)**
- **HKRAC**
  - can make referrals to certain psychiatrists.
- **International Social Services – Hong Kong (ISS-HK)**
o counselling and psycho-social assistance are available, including an available psychiatrist
- **Vision First**
  o Vision First offers mental health services to asylum seekers and refugees including counselling, psychotherapy and coaching, positive parenting groups and workshops
  o in-house doctor and counselling on appointment
- **St John’s Cathedral Counselling Services**
  o confidential psychotherapeutic counselling service available to people from all nationalities, religions, sexual orientation etc
- **RainLily**
  o Rainlilily offers victims of sexual violence one-stop around the clock assistance.
  o counselling services are available with counsellors following cases providing psychological support, psychological assessment and counselling, and referral to clinical psychologist for assessment can also be arranged
- **CHEER**
  o the Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents (CHEER) is part of the Hong Kong Christian Service and funded by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) to provide accessible services to ethnic minorities in Hong Kong and provides a range of services including translation services, language programmers and guidance, counselling and referral services by registered social workers to assist ethnic minorities who are in need of support
- **Pathfinders**
  o Pathfinders is a registered charity that assists documented or undocumented migrant women who have lost their jobs, overstayed their visas and are pregnant (mostly domestic helpers)
- **The Bethune House Migrant Women’s Refuge Ltd**
  o registered charitable organisation addressing problems of migrant women in distress, in particular domestic workers (under the umbrella of St John’s Cathedral Mission in Action Programme for Migrant Workers)
- **Soultalk**
  o registered charitable organisation for women in emotional crisis

**Services providing services specifically for victims of sexual violence**
- **Social Welfare Department**
  o **CEASE Crisis Centre**
    - provides comprehensive support to victims of sexual violence and links them with appropriate health care and social services units for necessary protection and services
    - 24-hour hotline: 18281
    - free of charge
    - immediate counselling and outreach services
    - short-term accommodation service (address kept confidential)
    - more information
      - CEASE Crisis Centre Hotline: 18281 (24hours)
  o **Residential Services for Abused Women**
    - 5 refuge centres provide temporary accommodation to females and their children in face of domestic violence or family crisis
- The refuge centres accept referrals from social workers and the police, following request for service through casework service units of SWD and direct applications to the refuge centres are also accepted.
- 24 hours, free of charge.
- More information:
  - Social Welfare Department, Residential Services for Abused Women
  - Wai On Home for Women: +852 2793 0223
  - Harmony House: +852 2522 0434
  - Serene Court: +852 2787 6865
  - Sunrise Court: +852 2890 8330
  - Dawn Court: +852 2243 3210

### Sexual Health Advice and Testing

- **Department of Health**
- **AIDS Unit**
  - AIDS prevention and care services include
    - Confidential counselling service
    - Free, anonymous, confidential HIV antibody testing
    - General information on AIDS
    - Follow-up treatment, counselling and support
    - Counselling for sexual partners and family of infected individuals
- **Social Hygiene Clinics**: responsible for the management, prevention and control of sexually transmitted diseases (STD)
  - Prior appointment and doctor’s referral are not required. Information kept confidential.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinic</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Service Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chai Wan Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
<td>West LGS, Specialist Out-patient Department, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital, 3 Lok Man Road, Chai Wan, Hong Kong +852 2595 7500</td>
<td>Mon: 8:30am-8:45pm, Wed: 8:45am-1:00pm, Fri: 8:45am-1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wan Chai Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
<td>7/F, Tang Chi Nong Specialist Clinic, 284 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong +852 3103 2411</td>
<td>Mon-Fri: 2:00pm-5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yaumatei Female Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
<td>3/F, Yaumatei Jockey Club Polyclinic, 145 Battery Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon +852 2388 6634</td>
<td>Mon: 8:30am-1:00pm, Tue-Wed: 8:45am-1:00pm, Mon-Fri: 2:00pm-5:30pm, Tue: 5:30pm-8:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yung Fung Shee Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
<td>4/F, Yung Fung Shee Memorial Centre, 79 Cha Kwo Ling Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon +852 2727 8315</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thur: 8:45am-1:00pm, Tue &amp; Thur: 2:00pm-5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuen Mun Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
<td>5/F, Tuen Mun Eye Centre, 4 Tuen Lee Street, Tuen Mun, New Territories +852 2459 2958</td>
<td>Mon: 8:30am-1:00pm, Wed-Fri: 8:45am-1:00pm, Mon, Wed, Fri: 2:00pm to 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinic</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Service Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chai Wan Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
<td>West LG5, Specialist Out-patient Department, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital, 3 Lok Man Road, Chai Wan, Hong Kong +852 2595 7500</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Thur: 8:45am-1:00pm 2:00pm-5:30pm Mon: 8:30am-1:00pm Fri: 8:45am-1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wan Chai Social Hygiene Clinic (Male)</td>
<td>6/F, Tang Chi Ngong Specialist Clinic, 284 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong +852 3103 2400</td>
<td>Mon: 8:30am-1:00pm Tue-Fri: 8:45am-1:00pm Mon- Wed &amp; Fri: 2:00pm-5:30pm Thur (For special skin case only) 2:00pm-5:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yaumatei Male Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
<td>5/F, Yaumatei Jockey Club Polyclinic, 145 Battery Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon +852 2359 4377</td>
<td>Mon: 8:30am-1:00pm Wed-Fri: 8:45am-1:00pm Mon-Fri: 2:00pm-5:30pm Tue (old cases only): 5:30pm-8:30pm Tue: 8:45am-1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yung Fung Shee Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
<td>4/F, Yung Fung Shee Memorial Centre, 79 Cha Kwo Ling Road, Kwan Tong, Kowloon +852 2727 8315</td>
<td>Mon: 8:30am-1:00pm Wed &amp; Fri: 8:45am-1:00pm Mon, Wed &amp; Fri: 2:00pm-5:30pm</td>
</tr>
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<td>Tuen Mun Social Hygiene Clinic</td>
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<td>Tue &amp; Thur: 8:45am-1:00pm Tue &amp; Thur: 2:00pm-5:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organisations also assisting asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants/people with recognizance papers

- **AIDS Hotline (Department of Health)**
  - AIDS Hotline: +852 2780 2211
    - provides information on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), individual counselling and appointment booking for HIV antibody tests
    - pre-recorded messages in English, Cantonese and Putonghua (24 hrs)
    - counselling service and appointment booking for HIV antibody test, Mon-Fri 9am-6pm
    - free and anonymous
  - AIDS hotline for other languages:
    - +852 2359 9112 (Tagalog, Vietnamese and Thai)
    - +852 2112 9980 (Hindi, Indonesian, Nepali and Urdu)
  - Gay Men HIV Testing hotline: +852 2117 1069
  - Harm Reduction Hotline: +852 2112 997
- **Rainbow of Hong Kong**
  - Rainbow of Hong Kong was founded in 1998 as a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) organisation concerned with the quality of life of LGBT persons in Hong Kong
  - Rainbow has over 1000 registered members and provides services including blood testing, counselling, hotline, and education, outreach and HIV prevention
- **AIDS Concern**
  - AIDS Concern is a non-governmental organisation providing services that are free, confidential and anonymous
- **CHOICE (Community Health Organisation for Intervention, Care and Empowerment Limited)**
- **Hong Kong AIDS Foundation**
  - non-governmental charitable organisation promoting fight against HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong
- **St Johns Cathedral HIV Education Centre**
  - preventative & educational activities including workshops, publications and outreach activities
Organisations specifically assisting sex workers

- **Zi Teng**
  - Zi Teng is a non-governmental organisation working to support the interests and basic rights of female migrant sex workers.
  - Zi Teng focuses specifically on migrant sex workers and does not have any criteria for sex workers and will help anyone who approaches the organisation (including individuals without HKID) but in practice these women are sex workers, with the majority from Mainland China, Korea, Indonesia, Thailand and Mongolian (note male sex workers are referred to Midnight Blue, an organisation that supports male sex workers in Hong Kong)

- **Action for Reach Out**
  - Non-government charitable organisation assisting women working in sex industry in HK
  - Information on HIV/AIDS

- **Midnight Blue**
  - Midnight Blue is a non-governmental organisation assisting male sex workers in Hong Kong

Information on contraception, abortion, pregnancy and family planning

- **Mothers’ Choice**
  - Provides care for babies awaiting permanent homes and for single girls and their families facing crisis pregnancies (unplanned and/or unwanted pregnancies) and information for single pregnant girls and women, their partners and families about the options available to them (parenting, adoption and abortion)

Organisations also assisting asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants/people with recognizance papers

- **The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong**
  - Non-government organisation dedicated to promoting family planning and sexual and reproductive health

**Part IV**

**Rights in terms of repatriation for trafficked sex workers**

Rights in terms of repatriation

**Removal of persons without valid travel documents**

- people who arrive in Hong Kong or are present in Hong Kong who cannot produce authentic and valid travel documents can be refused permission to land and repatriated to their place of origin
- the persons concerned can make requests regarding the destinations or lodge appeals against repatriation

**Removal of persons refused permission to land**

- an immigration officer may remove from Hong Kong a person who is refused permission to land in Hong Kong
- a person who is refused permission to land in Hong Kong may not be removed from Hong Kong after the expiry of 2 months from the date of entry

See Part I above outlining:

- **Power to order removal**
- **Power to deport**
- **Appeal against removal orders**
- **Removal orders not to be executed pending appeal**
- **Release of successful appellant**
NOTE Asylum seekers, refugees and CAT claimants arriving in Hong Kong cannot be repatriated (non-refoulement principle) however the level of adherence to this principle in Hong Kong is unclear.

Consular contacts
As at April 2011, there are 58 Consulates-General, 61 Consulates and 5 Officially Recognised Bodies in HK.  

