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**STATEMENT BY PROFESSOR CHUN-JEAN LEE
REPRESENTATIVE, INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS**

Mr Chairman, Honourable Ministers, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen. Congratulations, Dr Shinozaki on being elected to your position of responsibility at this most prestigious meeting, the fifty-third session of the Regional Committee of the Western Pacific Region of the World Health Organization.

It is very exciting to learn of the most significant progress made by Dr Omi and the distinguished representatives during the past three years. In addition, although she has departed this meeting, I also wish to state that we are most appreciative of the Honourable Director General of the World Health Organization, Dr Brundtland, for her tremendous contribution to world health and welfare of mankind in the past four (4) years.

And thank you, Dr Omi, for the invitation to attend this meeting and to make a statement on behalf of the international college of Surgeons, a nongovernmental entity in official relations with the world Health Organization and a World Health Organization partner.

The International College of Surgeons is comprised of public health minded surgeons and allied physicians in 110 countries of the world, a significant percentage of whom are in countries in the Western Pacific Region.

Mr Chairman, the International College of Surgeons was founded in 1935 by Dr Max Thorek and we will be having our thirty-third biennial congress during October 27-31, next month, in the western pacific area. All of you are welcome to join us as our guests.

In general, ICS country sections hold annual meetings and our six global federations also hold meetings every two years in locations throughout the world. The purpose of all ICS meetings is to

sponsor continuing medical education. And again, all of you are welcome at these meetings; please join us whenever you are in the neighbourhood of the venue.

The international college of Surgeons undertakes many public health related activities, including teaching surgical teams to many countries and awarding scholarship assistance to young deserving surgeons for specialty training.

Our focus for the future is to provide leadership in education, research in health and medical care delivery, and information exchange on a global basis.

Mr Chairman, the members of the International College of Surgeons very much want a close partnership with all elements of the World Health Organization. We would like very much to engage in the dissemination of the World Health Organization's guidelines for health for all, though patient-doctor rapport, and to assist the implementation of these guidelines throughout the world.

In this reference, I note that AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and hepatitis are blood transmitted diseases that are also transmitted through operative procedures.

We are prepared to provide technical assistance and other interventions, as you consider your future needs at this most important meeting this week in the beautiful city of Kyoto.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to present this statement. With best wishes for a successful meeting, I am Professor Chun-Jean Lee, World President of International College of Surgeons.