

23 October 2008

Lim Hng Kiang
Minister for Trade and Industry
Republic of Singapore

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to confirm the receipt of your letter dated [XXX], which reads as follows:

“I have the honour to confirm the following understanding reached by China and Singapore with respect to the recognition of academic degrees for the purposes of Chapter 8 (Trade in Services) of the *Free Trade Agreement between the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Singapore* (the ‘Agreement’):

1. China commits to recognise the academic degrees of medicine granted by 2 Singaporean medical schools, which meet China’s criteria for recognising such degrees. For this purpose, the Ministry of Education of China may conduct study visits to Singaporean medical schools.

2. Singapore commits to recognise the academic degrees of Traditional Chinese Medicine (‘TCM’) granted by 2 Chinese TCM Universities, to be selected by the Singapore Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board (‘TCMPB’), that meet the TCMPB’s criteria for recognising such degrees. For this purpose, the TCMPB and the relevant Singapore authorities may conduct study visits to Chinese TCM universities.

3. The Chinese universities approved by the TCMPB may conduct TCM External Degree Programmes in Singapore, subject to registration requirements. The degrees or diplomas must be awarded in the name of the TCMPB-approved foreign university.

I have the honour to propose that this understanding be treated as an integral part of the Agreement.”

I have the further honour to confirm that this understanding is shared by my Government and constitutes an integral part of the *Free Trade Agreement between the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Singapore*.

Sincerely,

Chen Deming
Minister of Commerce
People's Republic of China