Consulate-General | Consul-General | Tel | Email |
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<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Claro S. Cristobal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>Hammad G. M. Al Rowaily</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
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<td>2591 4510, 2591 4517 <a href="mailto:tsphhk@moa.gov.vn">tsphhk@moa.gov.vn</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Consul</td>
<td>Tel</td>
<td>Email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>Dr. Chow Yei Ching, GBS</td>
<td>3171 1199 <a href="mailto:info@bahrainconsulate.org.hk">info@bahrainconsulate.org.hk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>Kenneth Ting Woo-shou, SBS, JP</td>
<td>2798 1565 N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>David T.C. Lie, SBS, JP</td>
<td>2524 0085 N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>Bob N.Harilela, JP</td>
<td>2376 2114 N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oman</td>
<td>Louis K.C. Wong, JP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>Dr. Thomas H.C. Cheung, MH</td>
<td>2876 0828 <a href="mailto:thomascheung@pacificgroup.com.hk">thomascheung@pacificgroup.com.hk</a></td>
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<td>Aaron Shum Wan-Iung</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Torben A. Gettermann</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
<td>Ms. Annikki Arponen</td>
<td>2525 5385 <a href="mailto:sanomat.lmg@formin.fi">sanomat.lmg@formin.fi</a></td>
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<td>France</td>
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<td>--------------------</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:phlandpt@biznetvigator.com">phlandpt@biznetvigator.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceanic &amp; Pacific Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Les Luck 2827 8881</td>
<td><a href="mailto:enquiries.hongkong@dfat.gov.au">enquiries.hongkong@dfat.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Ms. Adele Bryant 2525 5044</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nzchkg@biznetvigator.com">nzchkg@biznetvigator.com</a></td>
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<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Desmond Y.T. Lee 2375 1618</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@fiji-worldchallenge.com.hk">info@fiji-worldchallenge.com.hk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
<td>Jim K.C. Or 2499 3611</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>George Chen 2522 1321</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ttohk@hkstar.com">ttohk@hkstar.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>Cheng Tung-leong 2723 2188</td>
<td><a href="mailto:yhkconsulate@yahoo.com.hk">yhkconsulate@yahoo.com.hk</a></td>
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Officially Recognized

<table>
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<th>Organisations</th>
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<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank for International Settlements</td>
<td>Eli Remolona</td>
<td>2878 7100</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eli.remolona@bis.org">eli.remolona@bis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Union</td>
<td>Ms. Maria Castillo Fernandez</td>
<td>2537 6083</td>
<td><a href="mailto:delegation-hong-kong@ecas.europa.eu">delegation-hong-kong@ecas.europa.eu</a></td>
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<td>International Finance Corporation</td>
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<td>International Monetary Fund</td>
<td>R. Sean Craig</td>
<td>2878 7303</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rr-hkg@imf.org">rr-hkg@imf.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Sub-Office</td>
<td>Choosin Ngaotheppitak</td>
<td>2780 9271</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chiho@unhcr.org">chiho@unhcr.org</a></td>
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Part V
Social welfare provisions for subsistence needs

Social welfare provisions for the wider community

- **Social Welfare Department (SWD)**
  - Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme The CSSA scheme provides cash assistance to bring the income of a household up to a prescribed level to meet basic needs, is non-contributory but means-tested
    - eligibility criteria
      - Hong Kong resident for at least 7 years and must have resided in Hong Kong continuously for at least 1 year immediately before the date of application
      - persons whose presence in Hong Kong is unlawful or persons who are permitted to stay in Hong Kong for a purpose other than residence (eg imported workers and visitors) are excluded from the scheme, note in exceptional circumstances, CSSA may be granted at the discretion of the Director of Social Welfare to a person who does not satisfy the residence requirements
      - applicants must pass an income and assets test and the applicant and his/her family will be eligible for CSSA if their total assessable monthly income is insufficient to meet their total monthly needs as recognized under the scheme
      - persons aged 15-59 in normal health should be actively seek full-time employment
  - payments can be broadly classified into 3 types
    - standard payments
    - supplements for single parents, old, disabled or medically ill people
    - special grants to eligible applicants cover rent, school fees, essential travel expenses, medical rehabilitation appliances
  - application should be direct to a social security field unit by phone, fax, email, post or in person. An application may also be made through a referral by another government department or a non-governmental organisation
  - no service charge required
  - For more information about the CSSA Scheme visit the nearest social security field unit or visit the SDA’s website at
    - the addresses and telephone numbers of the social security field units can be found at
  - Family and Child Welfare SWD provide a variety of family and child welfare services, including the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSC’s)/ Integrated Service Centres that offer a continuum of preventative, supportive and remedial services including a resource corner, enquiry service, family life education, counselling and referral services is provided
    - a list of IFSC’s can be downloaded at
Medical Social Services SWD operates 33 medical social services units in public hospitals, specialist clinics and out-patient clinics and medical social workers provide patients and their families with individual and group counselling, financial aid, housing assistance or referral to other community resources to facilitate their treatment, rehabilitation and re-integration into society
  - non-CSSA recipients can apply for a medical fee waiver through the SWD (including asylum seekers, refugees and CAT claimants with their recognizance papers)
  - more information at medical social services unit at hospital or clinic or through the SWD Hotline at +852 2343 2255
  - addresses and telephone numbers of Medical Social Services Units can be downloaded at http://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubsvc/page_medical/sub_medical
- Clinical Psychological Service provides psychological assessment and psychotherapy
  - services are free of charge
  - more information
    - SWD Hotline: +852 2343 2255
- SWD hotline +852 2343 2255 (24 hrs)
  - for assistance with personal relationships, family life, medical health, disabilities, finance, housing and employment
  - hotline social workers on duty from 9:00am-5:00pm (Mon-Fri) and 9:00am-12:00noon (Sat)
  - outside working hours callers can choose to transfer their calls to the Hotline and Outreaching Service Team, leave a message on the recording machine or seek assistance from the police
  - free of charge

Social welfare provisions available for refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants
  - The Bethune House Migrant Women’s Refuge Ltd
  - International Social Services –Hong Kong (ISS-HK) assistance in kind (non-monetary forms of assistance) to asylum seekers and Torture Claimants (ASTC)
    - ISS-HK only receives referrals from the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and individuals will need to contact SWD first
    - the needs of users are individually assessed by ISS-HK during initial interview and the provision of food, toiletries, allowances for accommodation and transportation will correspond to the needs of the individual and a contract reflecting the individual needs will be formulated and renewed on a monthly basis so that the client’s situation and needs can be reviewed and monitored
    - in kind assistance
      - food: religious and cultural predispositions are respected and accommodated when selecting food suppliers, clients can choose items from a menu and food can be picked up from the centre every 10 days, infants have a separate food list and doctor’s recommendations are taken into consideration for pregnant women
      - accommodation: rental flats are provided for asylum seekers and torture claimants with the capacity of 11 roommates in one flat, an allowance is provided for those who prefer to look for their own accommodation (approximately $1,000), ISS-HK staff will meet the tenant’s landlords and negotiate with them, allowance is paid directly to the landlord, bills are only paid up to a limited amount according to ISS matrix, beyond this support can be sought from Vision First (see below) or churches, note that...
money is only provided once a rental agreement has been signed which is a problem as it is standard practice for a deposit to be paid at the time of signing and individuals cannot find the funds for this deposit

- transportation: allowance for public transportation for interviews related to asylum seekers’ or torture claimants’ application for refuge is provided upon presentation of appointment evidence, allowance for transportation for medical appointments is also available
- toiletries: toiletries are provided on a monthly base when the service user presents him/herself to the allocated ISS office for contract renewal, toiletries provided include: soap, washing powder, shaver, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush and sanitary napkins
- clothing: when available, clothing is given to clients upon their request

- **Christian Action, Chungking Mansions Service Centre**
  - Chungking Mansions Service Centre provides essential humanitarian assistance to refugees and asylum seekers in Hong Kong including basic necessities such as food, emergency housing, clothes, baby formula, toiletries and other basic necessities

- **Vision First**
  - independent not-for-profit organisation providing humanitarian services to asylum seekers and refugees in Hong Kong
  - housing: offers emergency accommodation at the Vision First shelter providing a safe, clean and temporary place to stay until assistance is received from ISS, once ISS accommodation assistance is secured, Vision First helps find safe, clean, long term housing solutions by negotiating rental prices, funding deposits, contributing to utility bills and arranging maintenance and furnishings
  - Family Financial Assistance: offers essential relief to families, Vision First case workers assess the needs of each family unit and distribute cash for transport, food, water, clothing, medicine and other necessities on a monthly basis.
  - clothing: clothing, including shoes, jackets and blankets, are distributed to members
  - food: Vision First provides hot meals to help supplement the ISS provided food provision, Vision First has partnered with a local restaurant to provide this food
  - education: Vision First helps children between 5-14 to find schools and provides financial assistance for textbooks, uniforms, transportation, excursions and homework support classes, for adolescents and adults, Vision First offers vocational training programs at the Vision First Centre and educational institutions

**Public housing**
Adequate and affordable public housing is available to eligible residents through the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) and the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS)

- **Hong Kong Housing Authority** maintains a waiting list system whereby applicants are offered a rental unit according to their order of registration and choice of district
  - eligible applicants are over 18 years old, residing in Hong Kong and have the right to land in Hong Kong without being subject to any conditions of stay (except for conditions concerning a limit of stay) and by the time of housing allocation at least half of the applicant’s family must have lived in Hong Kong for 7 years
  - applicants suffering from hardships such as serious illness, disability or social problems can apply for re-housing on compassionate grounds, subject to a recommendation from the Social Welfare Department (SWD)
  - more information
    - Hong Kong Housing Authority Customer Service Centre
    - Address: Podium level 2, Hong Kong Housing Authority Customer Service Centre, 3 Wang Tau Horn South Road, Kowloon
    - HKHA Hotline: +852 2712 2712
- Website: http://www.housingauthority.gov.hk
- all services are provided in English and Chinese

