## Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected cocaine (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (October 18) seized about 700 grams of suspected cocaine with an estimated market value of about \$850,000 at Hong Kong International Airport.

A male passenger arrived in Hong Kong from Sao Paulo, Brazil via Dubai, the United Arab Emirates yesterday afternoon. Customs officers intercepted the passenger, who was about to depart for Siem Reap, Cambodia for inspection. Upon examination, the batch of suspected cocaine was found concealed inside the metal frame of the suitcase he was carrying. The man was then arrested.

The arrested man, aged 35, has been charged with one count of trafficking in a dangerous drug. He will appear at West Kowloon Magistrates' Courts tomorrow (October 20).

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in a dangerous drug is a serious offence. The maximum penalty is a fine of \$5 million and life imprisonment.

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

