

**Joint Communiqué on the
Second Meeting of the U.S.-China Health-Care Forum
May 22, 2007**

On May 21-22, 2007, the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Health and Human Services, and the Ministries of Health and Commerce of the People's Republic of China, held a two day U.S.-China Health-Care Forum (HCF) in furtherance of our common goals of enhancing cooperation in the area of health-care policy, and improving our ability to provide effective, sustainable, high quality health care efficiently to our citizens. The HCF brought together a broad array of relevant Government agencies and private enterprises from both countries on the topic of sustainable financing for health care. The HCF built on the discussions held under the first HCF organized by both Governments in Beijing, in July 2005.

Based on the fruitful discussions over the last two days, and the importance both Governments place on cooperation related to health care, both Governments have agreed to continue meeting under the auspices of the HCF, carrying out smaller technical discussions, training or other forms of exchange that both sides deem important to further the goals of our two countries. Topics for discussion under the auspices of the HCF may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Developing responsive, patient-centered health-care systems that promote consumer choice and responsibility by providing patients with information so they may make informed health-care decisions;
- Providing sustainable, efficient health care that maximizes resources and promotes economic growth;
- Developing transparent, objective and science-based approaches; and
- Fostering innovation through health-care systems that reward risk and promote the continuous upgrading and modernization of health-care provision and products.

The U.S. Departments of Commerce and Health and Human Services and China's Ministries of Health and Commerce, as organizers of the HCF, will carry out our future work under the HCF in close partnership with other relevant agencies, ministries, and enterprises in both countries as appropriate.