Dr. Anna Stavdal President World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA)

## Dear Dr. Anna Stavdal and the members of the WONCA World Council,

Since the establishment of the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians (HKCFP) in 1977, it has been the College's objective to promote and coordinate training, set practice standards and conduct research and development activities in relation to family medicine. In 1992, the College became one of the Founding Colleges of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. The HKCFP has an illustrious history for over 4 decades, gaining respect not only locally but also overseas. The College has been very active in promoting and improving the concept and practice of quality primary care and family medicine.

In the Tenth Anniversary year, i.e. 1987, HKCFP hosted its first international scientific meeting, the WONCA Regional Conference Asia Pacific Region. This was the first international congress of Family Medicine/ General Practice ever organized in Hong Kong. The occasion was well attended by over 500 delegates from 35 countries in the presence of many local and overseas dignitaries, and earned the College tremendous praise and goodwill from the international fraternity of General Practice Colleges/ Associations. In 1995, the College hosted the 14th WONCA World Conference attended by over 2,500 delegates. Again in 2009, the College hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> WONCA Regional Conference Asia Pacific Region, under the threat of the Swine Flu, when HKCFP received over 800 attendees from 35 countries.

HKCFP's Founder President Dr Peter C.Y. Lee, the WONCA World President in 1992 provided the vital initial leadership on connecting HKCFP to WONCA. Our Past President Prof. Donald K.T. Li, also the Immediate Past President of WONCA, had been expanding the opportunities and platforms for international exchanges over the past decades. The Hong Kong College of Family Physicians



has been at the core of the Asia Pacific Region to facilitate a platform for collaboration, where ideas are shared, and connections are made. Hong Kong's strategic location, world-class infrastructure, and outstanding hospitality make it the perfect host city for WONCA World Conference in 2027. From the moment you arrive, you'll be immersed in a rich cultural experience, where East meets West.

May in Hong Kong is comfortably warm and there are many excellent modern state-of-the-art meeting venues for medical conferences. Hong Kong is well established as a popular holiday destination with a highly acclaimed and efficient service-oriented hospitality industry.

Family medicine is the cornerstone of primary care, and Hong Kong has long been at the forefront of the development of this vital discipline. We believe that by bringing together the brightest minds, we can shape the future of family medicine.

The year 2027 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians. With HKCFP's proven track record in hosting WONCA conferences, I have every confidence that the 2027 WONCA World Conference in Hong Kong will be another great success to celebrate this important milestone with the global family medicine community.

I look forward to welcoming you in Hong Kong.

Margaret Chan, MD

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Founding Dean, Tsinghua Vanke School of Public Health

Emeritus Director-General, World Health Organization