

## SFH concludes Beijing visit (with photos)

The Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, today (December 24) started the second day of her visit to Beijing. She met with the Minister of the General Administration of Customs (GAC), Mr Ni Yuefeng, and officials of the GAC. They exchanged views on issues related to food safety and supply, including prevention and control of African Swine Fever as well as maintaining a steady supply of live pigs from the Mainland.

During the meeting, Professor Chan also witnessed the signing of a collaboration arrangement on e-certificates between the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and GAC. The arrangement aims to establish an effective transfer mechanism for e-certificates, fostering collaboration on data exchange of quarantine certificates between both sides as well as stepping up gate-keeping work on food safety.

Professor Chan said, "We will continue to strengthen the exchange and co-operation with GAC in order to refine the arrangement of verifying health certificates by food regulating authorities of the two sides with a view to further safeguarding the safety of food supplied to Hong Kong."

The Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food), Mr Philip Yung, and the Acting Controller of the Centre for Food Safety of the FEHD, Dr Edwin Tsui, accompanied Professor Chan to attend the meeting. They concluded the visit and will return to Hong Kong in the evening.

