

## AFCD seizes suspected dog and cat flesh for food

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducted a joint blitz operation with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and the Hong Kong Police Force today (February 29) and seized some suspected dog and cat flesh on some premises in Mong Kok for further investigation.

An AFCD spokesman said, "The AFCD recently received reports about some people suspected to sell dog and cat flesh as food in Shanghai Street, Mong Kok. The AFCD conducted a joint blitz operation with the FEHD and the Police today. AFCD staff seized about 35 kilograms of suspected flesh of dog and cat for food on the premises, and arranged testing with results pending. Prosecution will be instituted should it be proven to be dog or cat flesh."

During the joint operation, FEHD staff collected evidence and arrested one male for further investigation. If there is sufficient evidence, prosecution would be taken against him for operating an unlicensed restaurant in accordance with section 31(1) of the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X).

According to the Dogs and Cats Regulations (Cap. 167A), no person shall slaughter any dog or cat for use as food whether for mankind or otherwise, and no person shall sell or use or permit the sale or use of the flesh of dogs and cats for food. Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$5,000 and six months' imprisonment.

The AFCD will not tolerate having dog or cat flesh for consumption and will follow up seriously. Enforcement action will be taken should there be sufficient evidence.

Members of the public can report any suspected irregularity through 1823.