



THE HON ANDREW ROBB AO MP

MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT

17 June 2015

Mr Gao Hucheng
Minister of Commerce
The People's Republic of China

Dear Minister Gao,

In connection with the signing of the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (the "Agreement") and discussions in relation to Chapter 8 (Trade in Services) and Chapter 6 (Technical Barriers to Trade), I have the honour to confirm the following understanding shared by the Governments of Australia and China in relation to strengthening cooperation in the field of Traditional Chinese Medicine ("TCM") services, as well as trade in TCM and complementary medicines:

Within the relevant committees to be established in accordance with the Agreement, and subject to available resources, Australia and China will cooperate to:

- (a) exchange information and discuss policies, regulations and actions related to TCM services in order to find opportunities for further cooperation;
- (b) encourage and support engagement between relevant professional bodies and registration authorities for TCM practitioners in both countries, with a view to clarifying and providing advice on the recognition and accreditation of qualifications of TCM practitioners; and
- (c) encourage and support cooperation on TCM research and development.

I have the honour to advise that Australia maintains processes for the assessment and regulation of TCM services consistent with those applied to other categories of health care. Australian state and territory governments regulate TCM practitioners through a national registration and accreditation scheme. Relevant professional bodies and registration authorities are responsible for registering and developing standards for TCM practitioners and approving qualification requirements for practitioners in Australia. All suppliers of TCM services in Australia must comply with relevant public health and safety measures.

I look forward to your letter in reply confirming that your Government shares this understanding.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Robb

17 June 2015

The Hon Andrew Robb AO, MP
Minister for Trade and Investment
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister Robb,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date, which reads as follows:

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I have the further honour to confirm that my Government shares this understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mr Gao Hucheng
Minister of Commerce
The People’s Republic of China