Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected cocaine worth about \$126 million (with photos)

Hong Kong Customs seized about 80 kilograms of suspected cocaine with an estimated market value of about \$126 million from a transshipment container at the Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound on February 23.

Following intelligence sharing with overseas law enforcement agencies and risk assessment, Customs officers selected a 40-foot container, declared as containing grapes, from Peru heading for the Mainland via Hong Kong for inspection.

Upon examination, Customs officers found the batch of suspected cocaine inside two nylon bags that were placed by the side of the container doors.

After follow-up investigation, a 53-year-old man suspected to be in connection with the case was arrested the next day.

Investigation is ongoing.

Risk assessment has all along been an effective strategy adopted by Customs to intercept the import and transit movements of dangerous drugs in various channels. The department will continue to step up anti-narcotic efforts through risk assessment and intelligence analysis with international co-operation.

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

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



