<u>SFH to lead delegation to Shanghai and</u> <u>Seoul</u>

The Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, will lead a delegation to Shanghai and Seoul, South Korea tomorrow (September 5) to exchange views with medical and health officials of the two places on the development of traditional oriental medicine and Chinese medicine hospitals. They will also visit a traditional Chinese medicine hospital in Shanghai and traditional medicine hospitals in Seoul.

Professor Chan said, "Hong Kong is pushing forward the development of the first Chinese medicine hospital. I hope to make reference to the experience of the Mainland and South Korea in developing traditional oriental medicine, including scope of service, management mode, manpower training and scientific research, gathered from this visit in a bid to ensure that the services of our Chinese medicine hospital will meet the needs of Hong Kong people."

Professor Chan will visit the Longhua Hospital Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine and meet with officials of the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Health and Family Planning shortly after arriving in Shanghai tomorrow.

The delegation will proceed to Seoul, South Korea on Thursday (September 6). During their stay in South Korea, the delegation will visit the Association of Korean Medicine, the National Medical Center, the Kyung Hee University Oriental Hospital at Gangdong and the National Rehabilitation Center. Professor Chan will also call on officials of the Ministry of Health and Welfare in South Korea and meet with Hong Kong people living there.

The delegation will comprise the Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Health), Ms Elizabeth Tse; the Project Director of the Chinese Medicine Hospital Project Office, Dr Cheung Wai-lun; and representatives of the Food and Health Bureau and Hospital Authority. Members of the Chinese medicine hospital's user group will also join the visit.

Professor Chan will return to Hong Kong in the evening on September 7. The Under Secretary for Food and Health, Dr Chui Tak-yi, will be the Acting Secretary for Food and Health during her absence.