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13 February 2017

Chairman

Panel on Health Services

Hong Kong Legislative Council

Dear Chairman,

**Re: Comments on the Proposal to amend Health Warnings on
Tobacco Product Packets and Retail Containers**

On behalf of the Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, LKS Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong, I am writing to express our support to the proposed amendment on health warnings on cigarette packets and tobacco related containers.

Being a major institution in the region responsible for training of medical doctors and postgraduate professionals, we have an obligatory responsibility to advise the government on important public health issue like tobacco control. Reinforcement of proper health warnings on tobacco products has proved to be an effective means in reducing smoking, particularly among the young population. As children and adolescent are particularly vulnerable to the addictive effect of nicotine and the long-term health hazards due to smoking, we strongly support the proposed plan to amend the prescribed form of health warnings on tobacco products and enforce a more stringent regulation of current practice by increasing the area of health warning on tobacco products.

We urge the government to adopt a strong position in implementing effective tobacco control policy in order to discourage smoking and protect our young population from the health hazards of tobacco exposure.

Yours faithfully,

Professor GCF Chan

Head & COS

Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine

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