

The Alliance
Convenor

Dr S P Mak
麥倩屏醫生

Hon Secretary

Dr Regina C T Ching
程卓端醫生

Members

Ms Jessica KW Chan
陳潔華女士

Dr Angus MW Chan
陳銘偉醫生

Dr Wai Man Chan
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封華青博士

Prof Patick P K Ip
葉柏強教授

Dr Henry W M Kong
江永明醫生

Prof Tai Hing Lam
林大慶教授

Prof Annisa C H Lee Lai
李賴俊卿教授

Dr June Y Y Leung
梁語殷醫生

Prof Raymond H S Liang
梁憲孫教授

Prof Agnes FY Tiwari
羅鳳儀教授

Dr Ricky CK Tung
董梓光醫生

Prof Martin C S Wong
黃至生教授

Statement by Hong Kong Alliance for Advocacy Against Alcohol in response to 2024 Policy Address announcement to reduce alcohol tax

香港控酒聯盟對施政報告的建議感到極度失望，又對任何形式的減稅將鼓勵更多市民飲用烈酒而對飲酒人士健康及家庭、社會、生產力和長期經濟發展將帶來的負面影響，感到憂慮。

The Hong Kong Alliance for Advocacy Against Alcohol (the Alliance) is extremely disappointed at the announcement made in the Policy Address. The Alliance is very concerned about the negative impact on drinkers' health and their family, society, work productivity and long-term economic development brought about by any form of tax reduction that will encourage more people to drink alcohol and be exposed to its harm.

聯盟認為施報告在「為民生，建未來」的前提下，沒有就減稅後對各方面可帶來的深遠影響，（包括是對公眾健康、醫療成本、家庭、社會勞動力及長遠經濟發展等）作廣泛詳細和公開公正的評估，討論和交代下，作出決定，表示深切遺憾。

The Alliances considers that the Policy Address has not carried out a comprehensive and detailed assessment of the far-reaching implications of alcohol tax reduction on public health, including its burden on healthcare system, family, society, work productivity and long term economic development in an open and fair manner, or communicated with the public through open discussion and explanation. We regret that the decision was not the outcome of a due process.

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我們認為政府責無旁貸，應該切實執行世界衛生組織建議

三個最符合成本效益的減少酒害措施，包括提高酒稅及價格、管
控酒精供應、和限制酒精宣傳推廣，達至減少市民接觸酒精和承
受酒精危害的風險。

We consider the Government clearly has a role to implement the three most cost-effective measures recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) to reduce alcohol harm, which include raising alcohol tax and prices, regulating supply of alcohol, and restricting alcohol marketing and promotion. Taken together, these measures contribute to effective reduction in alcohol use and exposure to all forms of alcohol harm.

16 October 2024