



FEMTC
EUROPEAN FOUNDATION
OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE
欧洲中医基金会

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE TO THE WHO 144TH EB MEETING

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European Foundation of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Spain)

Barcelona, 7th February 2019



Dear Prof. Liu Baoyan and Dear Colleagues of the WFAS Secretariat,

It was a pleasure to have had the opportunity to participate in the WHO 144th EB meeting as delegates representing WFAS. We arrived in Geneva on January 29th, and we met first with Sergio Bangrazi (focal point of our delegation) who had attended the meeting on previous day. We attended all the meetings held from 29th January to 1st February.



During our stay at the WHO headquarters in Geneva-Switzerland, we met in person with Dr. Zhang Qi, the head of Traditional and Complementary Medicine Unit (TCM) in the Department of Service Delivery and Safety (SDS), at the headquarters of WHO, with whom we analyzed the WHO Strategy 2014-2023. Dr. Zhang Qi explained the most outstanding working plans that will be carried out in the coming months, and he put special emphasis on the importance of the inclusion of traditional medicine in ICD-11. We also analyzed the situation in Spain, where natural therapies such as acupuncture, osteopathy, naturopathy, homeopathy, Chinese medicine, etc. are being called “pseudosciences”, unlike what happens in other countries around us, where natural therapies tend to be regulated, in order to guarantee their safety, quality and effectiveness, as a step prior to their future integration in the National Health System in their countries.



In addition to meeting with experts from different countries and several WHO officials, we also had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Lu Yexin of the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, P.R.C., who was informed of the serious and unprecedented accusations made by the Ministries of Health and Science and Technology of Spain, accusing Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine of pseudoscience (for supposed lack of scientific evidence) and of being a “danger” for citizenship. He was also informed of the activity developed by the Observatory of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine, of the newly created Natural Therapies Foundation (Spain) and of the actions to be undertaken in the very short term in order to prevent such atrocity from taking its course.



Yours sincerely,

Dr. Ramon Maria Calduch & Prof. Yue Ling Chen
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