



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部醫務衛生局

Health Bureau, Government Secretariat
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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3 October 2023

Dr. Anna Stavdal
President
World Organisation of National Colleges
Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians

Dear Dr. Stavdal,

26th WONCA World Conference in 2027

As Secretary for Health of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, it is my pleasure to lend my full support to the bid of the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians (HKCFP) for hosting the 26th WONCA World Conference in 2027.

Hong Kong boasts an internationally-renowned team of clinical and research experts in family medicine and various fields, as well as an effective and efficient healthcare system of very high professional standards that delivers multi-level healthcare services. It is no surprise that our health indices rank amongst the best globally. Looking ahead, we fully recognise the challenges brought about by an ageing population and an increasing prevalence of chronic diseases, and are determined to launch a major structural reform to shift our healthcare focus from treatment-oriented to prevention-focused, and the setting from hospital-based to community-based. To achieve this goal, we launched the Primary Healthcare Blueprint last December to affirm the important role of a robust, family physician-based primary healthcare system in enhancing the overall health of our people at all stages of life.

Hong Kong is the prime choice for hosting international and regional conferences, thanks to our vibrant culture, world-class infrastructure and strategic position. In recent years, we also hosted the Spine World Summit in 2018, the Hong Kong International Dental Expo and Symposium in 2019, and the Asia Pacific Dental Congress in June this year with over 4 000 attendances each. These speak volume about our hosting capability. With Hong Kong back on the world stage after COVID-19, now is the time for WONCA to make a resounding return here, echoing the great success of the WONCA World Conference in 1995, and the WONCA Asia Pacific Regional Conference in 1987 and 2009.

Since its establishment in 1977, the HKCFP has been a stalwart in the development and advancement of quality primary healthcare both locally and regionally. The year 2027 marks the 50th Anniversary of the HKCFP and it would be our great honour to celebrate this milestone by hosting the 26th WONCA World Conference. I appeal for your support for the HKCFP's bid to host the Conference in Hong Kong. I have full confidence that the HKCFP will make the Conference another great success.

Hong Kong stands ready to play our part and contribute to the betterment of the healthcare system globally. We keenly look forward to forging closer collaboration and partnership with healthcare professions internationally, regionally and locally at the Conference in Hong Kong alongside our blooming primary healthcare sector.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Lo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

(Professor Chung-mau Lo)

Secretary for Health

Government of the

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of
the People's Republic of China