

Amendments to control lists under Chemical Weapons (Convention) Ordinance and Import and Export (Strategic Commodities) Regulations to take effect tomorrow

The Chemical Weapons (Convention) Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 1) Order 2021 and the Import and Export (Strategic Commodities) Regulations (Amendment of Schedules 1 and 2) Order 2021 will come into effect tomorrow (September 17). The two Amendment Orders update the control lists of chemical weapons and strategic commodities in Hong Kong in order to reflect the changes to the control lists adopted by a number of international regimes and convention with respect to the technologies or items under control as well as the control thresholds.

The control lists of chemical weapons and strategic commodities in Hong Kong mirror the control lists adopted by the Wassenaar Arrangement, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group, and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction. The Government updates the control lists in a timely manner to ensure that Hong Kong's control system is in line with international standards, which is vital to the trade in doing import/export businesses with foreign trading partners and licensing authorities.

The control lists are provided in the relevant schedules to the Chemical Weapons (Convention) Ordinance (Cap. 578) and the Import and Export (Strategic Commodities) Regulations (Cap. 60G).

Details of the amendments have been uploaded to the website of the Trade and Industry Department (www.stc.tid.gov.hk/eindex.html). Enquiries can be made to the Strategic Trade Controls Branch of the department by telephone at 2398 5587 or by email at stc@tid.gov.hk.