- **Hong Kong Housing Society** has 20 rental estates and occasionally invites waiting list applicants to apply for available flats
  - more information
    - Application Section, Hong Kong Housing Society
    - Address: Dragon Centre, 23 Wun Sha Street, Tai Hang, Hong Kong
    - Telephone: +852 2894 3274
    - Hotline: +852 2882 1717 (24hrs)
    - Website: http://www.hkhs.com

- **Social Welfare Department - Residential Services for Abused Women**
  - 5 refuge centres provide temporary accommodation to females and children in face of domestic violence or family crisis
  - the refuge centres accept referrals from social workers and the police, through casework service units of SWD and by direct applications
  - 24 hours, free of charge
  - more information
    - Wai On Home for Women: +852 2793 0223
    - Harmony House: +852 2522 0434
    - Serene Court: +852 2787 6865
    - Sunrise Court: +852 2890 8330
    - Dawn Court: +852 2243 3210

### Part VI

**Legal aid and translation services**

*Publicly-funded legal aid services are provided by the Legal Aid Department and the Duty Lawyer Service*

- **The Legal Aid Department**
  - provides eligible persons with legal representation in both civil and criminal cases if applicants satisfy the Director of Legal Aid of their financial eligibility (the means test) and of the justification for legal action (the merits test) although in criminal cases, the Director of Legal Aid has a discretion to grant legal aid to an applicant who fails the means test if satisfied that it is in the interests of justice to do so and in cases of murder, treason or privacy with violence, the grant of legal aid to persons for their defence or appeal is mandatory so long as they pass the means test
  - Applicants who qualify under the means and merit test are granted legal aid, regardless of their social status, religious backgrounds, political beliefs or residency status, or other status and legal aid is available for immigration-related offences and not subject to any restrictions on the ground of residency or origin
  - More information
    - Legal Aid Department
    - Tel: +852 2537 7677
    - Website: http://www.lad.gov.hk/eng/wnew/event.html
    - Headquarters: 24/F, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway
    - Kowloon Branch Office: G/F, Mong Kok Government Offices, 30 Luen Wan Street Mong Kok, Kowloon

- **The Duty Lawyer Scheme**

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o complements the services by the Legal Aid Department and offers legal representation to defendants who are charged in the magistracies and who cannot afford private representation, subject to a means and merits test, in accordance with Article 14 of the ICCPR and Art 11 of the Bill of Rights
o provides members of the public with free legal advice through individual appointments
o More information
  ▪ The Duty Lawyer Scheme
  ▪ Tel: +852 2526 5969
  ▪ Website: www.dutylawyer.org.hk
  ▪ Office: Room 2707-8, Gloucester Tower, The Landmark, 11 Pedder Street, Central

• applicants to the UNHCR or under the CAT application procedure have no access to independent legal representation financed by Government legal aid provisions, and must rely on pro bono lawyers or independent finance

Organisations providing assistance to asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants/people with recognizance papers

• Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre (HKRAC)
  o pro-bono legal assistance

• Pathfinders
  o registered charity that assists ‘distressed’ migrant women (for example those who have overstayed their visa or have lost their job) who are pregnant or have Hong Kong born children (mostly domestic helpers)
  o advice on immigration and legal issues
  o will accompany individuals to immigration, social welfare organisations and hospitals
  o more information
    ▪ Address: Room 701, Hoseinee House, 69 Wyndham St, Central
    ▪ Hotline: +852 5190 4886
    ▪ Website: www.pathfinders.org.hk

• St John’s Cathedral – Helpers for Domestic Helpers
  o legal advice and assistance to foreign domestic workers
  o more information
    ▪ Address: 7D On Hing Building, 1 On Hong Terrace, Central
    ▪ Opening hours: 9:00am-5:00pm (Mon-Fri) and 11:00am-2:00pm (Sun)
    ▪ Tel: +852 2523 4020
    ▪ Website: www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk/domestic.html

• Christian Action
  o Chungking Mansion Service for Refugees and Asylum Seekers provides case work and legal advice
  o Domestic Helper and Migrant Workers Program (DMW) provides paralegal advice and liaison with police

• Bethune House Migrant Women’s Refuge
  o charitable organisation addressing problems of migrant women in distress, in particular domestic helpers and provides legal assistance

Organisation providing assistance to sex workers

• Action for Reach Out
• Midnight Blue
• Zi Teng

Translation services
• Government services: Government provided interpreter services are not easily accessible by ethnic minorities, for example standard practice at hospitals is that staff will only arrange interpretation on special request of the medical staff or if the patient makes a request through a referral from social workers or NGOs.71

• CHEER translation services are provided as follows:
  o Telephone Interpretation Service (TELIS)
    ▪ interpreters will provide simultaneous over-the-phone interpretation service from English to the 7 other languages and vice versa
    ▪ individuals can call the TELIS hotline during operation hours or make an appointment in advance and especially in situations such as intake assessments, making applications that involve form-fillings and other translations that take a longer period and booking should be made at least 3 working days in advance via TELIS hotlines, by fax or email
    ▪ operation hours are Monday to Sunday 8am to 10pm except public holidays
  o On-Sight Interpretation Service (OSIS)
    ▪ staff will give immediate help by giving verbal explanation on the meaning of documents from English to the 7 other languages
    ▪ operating hours are Monday to Saturday 10am to 10pm and Sunday 10am to 6pm excluding public holidays
  o On-Site (Escort) Interpretation Service (EIS)
    ▪ EIS is a service given on request by public service providers making an appointment via fax (+852 3106 0455) or email (tis-cheer@hkcs.org) at least 3 working days in advance
    ▪ available Monday to Friday between 10am-6pm, Saturday from 10am-2pm except public holidays
    ▪ fee for public service providers, Government departments and NGOs
    ▪ $30/EIS during operational hours
    ▪ $100/EIS out of operational hours
  o Translation Service (TS)
    ▪ TS is available on request by public service providers for documents where no specialized/professional terminology involved
    ▪ requests should be made via fax (+852 3106 0455) or email (tis-cheer@hkcs.org) at least 14 working days in advance for 1 page of A4 article (approximately 200 English words)
    ▪ fee $1 per word from English (minimum charge $200)

• Christian Action, Ethnic Minority Services
  o provides interpreters and escorts to hospitals and social welfare departments

Part VII

Educational entitlements

Educational entitlement for legal migrants72
All eligible children are entitled to 9 years free education (irrespective of whether they speak Chinese) and parents with the right to abode in Hong Kong must send children aged 6 to 15 to school

• Hong Kong education system

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• kindergarten offered to children aged 3-5 and run by voluntary organisations or private bodies
• primary schooling starts at age 6 and operate in the morning, afternoon or all day, Chinese is the language of instruction in most schools with English taught as a second language
• secondary schools offer 3 years junior secondary and 3 years senior secondary education leading to the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education for admission into tertiary education
• there are 12 degree-awarding higher education institutions
  • private international schools charge tuition fees and have waiting lists
    o the Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA) provides financial assistance to needy students and enquiries can be made to the SFAA at +852 2802 2345
    o education and support services are provided for newly arrived non-Chinese speaking children to help them adjust to local education systems and the Education Bureau has produced information and parent information packages in English, Chinese, Bahasa Indonesia, Hindi, Nepali, Tagalog, Thai and Urdu available at http://www.edb.gov.hk/index.aspx?nodeID=4211&langno=1

Educational entitlement for asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants
There is no clear policy or guidelines relating to the educational entitlements for these children but to benefit from the 9 years free education children must be registered with the Immigration Department (for example recognizance papers) and their eligibility confirmed by the Director of Immigration
  • applications are dealt with on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Director of Immigration
  • note that when asylum seekers refugees and torture claimants overstay their visa and identify themselves to the Immigration Department they subject themselves to investigation for breaching their condition of stay which can result in prison
  • ISS-HK
    o Funds and placement of education for children are not included in the project but will be sought and negotiated with relevant parties if ISS-HK believes it is beneficial for the asylum seeker and/or torture claimant
  • Vision First
    o school age asylum seekers and refugees, with the permission of the Education Department, are allocated places in Government schools
    o Vision First works together with International schools and ESF in Hong Kong to provide placements in educational environments
    o more information
      ▪ Address: 5F, No 102 First Street, Sai Ying Poon, Sheung Wan
        Tel: +852 2851 0885Fax: +852 2851 0655
      ▪ Email: info@visionfirstnow.org
      ▪ Website: www.visionfirstnow.org
      ▪ Opening hours: 11:00am-7:00pm (Mon – Fri) and Saturday by appointment only
  • Christian Action, Chungking Mansions Service Centre
    o provides education support and transportation to schools

