

3 April 2017

Prof. Hon Joseph Lee Kok-long, SBS JP  
Chairman  
Panel on Health Services  
Legislative Council of the Hong Kong SAR

Dear Prof. Lee,

**Re: Submission on Hong Kong Code of Marketing of Formula Milk and Related Products, and Food Products for Infants & Young Children**

As a Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Community Medicine and public health advocate, I strongly support the captioned Hong Kong Code which is in line with the stand of the World Health Organization to protect the health of infants and children worldwide. There is clear scientific evidence of the benefit of breast milk for the immediate and long term benefit of the child, which should take priority over commercial interests. This is recognized and supported by the Hong Kong Private Hospitals Association, of which my hospital is a member. Likewise, it should be recognized and supported by other private organizations, including those involved in milk and food products for children, as corporate social responsibility. While all good policies should be pragmatic taking into account actual circumstances and practical difficulties, the proposed Code is intended to be of a voluntary nature. It thus serves good educational purpose for the public and corporations, to encourage a gradual move towards the desired state.

I therefore express my whole-hearted support to the Code, and wish honorable members of the Panel on Health Services could render their support for the benefit of our future generation.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. William Ho, JP  
Medical Superintendent, St. Paul's Hospital  
Specialist in Administrative Medicine  
Fellow, Hong Kong College of Community Medicine  
Fellow, Faculty of Public Health, UK

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