<u>Service suspension of community</u> <u>testing stations and ad-hoc mobile</u> <u>specimen collection stations under</u> <u>Strong Wind Signal No. 3</u>

As the Strong Wind Signal No. 3 is now in force, a spokesman for the Health Bureau announced today (October 17) that all outdoor testing points (i.e. community testing stations (CTSs) and ad-hoc mobile specimen collection stations) are closed and testing services there are suspended when the Strong Wind Signal No. 3 is in force. All relevant bookings of CTSs will be cancelled, and individuals who have booked a timeslot will need to make a reservation again. Separately, community testing centres (CTCs) (i.e. testing points located indoors or at covered places) continue to operate. Persons who need to undergo COVID-19 testing may go to CTCs instead for testing.

If the Strong Wind Signal No. 3 is cancelled before or at 1pm tomorrow (October 18), CTSs and ad-hoc mobile specimen collection stations will be gradually reopened within hours after cancellation of the signal. In case the signal is cancelled after 1pm tomorrow, CTSs and ad-hoc mobile specimen collection stations will not open during the day.

The spokesman reminded the public that the testing deadline for undergoing compulsory testing will be extended by one day if Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 3 or above is in force at any time during the period for undergoing compulsory testing. In this connection, the relevant testing deadline for compulsory testing notices issued on October 15 and 16 will be extended by one day to tomorrow and the day after tomorrow (October 19) respectively.