Vocational and language training
There are many different vocational and language programmes available for legal migrants
  • More information
  - **Vocational Training Council (VTC)**
    - provides a full range of pre-employment and in-service programmes with internationally recognized qualifications
    - more information
      - VTC Tower, 27 Wood Road, Wan Chai
      - Tel: +852 2836 1000
      - Fax: +852 2838 0667
      - Email: vtcmailbox@vtc.edu.hk
      - Website: [www.vtc.edu.hk](www.vtc.edu.hk)
  - **Christian Action**
    - SHINE Centre for Ethnic Minorities
      - Cantonese and English language classes
      - workshop, vocational training, career counselling, mentoring for the unemployed and IT skills for all adults and children
    - Chungking Mansions Service Centre for refugees, asylum seekers and torture claimants provides a variety of different language classes, interest classes, skills training and various talks/workshops
  - **Domestic Worker Programme**
    - vocational and language training for domestic workers
  - Training Centre services to unemployed, jobseekers, youth, ethnic minorities and recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) with courses including computer training, import and export, language, clerical, bookkeeping, housekeeping and security
  - **Caritas - Education Services Division**
    - Community and Higher Education Service operates in educational centres throughout the territories to provide education and training within the community
    - wide range of programmes
    - mainly for Chinese speaking migrants
  - **Hong Kong Christian Service**
    - wide range of vocation training for the socially and educationally under-privileged
  - **International Social Services – Hong Kong Branch (ISS-HK)**
    - HOPE Support Services for Ethnic Minorities
  - **Hong Kong Christian Service**
    - Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents (CHEER) offers language classes (English and Cantonese at beginner, intermediate and advanced level)
      - integration programmes
      - technical literacy (computer classes)
      - cultural literacy
      - social literacy (knowledge about Hong Kong society)
    - Kwun Tong Vocational Training Centre
      - provides a wide range of vocational training programmes for the socially and educationally under-privileged people of Hong Kong
  - **St John’s Cathedral**
    - Mission for Migrant Workers, education and training program
  - **Vision First**
  - **Midnight Blue**
  - **Zi Teng**
Part VIII
Legal rights and obligations

Legal obligations of ‘employers’ of sex workers

Illegal migrants including asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants

- not allowed to work in Hong Kong
- it is an offence to be an employer or a person who is not lawfully employable and any offender is liable to a fine of HK$350,000 and imprisonment of 3 years.  

Legal migrants engaged in sex work

- only allowed to work as ‘self-employed’ sex workers and there are several ordinances prohibit employing sex workers
  - causing prostitution: liable on conviction to imprisonment up to 10 years
  - control over persons for the purpose of unlawful sexual intercourse or prostitution: liable on conviction to imprisonment up to 14 years
  - living on the earnings of prostitution of others: liable on conviction to imprisonment up to 10 years
  - keeping a vice establishment: liable on conviction to imprisonment up to 10 years
  - letting premises for use as a vice establishment: liable on conviction to imprisonment up to 7 years
  - tenant permitting premises or vessel to be kept as a vice establishment liable on conviction to imprisonment up to 7 years
  - tenant permitting premises or vessel to be used for prostitution: liable on conviction to imprisonment up to 7 years

Legal migrants engaged in legal work (nightclubs, massage parlours, karaoke bar)

- entitled to normal employment protection as other employees in Hong Kong
- minimum protection according to the Employment Ordinance (see below for details)
- tax obligations
  - an employer must notify the Inland Revenue Department when a person is employed by him or her
  - each employer must be issues a pay slip at the end of the week or month for which they have received a salary, containing details of the salary paid and an employer must retain records of remuneration for each employee for 7 years
- the employer is required to take out insurance under the Employee’s Compensation Ordinance
- each employee must be entered into the Mandatory Pension Fund and both the employer and employee are required to contribute a minimum of 5% of the employee’s income (domestic workers excluded)

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73 CAP 115, Immigration Ordinance, s17(l) (1997)
74 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s137 (2000)
75 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s130 (2000)
76 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s137 (1998)
77 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s139 (1998)
78 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s143 (1998)
79 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s144 (1998)
80 CAP 200, Crimes Ordinance, s145 (1998)
81 Inland Revenue Department, Tax Information for Employers http://www.ird.gov.hk/eng/tax/ere.htm#01
82 CAP 282 (1997), Employees’ Compensation Ordinance
• employees may form or join trade a union according to rights and obligations outlined in the Employment Ordinance and the Trade Unions Ordinance.

Employment rights of employees

Illegal migrants (including asylum seekers, refugees and torture claimants)
• not allowed to work in Hong Kong and therefore have no employment protection

Legal migrants engaged in sex work
• Sex work is not illegal in Hong Kong but various criminal ordinances greatly limit the movement and activities of sex workers and as a result their occupational safety and health
  o they are not allowed to hire a bodyguard or protector as the payment of the sex worker to the hired bodyguard is prohibited (“living on the earnings of the prostitution of others”)
  o they are not allowed to work together to protect each other (“managing a vice establishment”)
  o they are not allowed to be employed by anyone and as a result they cannot negotiate the terms and conditions of their employment
  o they are unable to form a union as this would require them under Hong Kong Law to provide information about their employer and they are not allowed to be employed by anyone
• some sex workers have organized themselves in a sex workers association (supported by Zi Teng) but this association cannot be recognized as a union under Hong Kong Law because sex workers are unable to provide information about their employer’s information
• Zi Teng and Action for Reach Out advocate for improved labour rights for sex workers in Hong Kong and empower and facilitate sex workers to self-organize
• Zi Teng
  o provides information about labour rights and occupational safety
  o empower sex workers to self-organize
• Action for Reach Out (AFRO)
  o support and services to women working in the sex industry and encourage and facilitate these women to form their own support groups

Legal migrants engaged in legal work (nightclubs, massage parlours, karaoke bar)
• entitled to normal employment protection as other employees in Hong Kong
• the Employment Ordinance (EO) is the main piece of legislation governing conditions of employment in Hong Kong, covering a comprehensive range of employment protection and benefits for employees including
  o wage protection
  o rest days
  o holidays with pay
  o paid annual leave
  o sickness allowance
  o maternity protection
  o severance payment
  o long service payment
  o employment protection
  o termination of employment contract
  o protection against anti-union discrimination
  o more Information
  • Labour Department

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84 CAP 57 (1997), Employment Ordinance, Part IVA
85 CAP 332 (1997), Trade Unions Ordinance
86 CAP 57 (1997), Employment Ordinance
• 16/F, Harbour Building
• 38 Pier Road, Central
• Hotline: +852 2717 1771
• Email: enquiry@labour.gov.hk
• Fax: +852 2544 3271

• all Hong Kong residents have the freedom of association and the freedom to form and join trade unions and the Employment Ordinance\(^87\) and the Trade Unions Ordinance\(^88\) govern the rights and obligations concerning trade unions
  o Registry of Trade Unions
  o 11/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central
  o Tel: +852 2852 3456
  o Fax: 2541 2681
  o Email: enquiry@labour.gov.hk

• Employees’ Compensation Ordinance (ECO)\(^89\) the ECO lays down the rights and obligations of employers and employees in respect of injuries or death caused by accidents arising out of and in the course of employment

• Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (OSHO)\(^90\) provides for the safety and health protection for employees in workplaces but does not apply to self-employed persons

• Sex Discrimination Ordinance (SDO)\(^91\) covers discrimination on the basis of sex, martial status and pregnancy, and sexual harassment are unlawful in 7 different fields including employment, education and provision of goods, facilities or services and applies to all employers in Hong Kong

• if a person is unlawfully denied equal opportunities in respect of the above they may lodge a complaint with the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and bring legal proceedings before the District Court under the anti-discrimination ordinances
  o more information about EOC and the anti-discrimination ordinances
  o Equal Opportunities Commission
  o Address: 19/F Cityplaza Three, 14 Taikoo Wan Road, Taikooshing
  o Tel: +852 2511 8211
  o Opening hours: 8:45am-5:45pm (Mon-Fri)
  o www.eoc.org.hk

**Tax obligations**

*Taxation of sex workers is unclear problem due to the semi legal status of the work and the often illegal status of the migrant sex workers*

• **illegal migrant sex-workers (including asylum seekers, refugees and CAT claimants)** are not allowed to work in Hong Kong and therefore have no tax obligations

• **legal migrant sex workers**
  o illegal sex work (such as working in brothels) is illegal and therefore no tax obligations
  o legal sex work (self employed) grey area/unclear
  o legal work (such as work in nightclubs, massage parlours, karaoke bar) attracts tax obligations and additional work provided in this context comes within category I or II

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\(^87\) CAP S7 (1997), Employment Ordinance, Part IVA
\(^88\) CAP 332 (1997), Trade Unions Ordinance
\(^89\) CAP 282 (1997), Employees’ Compensation Ordinance
\(^90\) CAP 509 (1997), Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance
\(^91\) CAP 480 (1997), Sex Discrimination Ordinance
• where tax is payable, the individual is required to pay tax for income derived from work and if he/she receives a tax return from the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) it must be completed and submitted by the due date for filing
• where there are tax obligations as a self-employed person the individual may be charged profits tax\(^2\) and self-employed persons have certain obligations including keeping sufficient business records, preparing accounts based on accounting records, completing and submitting a tax return for reporting business profits or losses and paying tax
• more information about tax obligations
  o Inland Revenue Department
  o Central Enquiry Counter, 1/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai
  o Opening Hours: 8:15am-5:30pm (Mon-Fri)
  o Tel: 187 9888
  o Email: taxinfo@ird.gov.hk

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\(^2\)Hong Kong Government, Tax Obligations of the Self-Employed
### Part X

**Contact details of support service providers**

#### # services for sex workers

* services available for illegal migrants (refugees, asylum seekers and CAT claimants) with recognizance papers

