

Immediate Release

**Towngas Rice Dumplings for the Community
*Joins Hands with The Hong Kong Society for the Blind
to foster Social Harmony and Inclusion***

(9 June 2010) The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (“Towngas”) organised “Towngas Rice Dumplings for the Community” during the Dragon Boat Festival. This year, Towngas has invited The Hong Kong Society for the Blind to co-organise an event where Towngas volunteers join hands with the visually impaired to wrap low carbon rice dumplings and celebrate the Chinese tradition in an environmentally-friendly way.

A group of over 50 visually impaired and Towngas volunteers gathered together to wrap rice dumplings with low carbon ingredients such as mixed beans. The event enabled Towngas volunteers understand more about needs of the visually impaired, fostering their awareness in this area. In support of this act of love, James Kwan, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of Towngas, Maureen Tam, Chief Executive of The Hong Kong Society for the Blind and Ella Koon, renowned artist attended the activity.

Since last October, Towngas has been actively promoting the environmental “Low Carbon Action” Campaign, engaging Hong Kong people to help reduce carbon emissions. Specially designed low carbon rice dumpling recipes are features for this year’s ‘Towngas Rice Dumplings for the Community’ Campaign.

James Kwan said, “This is the eleventh consecutive year for Towngas in organising “Towngas Rice Dumplings for the Community” charitable campaign. This year, we are honoured to have the support from The Hong Kong Society for the Blind to make today’s event more meaningful as it helps us further understand the needs of the visual impaired. ”

Maureen Tam, Chief Executive of The Hong Kong Society for the Blind said “We are excited about this charitable rice dumpling event. It definitely helps to build confidence among the visually impaired, giving them an opportunity to work with others and to enhance social awareness on their disability needs.”

So Sai Mui, a member of The Hong Kong Society for the Blind said “This experience enables me to realize that even though I am blind, I can still have a lot of things accomplished just like a normal

person. I used to resist cooking because I cannot see. Now I know with assistance and encouragement from Towngas volunteers, I can succeed and the dumpling is very delicious!"

Apart from this event, Towngas, together with over 220 Legislative Councillors, District Councillors and local voluntary groups, mobilise volunteers this year to wrap 210,000 rice dumplings for elderly people who live alone, showing much-needed care and support for the underprivileged during the Dragon Boat Festival in June.

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