

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Towngas Organises “Rice Dumplings for the Community”:
Students and Parents Join Hands in Wrapping Rice Dumplings,
Spreading Warmth on the Eve of Mother's Day**

(13 May 2006) On the eve of Mother's Day, The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) kicked off its large-scale “Rice Dumplings for the Community” charitable programme at Discovery Park. Students and their parents joined hands in wrapping rice dumplings with love and care. The activity highlighted the special warmth of Mother’s Day, and spread love and care further into the community as participants distributed “caring dumplings” to the elderly and the needy.

“Rice Dumplings for the Community” was organised by Towngas and The Community Chest of Hong Kong, with support from secondary schools, Legislative Council, and District Council members. Guests attending the activity included the Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs Mrs Carrie Lam, JP; Legislative Council members the Hon Chan Yuen-han, JP, and the Hon Tam Heung-man; Towngas Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer Mr. James Kwan Yuk-choi, JP, Board member of The Community Chest of Hong Kong Mrs. Nina Lam; and pop singers Mr Alex Fong and Miss Stephy Tang. They demonstrated unconventional techniques for wrapping rice dumplings in an attempt to promote rice dumpling wrapping culture.

To encourage students and parents to show their creativity, Towngas organised the “Creative Rice Dumpling-Wrapping Contest” in the programme, in order to enhance parent-child relationships and strike a fresh note in the celebration of Mother's Day. To compete for the Creativity Award, the Best Taste Award and the Best Partnership Award, students and their parents created special rice dumplings using different ingredients and techniques.

Towngas Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer Mr James Kwan said, “This is the seventh consecutive year Towngas has organised ‘Rice Dumplings for the Community’. We are delighted to have the support of secondary schools, which allows us to bring the culture of rice dumpling wrapping into secondary schools. Students enjoy the fun of wrapping dumplings while we appeal for donations for the Community Chest. We encourage students to learn to wrap rice dumplings. To do it together with their parents would be even better. As Mother's Day approaches, this charitable activity has another meaningful touch, with students and their mothers wrapping dumplings together.”

Towngas also sponsored dumpling ingredients for a number of secondary schools and arranged tutors from the Towngas Cooking Centre to demonstrate to teachers dumpling wrapping techniques, so that they could pass on their skills to students and parents. Meanwhile, schools from different districts also helped raise funds for the Community Chest through charity sales of “Rice Dumpling Boxes” containing dumpling ingredients.

The rice dumpling wrapping activities held in collaboration with District Councils have received an overwhelming response this year, contributing to a new record in the number of rice dumplings wrapped . A total of 132 members of Legislative Council and District Councils from 18 districts will participate in the “Rice Dumplings for the Community” charitable programme. They will join hands in wrapping and distributing more than 120,000 rice dumplings to the elderly and the needy ahead of the Dragon Boat Festival, spreading warmth in the community.

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Issued by E’s Concept Communication Ltd. on behalf of Towngas.

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