

Comments from the International Community

"I am of the view that Europe and North America may not have responded as well as Hong Kong, if the virus had established in these regions."

Prof Roy Anderson FRS
Head of Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at Imperial College
University of London
(June 2004)

"Information technology may provide the tools that contribute to rapid response, co-ordination and effective management. This is extremely well illustrated with Hong Kong response to the SARS crisis."

Dr Regis Cabral
Lead Jury Member at Stockholm Challenge 2004 Award
(13 May 2004)

"The more our Committee learnt about the experience of SARS in Hong Kong, the more impressed we were by the extraordinary service, hard work, attention to duty and acceptance of responsibility shown by numerous people during the outbreak. The impression was reinforced by many comments from senior people in our own countries."

Sir Cyril Chantler and Prof Sian Griffiths
Co-chairs of the SARS Expert Committee
(2 October 2003)

"Hong Kong has maintained a high degree of alertness and an adequate surveillance system in handling the SARS outbreak."

Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland, Director-General
World Health Organisation (WHO)
(19 June 2003)

"It's a very unique way of tracing contacts. It will likely be copied in the future in Hong Kong and imitated throughout the world. It's a very important marriage of databases."

Dr David Heymann, Executive Director
WHO
(16 June 2003)

"We are impressed with the work that has been done here before. People here are knowledgeable and did a thorough job."

Dr Heinz Feldmann
Team Leader, WHO Environmental Health Team
(which investigated the SARS outbreak at the Amoy Gardens)
(16 May 2003)

".....Dr Heymann characterised the efforts taken in Hong Kong to stem the spread of SARS as 'heroic'. 'All of us have nothing but admiration for you and your team,' he added."

SARS Situation Updates 48, WHO
(6 May 2003)