^ services for ethnic minorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support Provider</th>
<th>Help Available</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>#Action for Reach Out</strong></td>
<td>Non-government charitable organisation assisting women working in sex industry in HK&lt;br&gt;Serivces:&lt;br&gt;- legal advice&lt;br&gt;- accompany women through police and legal system&lt;br&gt;- encourage and facilitate women to form support groups&lt;br&gt;- referral agency for health screening, legal advice, counselling and if necessary temporary shelter&lt;br&gt;- informal information sessions on legal rights, health education, family counselling as well as skills training&lt;br&gt;- information on HIV/AIDS&lt;br&gt;- free STD and gynaecological exams Tuesdays from 11am – 12:15pm, 2-5pm</td>
<td>Address: PO Box 98108, TST Post Office, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon Tel: +852 2770 1065 Pager: 7110 9318 call 394 Fax: +852 2770 1201 Hotline: +852 2770 1002 Email: <a href="mailto:contact@afro.org.hk">contact@afro.org.hk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.afro.org.hk">www.afro.org.hk</a></td>
<td>Cantonese Mandarin English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AIDS Concern</strong></td>
<td>Non-government organisation&lt;br&gt;Serivces:&lt;br&gt;- Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) Service provides a one-stop testing service that provides counselling, HIV antibody rapid test and STI (Syphilis, Chlamydia, Hepatitis B) test&lt;br&gt;- soup delivery to people living with HIV/AIDS (PHA)&lt;br&gt;- free transportation service for PHAs</td>
<td>Address: 17B, Block F, 3 Lok Man Road, Chai Wan Tel: +852 2898 4411 Fax: +852 2505 1682 HIV Testing Appointment: +852 2394 6677 Email: <a href="mailto:enquire@aidsconcern.org.hk">enquire@aidsconcern.org.hk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.aidsconcern.org.hk">www.aidsconcern.org.hk</a></td>
<td>Cantonese Mandarin English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>^ Asian Migrant Centre</strong></td>
<td>Learning and knowledge centre&lt;br&gt;Serivces:&lt;br&gt;- provides information, monitoring, research and publishing services&lt;br&gt;- advocacy and unionization work among migrant domestic workers</td>
<td>Address: 13/F, Fl 6, Blk A, Fuk Keung Ind. Bld 66 Tong Mei Road, Kowloon Tel: +852 2312 0031 Fax: +852 2992 0111 Email: amc@asian‐migrants.org Website: <a href="http://www.asian%E2%80%90migrants.org">www.asian‐migrants.org</a></td>
<td>Website in English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>^ Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants</strong></td>
<td>Regional centre committed to support the migrants’ movement through advocacy, organizing and building linkages&lt;br&gt;- counselling for distressed workers&lt;br&gt;- education through a partner school</td>
<td>Address: c/o Kowloon Union Church No. 4 Jordan Road, Kowloon Tel: +852 2522 8264 Fax: +852 2723 4559</td>
<td>English Mandarin Cantonese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASTC Programme, ISS-HK</strong></td>
<td>Asylum seekers and refugees may be eligible for the medical waiver through this program supported by SWD.</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:astc@isshk.org">astc@isshk.org</a></td>
<td>Website in English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bethune House Migrant Women’s Refuge</strong></td>
<td>Registered charitable organisation addressing problems of migrant women in distress, in particular domestic workers (under the umbrella of St John’s Cathedral Mission in Action programme for Migrant Workers)</td>
<td>Tel: +852 2721 3119</td>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.migrants.net/_events/Bethune_open_haus.html">www.migrants.net/_events/Bethune_open_haus.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caritas Hong Kong Links of Harmony – Social Services for Ethnic Minorities</strong></td>
<td>Relief and rehabilitation to the poor and distressed</td>
<td>Tel: +852 2339 3713</td>
<td>Website in English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents (CHEER)</strong></td>
<td>CHEER is part of the Hong Kong Christian Service, which is one of the support service centres funded by the Home Affairs Department to provide accessible services to ethnic minorities in Hong Kong</td>
<td>Tel: +852 3106 3104</td>
<td>Website in Cantonese</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- paralegal assistance for immigration and labour cases
- translations from Chinese to English

Website: [www.apmigrants.org](http://www.apmigrants.org)
Support services for refugees and asylum seekers

1. Chunking Mansions Service
   - case work and advice
   - basic necessities
   - education support
   - psycho-social support, counselling

2. Ethnic minorities (SHINE Centre)
   - language classes (English and Cantonese)
   - interpreter service
   - assist with housing and welfare issues
   - vocational training and career counselling
   - support groups

3. New arrivals
   - emergency food funds
   - counselling
   - language and career development
   - support networks

4. For Domestic Helpers (Jordan Service Centre)
   - safe houses
   - legal assistance & liaison with police
   - vocational and language training

5. Training Centre
   - language classes
   - vocational training

Head Office:
Address: 4/F, New Horizons Building 2 Kwun Tong Road, Kowloon, H.K.
Tel: +852 2382 3339
Fax: +852 2362 0046
Email: ca@christian-action.org.hk
Website: www.christian-action.org.hk

Chungking Mansions:
No 6, 16/F, Block E, Chungking Mansions, 36-44, Nathan Road, Kowloon
Tel: +852 2723 6626
Fax: +852 2723 6321
Email: ckmsc@christian-action.org.hk
Website: http://www.christian-action.org.hk/ckmansions.htm

Domestic Workers Programme (DMW)
Address: Room 1, G/F, No. 2 Jordan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: +852 2739 6193
Fax: +852 2724 5309
Email: domhelp@christian-action.org.hk
Website: www.christian-action.org.hk/DMW(f-e).htm
Opening Hours: 9:00am-6:00pm (Mon-Fri) and 10:00am-2:00pm (Sun)

SHINE Centre for Ethnic Minorities
Address: Shop 12, 15, 20&21, G/F Tuen Mun, Central Square, 22 Hoi Wing Road, Tuen Mun
Tel: +852 3188 4555
Email: shine@christian-action.org.hk
Website: www.christian-action.org.hk
Opening hours: Tue –Sun: 9am-9pm (closed on Monday & Public Holiday)

Choi Hung Training Centre
Address: 3/F New Horizons Building, 2 Kwun Tong Road, Kowloon
Tel: +852 2716 8812
Fax: 2382 7391
Email: marketing@christian-action.org.hk

Cantonese
English
French
Hindi
Urdu
Punjabi
Tagalog
(some not always available)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHOICE (Community Health Organisation for Intervention, Care and Empowerment Limited)</th>
<th>Services:</th>
<th>Address: Rm 1501A, 15/F, Witty Commercial Building, 1A-1L Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok, Kln Tel: +852 3188 9024 Email: <a href="mailto:choice1069@hotmail.com">choice1069@hotmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.communityhealth.org.hk">www.communityhealth.org.hk</a></th>
<th>Cantonese Mandarin English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Family Planning Association of Hong Kong</td>
<td>Non-government organisation dedicated to promoting family planning and sexual and reproductive health Services:</td>
<td>Headquarters: Address: 10/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai Tel: +852 2575 4477 Services Hotline: 2572 2222 Email: <a href="mailto:fpahk@famplan.org.hk">fpahk@famplan.org.hk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.famplan.org.hk">www.famplan.org.hk</a></td>
<td>Cantonese Mandarin English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of HKSAR, Department of Health</td>
<td>Public out-patient clinics Public hospitals AIDS Unit - Telephone and face to face counselling services - Free anonymous HIV testing - Treatment - Follow-up - Education Social Hygiene Service - STD testing, treatment and care (male and female clinics) Family Health Services - Child health services (comprehensive range of health promotion and disease prevention for 0-5 years of age) - Maternal health services (antenatal and postnatal care) - Family planning services counselling and prescription of appropriate contraceptive methods)</td>
<td>General Inquiries Address: 21/F, Wu Chung House 213 Queen’s Road East Tel: +852 2961 8989/2961 8991 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@dh.gov.hk">enquiries@dh.gov.hk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.dh.gov.hk">www.dh.gov.hk</a></td>
<td>English Putonghua Cantonese</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Pregnancy tests ($70)
- Contraceptive pills ($25-$80 per cycle)
- Condoms ($30-$40)
- STD and HIV antibody testing ($250-$550)
- Information on contraception
- Termination of pregnancy (approx. $3000-$4000)
- Counselling services (sex therapy, marriage and sex counselling, dating workshop)
- Free E-counselling services
- Contraception and pregnancy information
- Mobile resource library


Birth Control & termination of pregnancy Locations: Wanchai, Ma Tau Chung, Yuen Long, Tai Wai, Tsuen Wan, Wong Tai Sin

AIDS Hotline: +852 2780 2211 (free and anonymous)
- Pre-recorded messages on AIDS and STDs: 24 hours (Mon – Sun including public holidays)
- Counselling and appointment booking service: 9am-6pm (Mon – Fri except public holidays)

Pre-recorded messages in other languages can be reached by dialling these hotlines:
- +852 2359 9112 (Tagalog, Vietnamese and Thai)

| **Government of HKSAR, Department of Home Affairs** | Race Relations Unit (for Ethnic Minorities)  
- integration programmes for ethnic minorities  
- support services for ethnic minorities  
- New Arrivals Support Services (from Mainland)  
- service information handbook  
- provision of services by district offices (familiarization courses, employment seminars, language classes) | Race Relations Unit, Home Affairs Department Hong Kong Government  
Address: Room 104, 1/F West Wing, Central Government Office, 11 Ice House Street, Central Hong Kong  
Hotline: +852 2810 3203  
Fax: +852 2121 1716  
Email: rru_general_enquiry@had.gov.hk  
Website: [http://www.had.gov.hk/rru/](http://www.had.gov.hk/rru/)  
Opening hours: 8:45am-6:00pm (lunch break 1:00-1:00pm)  
New Arrivals Support Services  
District offices contact details and services: [http://www.had.gov.hk/en/public_services/services_for_new_arrivals_fr om_the_mainland/activity.htm](http://www.had.gov.hk/en/public_services/services_for_new_arrivals_from_the_mainland/activity.htm) (Chinese only)  
Tel: +852 2835 1516 | Website in English  
Chinese  
Bahasa Indonesia  
Tagalog  
Indian  
Thai  
Pakistani |
| **Government of HKSAR, Immigration Department** | Visa application  
- Extension of Stay  
- Dependant visas  
- Hong Kong ID  
- Hong Kong permanent residency | Information and Liaison Section  
Address: 2/F, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai  
Opening Hours: 8:45am-4:30pm (Mon-Fri), 9:00am-11.30am (Sat)  
Hotline: +852 2824 6111 (24 hrs)  
Fax: +852 2877 7111  
Email: enquiry@immi.gov.hk | Website in English  
Chinese |
| **Government of HKSAR, Labour Department** | Employment services  
- Labour relations  
- Occupational safety and health  
- Employee rights & benefits | Labour Department  
16/F, Harbour Building  
38 Pier Road, Central  
Hotline: +852 2717 1771  
Email: enquiry@labour.gov.hk  
Fax: +852 2544 3271  
Trade unions:  
Registry of Trade Unions  
11/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central | English  
Chinese |
Government of HKSAR, Social Welfare Department

Social Security (CSSA Scheme)
- Family and Child Welfare Services provide a continuum of preventative, supportive and remedial services including resource corner, enquiry service, family life education, counselling and referral services.
- CEASE Crisis Centre: comprehensive support to victims of sexual violence

Medical Social Services SWD operates 33 medical social services units in public hospitals, specialists, clinics and out-patient clinics.

