

POSITION STATEMENT

Endangered species and Chinese medicine in Australia

Australia is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora which is known as the CITES agreement. It is underpinned by provisions in Australian Government legislation, namely in the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Western Sydney University, NICM, the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia and the Chinese medicine profession in Australia strongly support and strictly adhere to the moral and legal obligations to protect endangered species.

Western Sydney University and NICM were the first in Australia to run national conferences in 1997 and 1998 (in partnership with World Wildlife Fund, the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration, Australian Quarantine and Protection Services and the Australian Department of Environment), to enhance awareness and compliance by Chinese medicine practitioners to the new CITES regulations and the importance of protection of endangered species.