

# MANIFESTO

## on Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) signed at the EU Open Health Forum 2008




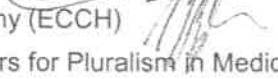
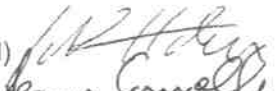
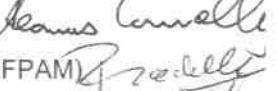
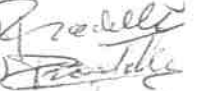
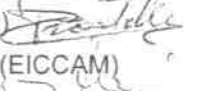

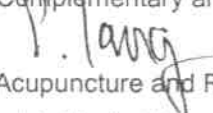

Organised by the European Commission – DG Health and Consumer Protection  
Brussels, 11 December 2008

### Identifying a TOP Priority for EU Health Policy

- Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) is in strong demand among European citizens reflecting a need for more holistic patient-centred care
- About 70 % of the European population report that they have used CAM therapies
- Clinical effectiveness of CAM is, in many cases, at least as high as the effectiveness of conventional medicine as shown by several long-term studies involving many thousands of patients
- CAM has a positive safety profile and is effective, especially in individualised medicine
- CAM manufacturing techniques help protect the environment
- Integration of CAM in general health care can help to reduce costs and the burden of mortality and morbidity caused by multiple adverse effects of many conventional prescription medicines
- CAM is needed in fostering good health in Europe for the young and the old
- CAM is a strong contribution to health promotion

For the benefit of all Europeans we strongly recommend  
that the European Union promote the integration of valid CAM  
and effective Medicinal Traditions in its health policy!

This document is signed by:

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