- individual and group counselling
- financial aid
- housing assistance
- referral to other community resources to facilitate treatment rehabilitation and re-integration into society

Clinical Psychological Service
- free psychological assessments
- free psychotherapy

Residential Services for Abused Women
- provide temporary accommodation to females and children who face domestic violence or family crisis (24 hours, free of charge)

*Hans Anderson Club

Non-governmental organisation providing support for children and young people of all ethnic backgrounds

- counselling
- support programmes for newly arrived migrant families
- training workshops for parents
- social services to the schools

Address: 8/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen’s Road East, Wan Chai
Hotline: +852 2343 2255 (24hrs)
Fax: +852 2838 0114
Email: swdenq@swd.gov.hk
Website: www.swd.gov.hk

List of IFSC’s can be downloaded here:

CSSA Scheme: The addresses and telephone numbers of the social security field units can be found here:

Addresses and telephone numbers of Medical Social Services Units of SWD:

CEASE Crisis Centre Hotline: 18281 (24hours)
- Wai On Home for Women: +852 2793 0223
- Harmony House: +852 2522 0434
- Serene Court: +852 2787 6865
- Sunrise Court: +852 2890 8330
- Dawn Court: +852 2243 3210

General Office:
5/F Chuk Yuen Estate Community Centre, 11 Chuk Yuen Road, Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon
Tel:+852 2338 8564
Fax:+852 2338 8528
Email: may.wong@hac.org.hk
Website: http://www.hac.org.hk

Centres in:
- Wang Tau Hom Estate, lok Fu
- Chuk Yuen North Estate, Wong Tai Sin

English
Chinese

English
Mandarin
Cantonese
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong AIDS Foundation</td>
<td>Non-governmental charitable organisation to help promote the fight against HIV/AIDS in HK&lt;br&gt;- AIDS Helpline&lt;br&gt;- HIV Antibody Test (free anonymous and confidential) and by appointment only&lt;br&gt;- services for the infected including counselling, interest classes, workshops, support groups&lt;br&gt;- information on HIV/AIDs</td>
<td>5/F, Shaukeiwan Jockey Club Clinic, 8 Chai Wan Road&lt;br&gt;Tel: +852 2560 8528&lt;br&gt;Fax: +852 2560 4154&lt;br&gt;AIDS Helpline: +852 2513 0513 (Cantonese, Mandarin and English. Mon-Fri 2:00pm-5:30pm and Thur 6:30pm-9:30pm)&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:hka@hkaf.com">hka@hkaf.com</a>&lt;br&gt;Website: <a href="http://www.aids.org.hk">www.aids.org.hk</a></td>
<td>Cantonese Mandarin English</td>
<td>Cantonese Mandarin English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong Bayanihan Trust (Overseas Domestic Helpers Centres (ODHS))</td>
<td>Non-profit organisation&lt;br&gt;- activities, cultural programmes&lt;br&gt;- library, photocopying machines, telephones, remittance counter</td>
<td>Bayanihan Kennedy Town Centre&lt;br&gt;55 Victoria Road, Kennedy Town&lt;br&gt;Tel: +852 2817 8928&lt;br&gt;Fax: +852 2523 3715&lt;br&gt;E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@bayanihantrust.biz.com.hk">info@bayanihantrust.biz.com.hk</a></td>
<td>English Tagalog</td>
<td>English – able to use translators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre (HKRAC)</td>
<td>Services:&lt;br&gt;- pro-bono legal advice and representation for asylum-seekers&lt;br&gt;- information dissemination and empowerment programs&lt;br&gt;- monthly information sessions for asylum-seekers&lt;br&gt;- recruit, train, and supervise volunteer caseworkers and interpreters in the provision of legal aid to asylum-seekers referrals to psychiatrists</td>
<td>Flat B, 10th Floor, Comfort Building, 86-88A Nathan Road, Kowloon&lt;br&gt;Tel: +852 3109 7359&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:info@hkrac.org">info@hkrac.org</a>&lt;br&gt;Website: <a href="http://www.hkrac.org">www.hkrac.org</a></td>
<td>Drop-in hours: 2:00pm-5:00pm (Wed and Thur) and at other times by appointment&lt;br&gt;Information sessions: last Friday of every month at 2pm (men), last Monday of every month at 2pm (women)&lt;br&gt;Location: Chungking Mansions Service Centre, No. 6, 16/F, Block E, Chung King Mansions, 36-44 Nathan Road, Kowloon</td>
<td>Mostly Cantonese Some services including counselling also available in Putonghua and English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>^ Hong Kong Christian Service</td>
<td>Integrated Family Service Centre&lt;br&gt;- counselling and clinic psychology service&lt;br&gt; Ethnic Minority Services&lt;br&gt;- legal advice&lt;br&gt;- Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents (CHEER) see separate box&lt;br&gt;- South Asians Mutual Support Network&lt;br&gt;- orientation to mainstream services&lt;br&gt;- vocational training programmes&lt;br&gt;Kwun Tong Vocational Training Centre&lt;br&gt;- provides a wide range of vocational training programmes for residents of Kwun Tong&lt;br&gt;- provides a wide range of vocational training programmes for residents of Kwun Tong</td>
<td>General inquiries: 33 Granville Road, Tsimshatsui&lt;br&gt;Tel: +852 2731 6316&lt;br&gt;Fax: +852 2731 6333&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:info@hkcs.org">info@hkcs.org</a>&lt;br&gt;Website: <a href="http://www.hkcs.org">www.hkcs.org</a></td>
<td>Cantonese Mandarin English</td>
<td>Cantonese Mandarin English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **^ Hong Kong Unison Ltd** | Non-Governmental organisation servicing HK’s ethnic minority residents and working to promote racial equality  
Services:  
- advocacy and public education  
- education and career guidance  
- tutorial support  
- scholarships  
- labour rights  
- individual case counselling | Integrated Service Centre for Local South Asians  
Room 604-605, 6/F Celebrity Commercial Centre, 64 Castle Peak Road,  
Sham Shui Po, Kowloon  
Hotline: +852 2525  
Email: issa@hkcs.org  
Website: [www.hkcs.org/gcb/issa/issa-e.html](http://www.hkcs.org/gcb/issa/issa-e.html)  
Opening Hours: 10:00am-1:00pm & 2:00-6:00pm (Tue-Sat) | Chinese  
English |
| **Hospital Authority** | Statutory body established for managing Hong Kong’s Public hospitals  
Services:  
- admission and hospitalization  
- accident and emergency  
- general and specialist out-patient clinics  
- Chinese medicine services  
- patient resource centre | Address: Hospital Authority Building, 147 Argyle Street, Kowloon  
Tel: +852 2300 6555  
Fax: +852 2890 7726  
HA Infoline: +852 2882 4866  
Email: enquiry@ha.org.hk  
Website: [www.ha.org.hk](http://www.ha.org.hk) | English |
| **Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)** | Reporting deliberate or intentional wrongdoing by public officials (police, immigration officers) | Report Corruption  
ACAC, Report Centre (24 hrs)  
G/F, 303 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong or ICAC Regional Offices  
By phone:  
Report Centre: +852 2526 6366 (24hrs)  
Corruption Prevention Hotline: +852 2526 6363  
General Inquiries: +852 2826 3110  
By mail  
The ICAC GPO Box 1000 | English  
Mandarin  
Cantonese |
**International Social Service – Hong Kong Branch (ISS-HK)**

For migrants (non-Chinese) -
- assistance in kind (ASTC)
- emergency refuge
- counselling and psycho-social assistance
- language programme
- general support
- information service at airport
- health care waiver

For arrivals from Mainland China -
- general support
- orientation and adjustment programmes
- induction programme for children

General services -
- language classes
- vocational training

**HOPE** -
- language classes in Cantonese and English for children and adults
- basic, intermediate and advanced computer classes
- student tutorial classes that assist minority students with Chinese, Math and English homework
- vocational assistance
- training in job search and interview techniques
- financial management training

**Kely Support Group**

Bilingual youth organization that promotes the idea of peer support in helping young people in difficult times.

