19 June 2015

Prof Hon Joseph LEE, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Panel on Health Services
Legislative Council

Dear Mr LEE,

With reference to the proposals on tobacco control measures of the Government submitted to the Panel on Health Services on 18 May 2015, the Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong would like to support the proposed tobacco control measures.

Smoking is the most preventable cause of non-communicable diseases. With strengthening tobacco control by the following measures, the Federation believes that public health could be effectively protected from smoking:

1. To control the health warnings on cigarette products, including enlarging the size of the pictorial health warnings, increasing the number of forms of health warnings, showing the health warning message “Tobacco kills up to half of its users” and quitline number. This echoes the policy package introduced by the World Health Organization to reduce the demand for tobacco, MPOWER, which “W” stands for “Warn about the dangers of tobacco”.

2. To extend no smoking area to eight bus interchanges within the tunnel portal areas at Cross-Harbour Tunnel, Lion Rock Tunnel, Shing Mun Tunnels, Eastern Harbour Crossing, Western Harbour Crossing, Tate’s Cairn Tunnel, Tai Lam Tunnel and Tsing Sha Highway. This also responds the aforementioned MPOWER with “P” stands for “Protect people from tobacco smoke”.

3. To impose a complete ban on e-cigarettes. Until now, there is no evidence that e-cigarette is risk-free, thus it should be allowed in the market only when enough evidence is provided.

In conclusion, the Federation supports the advancement of tobacco control through implementation of effective interventions so that we can construct a smoke-free Hong Kong for the future generations.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Raymond Lo
President
The Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong

THE FEDERATION OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES OF HONG KONG
香 港 醫 學 組 織 聯 會

2014-2015

PATRON
The Honourable
LEUNG Chun Ying
GBM, GBS, JP
梁振英

PRESIDENT
Dr. LO See Kit, Raymond
勞思傑

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT
Dr. CHAN Sai Kwong
陳世煒

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT
Dr. NG Yin Kwok
吳賢國

HON. TREASURER
Mr. LEE Cheung Mei, Benjamin
李祥美

HON. SECRETARY
Dr. CHAK Wai Kwong, Mario
翟偉光

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEMBERS
Dr. CHAN Chun Kwong, Jane
陳真光
Dr. CHAN Hau Ngai, Kingsley
陳厚毅
Prof. CHEUNG Man Yung, Bernard
張文勇
Dr. FONG Yuk Fai, Ben
方玉輝
Dr. HUNG Wai Man
熊偉民
Ms. KU Wai Yin, Ellen
顧慧賢
Dr. MAN Chi Wai
文志勤
Dr. MOK Chun On
莫鎮安
Dr. NG Chun Kong
吳振江
Dr. SO Man Kit, Thomas
蘇文傑
Dr. TSOi Chun Hing, Ludwig
蔡振興
Dr. WONG Sau Yan
黃守仁
Ms. YAP Woan Tyng, Tina
葉婉婷
Dr. YU Chau Leung, Edwin
余秋良
Dr. YUNG Shu Hang, Patrick
容樹恆