# 2003 YEAR BOOK OF HEALTH IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Editor-in-Chief Zhang Wenkang

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## CHINA

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#### **Preface**

The 2003 Year Book of Health in the People's Republic of China" is compiled, under the leadership and sponsorship of the Ministry of Health, with joint efforts from other important organizations such as National Patriotic Health Campaign committee, the State Economic and Trade Commission, the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the State Drug and Food Administration, the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the PRC, and Health Department of PLA General Logistics Ministry. It is an informative reference book covering a comprehensive picture of the development and achievements in legislation, policies, administration, education, service, research and development in Chinese medical and health sector. With the first publication in 1983, 20 volumes of Year Book of Health have been published until now. The Year Book of Health in the People's Republic of China is the 21st volume, containing the latest information up to the end of 2002.

This volume is composed of 17 chapters. They are: 1) Significant Contents; 2) Progress of Health Work; 3) Legal System and Supervision of Public Health; 4) Public Health and Disease Control; 5) Frontier Entry and Exit Inspection and Quarantine; 6) Primary Health Care; 7) Maternal and Child Health Care; 8) Development of Traditional Chinese Medicine; 9) Medical Administration; 10) Medical Education; 11) Medical Science and Technology; 12) Pharmaceutical Supervision and the Administration of Pharmaceutical Industry; 13) Programming and Financial Management; 14) International Exchanges and Cooperation and Utilization of Foreign Capitals; 15) VIP and Officials in Public Health Sector; 16) Chronology of Major Health Activities; 17) Health Statistics.

All data in the book are taken from publications of relevant government authorities (not including relevant data of Hong Kong and Macao Special Administration Region and that of Taiwan province).

Editorial Office of "2003 Year Book of Health in the People's Republic of China" June of 2003

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#### Chapter 1

#### Significant Contents

#### 1.1 National Conference on Rural Health Work

National Conference on Rural Health Work was held on October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of 2002 in Beijing. It is the first time that such conference being held in the name of the State Council.

#### 1.1.1 Document Drafting and Conference Preparation

In May of 2001, the General Office of the State Council transmitted "Guidance on the Reform and Development of Rural Health System" formulated by five commissions or ministries including the Office for Economic Restructuring of the State Council, with preliminary identification of the direction and policy principle for the development of rural health activities. In the briefing of May 15th of 2002 to Vice Premier Li Langing, the leading Party Group of the Ministry of Health submitted a proposal to the State Council to, at an appropriate time, convene National Conference on Rural Health Work so as to raise the awareness of government at all levels, relevant departments and all social groups on the importance of rural health work, and speed up the development of health work in rural areas of China. Vice Premier Li Langing instructed that top priority would be given on establishing health system in rural areas, regulations would be made in the name of Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party (CCCPC) and the State Council, and National Conference on Rural Health Work would be held next year. To this end, lead by the Office of Economic Restructuring (OER) of the State Council, the State Planning Commission, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, the State Family Planning Commission, the State Food and Drug Administration and the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine (SATCM) began to draft the "Decision of Central

Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Strengthening Rural Health Work" (hereafter refer to as the Decision).

In making the draft Decision, the task force held many meetings to formulate the document after careful study, repeated negotiations, discussions and amendments. The General Office and Office of Economic Restructuring of the State Council has formulated more than 30 versions of the Decision after frequent soliciting opinions and coordination work. During the period of 2002 National Conference on Public Health, Mr. Zhang Wenkang and other ministerial leaders discussed with twenty odd majors or county magistrates in charge of health work or local health officials on the reform and development of health system in rural areas of China and put forward relevant opinions and recommendations. The General Office of the State Council convened two forums to solicit opinions for the Decision in August and October, which were presided by Mr. Gao Qiang, Vice General Secretary of the State Council. leaders of relevant departments of the State Council, and officials of local government and institutions concerned of 16 provinces, autonomous region and municipalities attended the forum and put forward their opinions on the amendments of the Decision after careful consideration. On 4th September, 2002, Mr. Zhang Wenkang briefed to Vice Premier Li Langing on current status and urgent problems of rural health system. On 27th September, Vice Premier Li Langing was briefed by relevant leaderes from ministries and commissions on rural health activities and gave instructions on eight important issues including the functions and facilities of commune or township hospitals; the establishment of mobile medical care system; training of rural health workers and the establishment of rural cooperative medical care system. It has further unified the understanding of relevant ministries and commissions on important policy issues and made a solid foundation for the policy framework of the Decision. On 9th of October, Premier Zhu Rongji presided the 140th Premier working meeting to discuss the draft Decision. Mr. Zhang Wenkang, Minister of Public Health, briefed to him on behalf of relevant ministries and commissions. Important policies on financial support by central government, enhancing and improving cooperative medical care system in rural areas, building up health and medical assistance to rural areas with urban resources, establishing mobile medical care systems with mobile medical vehicles were identified. According to the spirit of this Premier working meeting and opinions of local officials who attended the forum, the Office of Economic Restructuring again invited officials of ministries and commissions concerned meeting together for further amendment and worked out revised document, which was jointly submitted by the Office of Economic Restructuring and the Ministry of Health to the State Council for approval. On 19th, October of 2002, CCCPC and the State Council issued the "Decision of Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Strengthening Rural Public Health Work" in its formal document with series number of [2002] No.13.

In order to better implement policies stipulated in the Decision, the General Office of the State Council began to arrange the drafting of complementary documents and identified seven documents covering such aspects as the development