Services:
- peer support helpline
- harm reduction education
- peer support workshops
- circus skills training to help students develop skills to overcome fear of failure and enable them to provide peer support to family and friends
- interactive youth forums
- multi-media and art / dance projects
- body image training and drug awareness workshops
- youth suicide prevention project
- mentorship programme for life planning, self esteem workshops, vocational sessions

**Headquarters:**
6/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessey Road, Wan Chai
Tel: +852 2834 6863
Fax: +852 2834 7627
Email: isshk@isshk.org
Website: www.isshk.org

Opening hours:
Mon: 9:00am-1:00pm & 2:00pm-6:00pm
Tue-Fri: 9:00am-1:00pm & 2:00pm-5:45pm

**ASTC Programme:**
Tel: +852 3473 1500 or 3473 1501
Fax: +852 3473 2136
Address: 1/F, Li Po Chun Health Centre, 22 Arran Street, Prince Edward, Kowloon
Tel: +852 2578 21 26 or 2578 27 18
Email: astc@isshk.org

**HOPE Support Service Centre for Ethnic Minorities**
Address: 3/F, Tak Lee Commercial Building, 113-117 Wanchai Road, Wanchai
Tel: +852 2836 3598
Hotline: +852 5188 8044
Fax: +852 2508 0207
Email: ethnic_centre@isshk.org

