The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Buddhist Association:

The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing, in his capacity as the Hon. Head Delegate of the Delegation of Hong Kong and Macau Buddhism of the 2nd World Buddhist Forum, met the Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), Mr Jia Qinglin, together with other members of the delegation in Lingshan, Wuxi today (March 27).

Vice-Premier Hui Liangyu and Vice-Chairman of the CPPCC and Head of the United Front Work Department of the Central Committee, Mr Du Qinglin, also attended the meeting.

Mr Tsang started his first day visit in Wuxi today and will attend the opening ceremony of the 2nd World Buddhist Forum tomorrow.

Together with the 100-strong Delegation of Hong Kong and Macau Buddhism, Mr Tsang will then leave for Taipei by a chartered flight on Monday (March 30) to attend the forum's closing ceremony on April 1.

The theme of the 2nd World Buddhist Forum is "Harmonious World, A Synergy of Conditions". It is jointly organised by the Buddhist Association of China, the Buddha's Light International Association in Taiwan, the Hong Kong Buddhist Association and the China Religious Culture Communication Association.

Ends/Friday, March 27, 2009