

Import of poultry meat and products from Wonju-si of Gangwon-do Province in Korea suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (April 27) that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N8 avian influenza in Wonju-si of Gangwon-do Province in Korea, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the district 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 1 190 tonnes of chilled and frozen poultry meat and about 11.15 million poultry eggs from Korea last year.

"The CFS has contacted the Korean authorities over the issue and will closely monitor information issued by the OIE 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.