**Cantonese**
Mandarin
English
Nepali
Tagalog
Hindi
Urdu
Bahasa Indonesia
Thai
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Language(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| H.K.S.K.H. Lady MacLehose Centre | Providing diversified social services to minorities living in Hong Kong | - employment and retraining service for South Asians
- health care links for South Asian community
- multi-lingual course in Cantonese, English and Mandarin
- homework help for South Asian children
- Chinese language immersion experiences for South Asian families
- interpretation on-site, by telephone, written, video conferencing, proof-reading | 22 Wo Yi Hop Road, Kwai Chung, New Territories
Tel: +852 2423 5064
Fax: +852 2494 7786
Website: www.skhlmc.org | English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Urdu, Tagalog |
| Midnight Blue | Non-governmental organisation supporting male sex worker in Hong Kong | - free, anonymous and confidential rapid HIV/Syphilis testing
- Information and assistance on legal issues, health awareness and rights
- training courses
- drop-in centre (Mon-Fri 10:00am-6:00pm) | Post Address: P.O. Box 78757, Mongkong Post Office
Hotline: +852 2493 4555 (24hrs)
E-mail: info@mnbhk.org
Website: www.mnbhk.org | Mainly Chinese |
| Mothers’ Choice | Services (HK ID required):
- care for babies awaiting permanent homes and for single girls and their families facing crisis pregnancies (unplanned and/or unwanted pregnancies)
- information for single pregnant girls and women, their partners and families about the options available to them (parenting, adoption and abortion)
- counselling and, if needed, accommodation services, are provided
- free condom distribution | Address: 15/F Cammer Commercial Building, 30-32 Cameron Road, TST
Tel: +852 2311 2026 (Mon-Fri 9-5.30pm)
Hotline: +852 2868 2022
Fax: +852 2537 7151
Website: www.motherschoice.org
Email: bigsister@motherschoice.org (counselling and support to those facing crisis pregnancy and with questions on sex education)
pgs@motherschoice.org (general enquiry) | English, Mandarin, Cantonese |
| Neighbourhood Advice – Action Council | Non-profit service organization that seeks to help residents living in poverty to encourage residents to use community and external resources to improve the quality of their lives through education and service processes. | Services:
- children and youth services that provide counselling, home visits, setting up parent support groups, providing recreation groups, education, training and other group activities, and some afterschool care
- disabled services that provide social workers, therapists, occupational therapists, clinical psychologists, speech therapists, doctors, welfare workers, accommodation and care services, community education
- family services including counselling, hotline services, | 1/F, Tung Chung Community Services Complex, 420 Tung Chung Road, Lantau Island
Tel: +852 2988 1433
http://www.naac.org.hk/ | Website in Chinese |
| **Pathfinders** | Registered charity that assists documented or undocumented migrant women who have lost their jobs, overstayed their visas and are pregnant (mostly domestic helpers) | **Services:**  
- advice on immigration and legal issues  
- assistance for medical assistance, legal support and shelter  
- assistance in finding work or returning home  
- accompanying to immigration, social welfare organisations and hospitals  
- links to support networks | **Address:** Room 701, Hoseinee House, 69 Wyndham St, Central  
**Hotline:** +852 5190-4886  
**Website:** [www.pathfinders.org.hk](http://www.pathfinders.org.hk)  
**Language:** English |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rainbow of Hong Kong** | Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) organisation concerned with the quality of life of LGBT persons in Hong Kong | **Services:**  
- blood testing  
- counselling  
- HIV prevention  
- Hotline  
- weekly group activities including picnics, camping, sports, discussion groups | **Address:** PO Box 78882, Mongkok Post Office, Kowloon  
**Hotline:** +852 2769 1010  
**LGBTQ Peers Hotline:** +852 8108 1069  
**Website:** [www.rainbowhk.org](http://www.rainbowhk.org)  
**Language:** Website in English  
**Chinese** |
| **Rainlily** | Non-government charitable organisation providing assistance to victims of sexual violence | **Services:**  
- pregnancy prevention  
- screening and prevention of STDs  
- forensic medical examination  
- psychological support  
- police reporting  
- psychological assessment  
- counselling  
- referral to clinical psychologist for assessment | **Address:** P.O. Box, 74120 Kowloon Central Post Office, Kowloon  
**Tel:** +852 2375 5322  
**Email:** acsvaw@rapecrisiscentre.org.hk  
**Website:** [www.rapecrisiscentre.org.hk](http://www.rapecrisiscentre.org.hk)  
**Hotline:** +852 2392 2569  
**Email service:** jo@samaritans.org.hk  
**Website:** [www.samaritans.org.hk](http://www.samaritans.org.hk)  
**Language:** Cantonese  
**Mandarin**  
**English** |
| **The Samaritans** | Non-religious charity providing confidential emotional support services:  
- suicide prevention hotline (24 hours, multilingual)  
- befriending email (like the suicide hotline but through email instead of over the phone)  
- Youth Suicide Prevention Programme to prevent suicide | **Suicide Prevention hotline:** +852 2896 6000  
**Email service:** jo@samaritans.org.hk  
**Website:** [www.samaritans.org.hk](http://www.samaritans.org.hk)  
**Befriending Email:** jo@samaritans.org.hk  
**Mainly English and Cantonese but some volunteers speak other languages and dialects** |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>Services/Programmes</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Society for Community Organisation (SoCo)</td>
<td>Non-profit, non-governmental organisation promoting working with grass-roots groups to fight for reasonable living standards. People benefiting from SoCo’s work range from ethnic minority people, boat dwellers, squatters, unemployed, homeless, immigrants.</td>
<td>- New Immigrants Project (mainly immigrants from Mainland China) &lt;br&gt; - Intensive Employment Assistance &lt;br&gt; - assistance in obtaining education, housing, employment, family reunification and integration into society &lt;br&gt; - training about rights and obligations</td>
<td>3/F, 52 Princess Margaret Road, Homantin &lt;br&gt; Tel: +852 2713 9165 &lt;br&gt; Fax: +852 2761 3326 &lt;br&gt; Email: <a href="mailto:soco@pacific.net.hk">soco@pacific.net.hk</a> &lt;br&gt; Website: <a href="http://www.soco.org.hk">www.soco.org.hk</a></td>
<td>Mainly Chinese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Soul Talk</strong></td>
<td>Charitable organisation for women in emotional crisis, welcoming women of all nationalities and languages</td>
<td>Services: &lt;br&gt; - temporary residence (including meals) &lt;br&gt; - hotline &lt;br&gt; - walk-in service &lt;br&gt; - individual and group counselling (through the hotline or by appointment) &lt;br&gt; - self-help support groups &lt;br&gt; - accompanying clients to lawyers, social services etc &lt;br&gt; - family mediation &lt;br&gt; - educational programmes and workshops &lt;br&gt; - all services are free</td>
<td>Address: P.O Box No 524, Shek Wu Hui Post Office, Sheung Shui, N.T. &lt;br&gt; Hotline: +852 2659 9910 (Chinese) &lt;br&gt; +852 2659 9211 (English) &lt;br&gt; Email: <a href="mailto:socialworker@soultalk.org">socialworker@soultalk.org</a> &lt;br&gt; Website: <a href="http://soultalk.org">http://soultalk.org</a></td>
<td>Women of all nationalities and languages welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St. John’s Cathedral</strong></td>
<td>Mission for Migrant Workers &lt;br&gt; Helpers for Domestic Helpers &lt;br&gt; Counselling Service</td>
<td>Services: &lt;br&gt; - migrant helpline &lt;br&gt; - Bethune House (see separate box) &lt;br&gt; - legal employment and assistance programme &lt;br&gt; - pastoral care and social welfare programme &lt;br&gt; - education and training programme &lt;br&gt; Helpers for Domestic Helpers &lt;br&gt; - legal advice and assistance to foreign domestic workers &lt;br&gt; Counselling Service &lt;br&gt; - psychotherapeutic counselling &lt;br&gt; - confidential &lt;br&gt; - open to people from all nationalities, religions, sexual</td>
<td>Address: 7D On Hing Building, 1 On Hong Terrace, Central &lt;br&gt; Mission for Migrant Workers: &lt;br&gt; Tel: +852 2522 8264 &lt;br&gt; Fax: +852 2526 2894 &lt;br&gt; Email: <a href="mailto:mission@migrants.net">mission@migrants.net</a> &lt;br&gt; Website: <a href="http://www.migrants.net">www.migrants.net</a> &lt;br&gt; Counselling Service: &lt;br&gt; Tel: +852 2525 7207 (during office hours or leave a message) &lt;br&gt; Email: <a href="mailto:counsel@stjohnscathedral.org.hk">counsel@stjohnscathedral.org.hk</a> &lt;br&gt; Website: sjcshk.com &lt;br&gt; Helpers for Domestic Helpers:</td>
<td>English &lt;br&gt; Tagalog &lt;br&gt; Foreign volunteers available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HIV Education Centre</strong></td>
<td>Provides preventative &amp; educational activities including workshops, publications and outreach activities</td>
<td>Opening hours: 9:00am-5:00pm (Mon-Fri) and 11:00am-2:00pm (Sun) Tel: +852 2523 4020 Website: <a href="http://www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk/domestic.html">www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk/domestic.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Vine Church – Pastor John Macpherson</strong></td>
<td>Provides a range of services for asylum seekers and refugees</td>
<td>The Vine Office: Address: Unit 3A, Two Chinachem Plaza, 135 Des Voeux Road Central (68 Connaught Road) Central Tel: +853 2573 0793 Fax: +852 2865 5381 Email: <a href="mailto:info@thevine.org.hk">info@thevine.org.hk</a> Opening Hours Mon - Fri: 9am - 6pm Sat - Sun: Closed The Vine Centre Address: 2/F, Two Chinachem Plaza, 135 Des Voeux Road Central (68 Connaught Road), Central Opening hours: Mon: Closed Tue - Fri: 12:00pm-6:00pm Sat: 4:00pm-10:00pm Sun: 9:00am-6:00pm Email: <a href="mailto:vinecentre@thevine.org.hk">vinecentre@thevine.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNHCR – Hong Kong Sub Office</strong></td>
<td>Services: - refugee status determination process - sex education - translation, writing, editing - provides emergency assistance in the form of clean water, sanitation and health care as well as shelter materials and other relief items - refugee registration, assistance and advice on asylum applications, education and counselling - arrange transport by air, sea and land and give returnees assistance packages - local integration and reintegration programmes, including income-generating projects, restoration of infrastructure, etc</td>
<td>Address: Room 911, 9/F, Yau Ma Tei Carpark Building, 250 Shanghai Street, Kln Tel: +852 2780 9271 Fax: +852 2770 5504 Email: <a href="mailto:chiho@unhcr.org">chiho@unhcr.org</a> Website: <a href="http://www.unhcr.hk/unhcr/en/about_us/HK_Sub_Office.html">www.unhcr.hk/unhcr/en/about_us/HK_Sub_Office.html</a> A variety, depending on interpreters</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vision First</strong></td>
<td>Independent not-for-profit organisation providing humanitarian services to asylum seekers and refugees in Hong Kong Services:</td>
<td>Address: 5F, No 102 First Street, Sai Ying Poon, Sheung Wan Tel: +852 2840 0430 Fax: +852 2851 0655 Mainly English</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Provider</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Contact Information</td>
<td>Language(s)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
| Vocational Training Council (VTC)                     | Provides a full range of pre-employment and in-service programmes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Address: VTC Tower, 27 Wood Road, Wan Chai  
Tel: +852 2836 1000  
Fax: +852 2838 0667  
Email: vtcmailboxzzz@vtc.edu.hk  
Website: www.vtc.edu.hk | English, Chinese |
| Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service Centre for South Asian Ethnic Minorities | To develop specialized Chinese curriculum for non-Chinese speaking students and to form a network that supports non-Chinese speaking parents.  
Services:  
- cultural sensitivity workshops  
- emotional support groups  
- integration programmes  
- big brothers and sisters mentorship programmes  
- parent support groups  
- Chinese classes                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Address: Rm 904-5, Sunbeam Commercial Building, 469-471 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei  
Tel: +852 2332 9354  
Fax: +852 2770 0667  
E-mail: southasian@yang.org.hk  
Website: http://www.yang.org.hk/ | Website in Chinese |
| Zi Teng                                                | Non-government organisation supporting the interests and basic rights of female migrant sex workers (no HKID needed)  
Services:  
- information on health care services and legal rights  
- assisting in networking and building mutual support systems  
- 24-hour phone system for emergencies  
- free western health check (breast examination, cervical cancer, syphilis, Hep B and AIDS/HIV testing) or Chinese health check (on appointment)  
- referral for hospital treatment if necessary but only with HKID  
- courses (English, massage etc)  
- accompanying to courts  
- counselling  
- monthly newsletter in Chinese  
- free condom distribution  
- confidentiality assured                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Address: Not published for privacy reasons – please phone  
Opening hours: 10:00am-7:00pm  
Tel: +852 2332 7182  
Zi Teng can be reached 24 hours via a mobile phone number  
Fax: +852 2390 4628  
Email: ziteng@hkstar.com  
Website: www.ziteng.org.hk | Cantonese, Mandarin, English |
Support Networks Migrants and Ethnic Minorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bangladesh</strong></td>
<td>Bangladesh Cultural Centre: Room D, 4/F, Anson House, 13-19 Lock Road, Tsim Sha Tsui Tel: +852 2728 0553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Filipino</strong></td>
<td>United Filipinos in Hong Kong (UNIFIL-HK): Address: 2/F New Hall, St John’s Cathedral 4 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong Tel: +852 3165 2447 Fax: +852 2894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philippine Association of Hong Kong: Address: Shop 219 Worldwide Plaza, 19 Des Voeux Road, Central Tel: +852 2234 9588 Email: <a href="mailto:execom@unifil.org.hk">execom@unifil.org.hk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diocesan Pastoral Centre for Filipinos (and other Asian Migrants &amp; Ethnic Minorities): Address: 18 Floor, Grand Building 15-18 Connaught Road Central Tel: +852 2526 4249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Filipino Migrant Workers' Union (FMWU): Address: c/o APMM, G/F, 2 Jordan Road, Kowloon Tel: +852 9104 1411 Email: <a href="mailto:fmwu.hk@hotmail.com">fmwu.hk@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Caritas-Hong Kong Asian Migrant Workers and Filipino Social Service Project: Address: 18/F Grand Building, 15-18 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong Tel: +852 2147 5988 or 2810 0092 Fax: +852 2147 5388 Email: <a href="mailto:cdfp@caritasws.org.hk">cdfp@caritasws.org.hk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indian</strong></td>
<td>Migrante International (Hong Kong Office): Address: c/o APMM, Kowloon Union Church, 4 Jordan Road, Kowloon Tel: +852 2723 7536 Fax: +852 2735 4559 Email: <a href="mailto:migrante@tri-isys.com">migrante@tri-isys.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.migrante.org/">http://www.migrante.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indonesian</strong></td>
<td>Indian Businessmen's Association: Address: Flat 501, Car Po Commercial Building, 18-20 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central Tel: +852 2524 0018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Council of Hong Kong Indian Association: Address: 2/F, Hoseinee House, 69 Wyndham Street, Central Tel: +852 2523 4951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The India Association Hong Kong: Address: Tsim Sha Tsui PO Box 96625, Tsim Sha Tsui Tel: +852 2311 4336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Association of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong (ATKI-HK)</strong>: Address: c/o APMM, G/F, 2 Jordan Road, Jordan, Kowloon Tel: +852 2314 7316 or 2723 7536 Fax: +852 2735 45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indonesian</strong></td>
<td>The Hong Kong Coalition of Indonesian Migrant Workers Organisations (KOTKIHO): Address: Room A, 4/F, 32 Jardines Mansion Jardines Plaza, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Nepalese**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Tel/Fax</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Far East Overseas Nepalese Association (FEONA)</td>
<td>Flat B, 12/F Arthur Commercial Building 33 Arthur Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon</td>
<td>+852 2388 7554</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization Name</td>
<td>Tel</td>
<td>Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Social Service Hong Kong Branch</td>
<td>+852 2834 6863</td>
<td><a href="http://www.isshk.org">http://www.isshk.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council</td>
<td>+852 2768 4993</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skhwc.org.hk">http://www.skhwc.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre</td>
<td>+852 2423 5064</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sklmc.org">http://www.sklmc.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society for Community Organisation</td>
<td>+852 2713 9165</td>
<td><a href="http://www.soco.org.hk">http://www.soco.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs Association of Hong Kong</td>
<td>+852 2527 9121</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bpca.org.hk">http://www.bpca.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Church of United Brethren in Christ</td>
<td>+852 2698 1922</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cubc.org.hk">http://www.cubc.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Friends of Scouting</td>
<td>+852 2754 9561</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sahkfos.org/">http://www.sahkfos.org/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups</td>
<td>+852 2527 2448</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hkfyg.org.hk">http://www.hkfyg.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Salvation Army</td>
<td>+852 2783 2205</td>
<td><a href="http://www.salvation.org.hk">http://www.salvation.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tung Wah Group of Hospitals</td>
<td>+852 2392 2133</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tungwah.org.hk">http://www.tungwah.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yan Oi Tong</td>
<td>+852 2655 7599</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cc.yot.org.hk">http://www.cc.yot.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service Centre</td>
<td>+852 2388 7141</td>
<td><a href="http://www.yang.org.hk">http://www.yang.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission to New Arrivals Ltd.</td>
<td>+852 2729 6400</td>
<td><a href="http://www.newarrivals.org.hk">http://www.newarrivals.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Family Service Centre</td>
<td>+852 2701 5592</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cfsc.org.hk">http://www.cfsc.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service</td>
<td>+852 2711 9131</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lutheran.org.hk">http://www.lutheran.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mongkok Kai Fong Association Ltd. Chan Hing Social Service Centre</td>
<td>+852 2395 3107</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mkchanhing.org.hk/service2.htm">http://www.mkchanhing.org.hk/service2.htm</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong Children &amp; Youth Services</td>
<td>+852 2761 1106</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cys.org.hk">http://www.cys.org.hk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian &amp; Missionary Alliance Social Services</td>
<td>+852 2787 5212</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cmasshk.org">http://www.cmasshk.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong Federation of Women’s Centres</td>
<td>+852 2386 6256</td>
<td><a href="http://www.womencentre.org.hk">http://www.womencentre.org.hk</a></td>
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