## Dear colleagues,

As you may know, the 23<sup>rd</sup> SICOT/SIROT Triennial World Congress will take place from 2 - 9 September 2005 in Istanbul, Turkey. Istanbul is one of the most beautiful capitals of the world, with great scenic appeal, and with a great cultural and architectural heritage (at one time part of the Ottoman Empire, which stretched from Europe to Asia). Turkey borders on the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas, affording many opportunities for boat excursions and water sports.

We invite you to register as a participant and bring your spouse and family. You can register on-line at <a href="http://www.sicot.org">http://www.sicot.org</a>. Please also visit other parts of the website to acquaint yourself of the many services/facilities offered.

Other than the SICOT Triennial World Congress held in Sydney 1999, the subsequent Triennial Congress in San Diego, and three Annual International Conferences held in Paris, Cairo and Havana have not been well supported by Hong Kong orthopaedic surgeons.

Against strong competition from several other bidders, Hong Kong was successful in a bid to hold the SICOT Triennial Congress in 2008. It would be a nice gesture to other countries if our orthopaedic fraternity actively supports the major SICOT scientific meetings outside of Hong Kong. In return, we hope to generate immense interests and excellent participation in our Congress in 2008.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Keith DK Luk Vice President & HK National Delegate for SICOT Congress President, 2008 Professor John C.Y. Leong President, SICOT

10 Jan 2005