

Import of poultry meat and products from Holbæk Municipality in Denmark suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (December 15) that in view of a notification from the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Holbæk Municipality in Denmark, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the area with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A CFS spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 630 tonnes of frozen poultry meat from Denmark in the first nine months of this year.

"The CFS has contacted the Danish authority over the issue and will closely monitor information issued by the World Organisation for Animal Health and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreak. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.