

Advisory Committee on the Quality of Water Supplies
Report No. 5 - Visit to Dongjiang Water Supply
(8-9 October 2003)

SECTION A - INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of the 2-day visit on 8 - 9 October 2003 was to see the efforts of the Guangdong (廣東) side in protecting the quality of Dongjiang (東江) water and the operation of the newly completed closed aqueduct system under the Dongshen Water Supply Improvement Works (東深供水改造工程). The list of participants and the record of itinerary are enclosed in **Annex 1** and **Annex 2** respectively.

SECTION B – FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS

2. A press conference was held in the Headquarter of the Water Supplies Department at the end of the visit. A short video was played followed by an account of the visit given by the Chairman, Mr. FANG Hung and two members, viz. Prof. TSO Wung Wai and Mr. WONG Kwok Keung.

3. Members were pleased to report that since commissioning of the entire closed aqueduct in June 2003, the Dongjiang water supplied to Hong Kong had bypassed all the pollution sources along Shima River (石馬河) and Quanlan River (觀瀾河). Compared with the situation in the past years, there had been a noticeable improvement in the quality of Dongjiang water received in Hong Kong.

4. Members understood that the Guangdong Authorities would now focus on the protection of Dongjiang water quality at its source and tributaries, and the protection of Shenzhen Reservoir. Members appreciated the efforts, including closure or relocation of polluting industries, interception of sewage and construction of wastewater treatment facilities, made by the Guangdong Authorities to improve the environment and to protect the water quality of Dongjiang and Xinfengjiang (新豐江).

5. In Heyuan (河源市), Members visited the construction site of Heyuan Domestic Sewage Treatment Plant (河源生活污水處理廠), which will treat domestic sewage in Heyuan. The sewage treatment plant with a total capacity of 80,000 m³/d would be implemented in two phases and Phase I of the plant, with a capacity of 40,000 m³/d, was scheduled for completion in August 2004.

6. Members had also visited the Dongjiang Huizhou section and observed that the Dongjiang water quality had been improved significantly over the last couple of

years.

7. In Shenzhen (深圳), Members visited the sewage interception works at Sha Wan River, which was scheduled for completion by end 2003. By that time, all sewage originally discharged into the river and then the Shenzhen Reservoir would be intercepted and delivered to the Luo Fang Sewage Treatment Plant (羅芳生活污水處理廠) for treatment and disposal to the Shenzhen River.

SECTION C – CONCLUSION

8. The Advisory Committee agreed that the visit was informative and successful. Members appreciated the completion of the closed aqueduct system that brought significant improvement to the quality of Dongjiang water supplied to Hong Kong. Members were also impressed by the continuous efforts made by the Guangdong Authorities in combating pollution and protecting the environment and water quality of Dongjiang at its source and tributaries as well as the Shenzhen Reservoir. This was important and essential to the sustainable development of the region, including Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Dongguan, Huizhou, Heyuan, etc.