

Speech by SFH at Ministerial Roundtable – Cooperation with Key Stakeholders (English only) (with photos)

Following is the speech by the Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, at Ministerial Roundtable – Cooperation with Key Stakeholders today (November 27) in Singapore.

Minister Gan (Minister for Health, Singapore, Mr Gan Kim Yong), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning. It gives me great pleasure to share with you the experience of Hong Kong in engaging stakeholders to address the issue on diabetes and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Hong Kong has a vibrant civil society. In recent years there has been an increase in the number of players in the healthcare sector. We fully support the spirit outlined in the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors. We have established co-operation with stakeholders to achieve the common goal in promoting and protecting the health of Hong Kong people.

In terms of health promotion, our Department of Health has partnered with various key stakeholders, like academics, professional associations, home-school associations and the catering industry to carry out campaigns for promoting healthy lifestyle such as low salt and sodium in meals. Starting from next year, we will provide financial support, around US\$32,000, to our 18 District Councils, which are our district advisory bodies and partners. They will in turn engage community organisations to launch health promotion activities on prevention and control of NCDs in the district level.

I am sure you are familiar with the Healthy Cities approach initiated by the WHO which aims to cope with the adverse effects of an urban environment over health. In Hong Kong, each of our 18 districts has set up a Healthy Cities Project. They have recently won the bid to organise the next Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities in Hong Kong in 2020. I look forward to seeing them working closely with the private sector such as companies and non-government organisations as encouraged by the WHO.

Our vision to provide quality, affordable and sustainable health services to the public is shared by many in the civil society. At the primary care setting, we are committed to illustrating the effectiveness of medical-social collaboration. A pilot District Health Centre (DHC), operating through district-based, medical-social collaboration and public-private partnership, will be set up in Hong Kong. This DHC will be operated by a non-public entity with government funding. It will provide services in health promotion, health

assessment, chronic disease management, and community rehabilitation. Diabetes and hypertension, and their related risk factors, are among the priority issues to be handled by the DHC.

Promoting partnership with patients to provide patient-centred care is one of the key strategic directions of the Hospital Authority, which manages all public hospitals in Hong Kong. They have established Patient Resources Centres to support patients and their families or carers, and facilitate the networking between patient and patient groups for mutual support, including a number of diabetes-related patient groups. The Resources Centres collaborate with clinical teams and patient groups for patient education and the organisation of empowerment programmes for diabetic patients, such as healthy cooking classes, peer-led exercise sessions, etc, to strengthen their knowledge and skills in self-management. These Centres also engage patient groups as volunteers to participate in projects such as ward visits or home visits to show concern and care for diabetic patients.

As you can see, we have pursued co-operation with key stakeholders in different ways and at different levels and have been encouraged by the synergy created so far. We will endeavour to foster more collaboration and join hands with stakeholders in minimising the threat posed by diabetes and other NCDs.



Hong Kong Customs and Marine Police seize suspected smuggled goods (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs and the Marine Police yesterday (November 26) conducted an anti-smuggling joint operation and detected a suspected smuggling case using a speedboat in the North Lantau waters of Hong Kong. Suspected smuggled goods including about 1 400 used mobile phones, about 100 used tablets, about 160 kilograms of wood logs and about 900 live frogs with an estimated market value of about \$1.1 million were seized.

Officers from Customs and the Marine Police spotted several suspicious men moving cartons of goods from a private car to a speedboat near Tung Chung yesterday evening. Officers then took immediate action and the men fled in the speedboat.

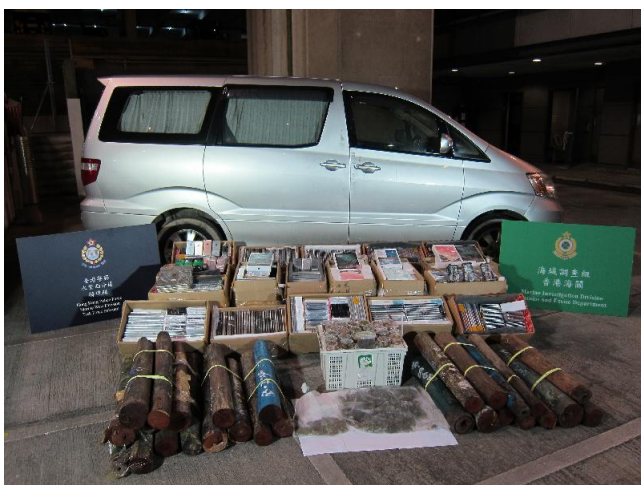
During the operation, the batch of suspected smuggled goods was seized and a private car involved was also detained for further investigation.

Investigation is ongoing.

Smuggling is a serious offence. Under the Import and Export Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting unmanifested cargo is liable to a maximum fine of \$2 million and imprisonment for seven years.

Hong Kong Customs and the Marine Police will continue to take stringent enforcement action to combat sea smuggling activities.

Members of the public may report any suspected smuggling activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



[Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected illicit cigarettes \(with photo\)](#)

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (November 26) seized about 1.3 million suspected illicit cigarettes with an estimated market value of about \$3.5 million and a duty potential of about \$2.4 million at Man Kam To Control Point.

Customs officers intercepted an incoming truck declared as carrying assorted goods at Man Kam To Control Point yesterday. After inspection, Customs officers found the batch of suspected illicit cigarettes in 160 carton boxes mix-loaded with other goods on the truck.

The 58-year-old male driver was arrested and the truck was detained. Investigation is ongoing.

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Members of the public may report any suspected illicit cigarette activities to the Customs 24-hour hotline 2545 6182, or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



[Red flag hoisted at Silverstrand Beach](#)

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (November 27) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Silverstrand Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

Briefing on “Annual Report 2017” by Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance to be held next Tuesday

The following is issued on behalf of the Office of the Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance:

The Chief Executive has caused a copy of the "Annual Report 2017" by the Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance to be tabled at the Legislative Council sitting tomorrow (November 28).

To assist the public in understanding his report, as well as to answer any queries they may have, the Commissioner, Mr Azizul Rahman Suffiad, will hold a briefing for members of the public, Legislative Council Members and media representatives on December 4 (Tuesday) at 11am at the Function Hall, 1/F, Main Wing, Justice Place, 18 Lower Albert Road, Central, Hong Kong. Registration will start at 10.30am on that day.

Copies of the report will be available for collection after 2pm tomorrow at the Office of the Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance at Units 1501-1504, 15/F, Sunlight Tower, 248 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

The report will also be uploaded to the webpage of the Secretariat, Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance (www.sciocs.gov.hk), tomorrow after the Legislative Council tabling.

For enquiries, please call 2834 3361.