

**Thirty-sixth Meeting of  
the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee**

***Agenda Item 3(a) : Report on the work of the  
Wholesale and Retail Task Force***

**Purpose**

This paper reports on the work of the Wholesale and Retail Task Force (WRTF) since the last Business Facilitation Advisory Committee meeting held on 18 August 2017.

**Work progress of WRTF**

***Import Control and Surveillance of Hairy Crabs***

2. At the WRTF meeting held on 6 November 2017, the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) jointly briefed Members on the current measures for the import control and surveillance of hairy crabs as well as the latest position of the import of hairy crabs into Hong Kong. CFS has been liaising closely with the Mainland authorities and the trade regarding the surveillance and import arrangement of hairy crabs. On account of the short life span of hairy crabs and their seasonal nature, FHB and CFS have reprioritised resource allocation so that the surveillance testing process on hairy crab samples was shortened from four weeks to around two weeks. With a view to facilitating the early sale of imported hairy crabs, FHB and CFS would explore if the sample testing procedure could be further compressed.

3. WRTF thanked FHB and CFS for noting the trade's concerns and taking measures to facilitate the import of hairy crabs while safeguarding public health.

***Proposed Control Regime of Dangerous Goods in Consumer Packs under the new Dangerous Goods (Amendment) Ordinance***

4. At the same meeting on 6 November 2017, the Fire Services Department (FSD) briefed WRTF on the proposed control regime of dangerous goods in consumer packs (DGCP) under the Dangerous Goods (DG) (Amendment) Ordinance (Amendment Ordinance). DGCP are specified DGs commonly used by the general public which are contained in small consumer packs, e.g. hand sanitizers.

5. With regard to DGCP, the Amendment Ordinance proposes to specify the maximum packing size and to accordingly revise the requirements on the storage, transportation as well as packing, marking and labelling of DGCP with an aim to bring the local regulatory regime on DGCP in line with the prevailing practices of the relevant trades.

6. WRTF welcomed the relevant authorities' initiative to review and update the existing regulatory measures which would facilitate the wholesale and retail trades without compromising the public safety.

**Way forward**

7. Members are invited to note the work progress of WRTF. WRTF will continue to monitor the development of the above issues.

Economic Analysis and Business Facilitation Unit,  
Financial Secretary's Office  
December 2017