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, attended the closing ceremony of the 2nd World Buddhist Forum in Taipei today (April 1).

Mr Tsang and members of the delegation joined representatives from around the world in praying for world peace at the closing ceremony held at the Taipei Arena.

Mr Tsang also visited the National Palace Museum in Taipei today following his visit to the Taipei Fine Arts Museum and Taipei Story House yesterday (March 31).

Mr Tsang together with the Delegation of Hong Kong and Macau Buddhism left Wuxi for Taipei by a chartered flight on Monday (March 30). While in Wuxi and Taipei, Mr Tsang attended the forum's panel discussions to exchange views with Buddhist circles in the Mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau. He also gave a speech on Buddhism and Hong Kong Culture at a discussion session yesterday in Taipei.

Mr Tsang will return to Hong Kong tomorrow (April 2).

The 2nd World Buddhist Forum, carrying the theme "Harmonious World, A Synergy of Conditions", was held from March 28 to April 1 in Wuxi and Taipei. 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/Wednesday, April 1, 2009 NNNN