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Welcome Message for the Sixth World Congress of Chinese Medicine

As the Victorian Minister for Health I welcome the attendees of the 2009 World Chinese Congress ('Congress') to Victoria. The Victorian government has demonstrated its commitment to Chinese medicine with the establishment of Chinese Medicine Registration Board, the first in any Western country to comprehensively regulate Chinese medicine including acupuncture, Chinese herbal medicine and Chinese herbal dispensing. The legislation has assured the public of Victoria that Chinese Medicine Practitioners are suitably qualified and practising in a safe, competent and ethical manner. Recognition of Chinese Medicine practitioners in Victoria has provided a strong base of evidence and has paved the way for its inclusion as a regulated profession within the national registration and accreditation scheme of health professionals, due to commence in July 2010. I welcome all attendees to Melbourne and I wish you have a very informative and enjoyable Congress.

Yours sincerely

**HON DANIEL ANDREWS MP
MINISTER FOR HEALTH**