## Hong Kong Customs alerts public on one model of unsafe folding chair (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs today (February 12) alerted members of the public to a potential falling hazard posed by one model of an unsafe folding chair.

Customs earlier conducted a spot check operation on folding table and chair products and test-purchased a number of models of folding tables and chairs from retailers in the market for safety tests. Test results revealed that one model of a folding chair did not comply with the general safety requirements of the Consumer Goods Safety Ordinance (CGSO). That model of folding chair did not pass the under load test when placed on an inclined surface, which could pose a falling risk to users.

A prohibition notice was served on the retailer concerned, prohibiting the continued sale of that model of folding chair.

An investigation is ongoing.

Customs reminds members of the public to observe the following safety tips when purchasing and using folding chair products:

- Check the stability of the folding chair after unfolding it and check if the locking device operates normally;
- Sit down lightly first when using the folding chair and stop using it if the stability of the product is in doubt;
- Use the folding chair properly and avoid sitting towards one side of the chair;
- Do not allow children to play with the product; and
- Do not let unsupervised children use the product.

Customs reminds traders to comply with the statutory requirements of the CGSO to protect the safety of consumers.

Under the CGSO, it is an offence to supply, manufacture or import into Hong Kong consumer goods unless the goods comply with the general safety requirements for consumer goods. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$100,000 and imprisonment for one year on first conviction, and \$500,000 and imprisonment for two years on subsequent conviction.

Customs has been combating consistently the sale of products that fall short of the CGSO. Law enforcement action will be taken immediately if any violation of the CGSO is detected.

Members of the public with information relating to unsafe consumer goods may make a report via Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (<a href="mailto:crimereport@customs.gov.hk">crimereport@customs.gov.hk</a>).

