

Swift distribution of Chinese medicines and medical supplies donated by our nation and continued communication with Mainland experts

A spokesman for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government said today (February 26) that the Government is distributing anti-epidemic proprietary Chinese medicines donated by our nation to individuals receiving treatment or in need through relevant departments and organisations.

Together with the batch arriving Hong Kong next Monday, the HKSAR Government has received a total of 350 000 boxes of anti-epidemic proprietary Chinese medicines donated by the Central Government. Amongst them, 70 000 boxes and 50 000 boxes of the proprietary Chinese medicines have respectively been given to the Hong Kong Community Anti-Coronavirus Link and other local organisations respectively for distribution to the community. The remaining 230 000 boxes will be distributed through relevant departments to those receiving treatment at 18 Chinese medicine clinics under the Hospital Authority, people who had tested positive at isolation facilities and others, so that those in need would be able to receive these proprietary Chinese medicines donated by the Central Government as soon as possible and fight the virus together.

As for the various kinds of medical supplies required, the task force of ensuring medical supplies led by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, has been working closely with the corresponding task forces of the Mainland. The medical supplies have been arriving Hong Kong in batches, including some 10 million N95 and KN95 masks, and some 10 million rapid antigen test (RAT) kits. The RAT kits have already been distributed for use by relevant departments and organisations, and to members of the public, especially high-exposure personnel, staff of residential care homes for the elderly, cleansing and security staff, etc, through the Home Affairs Department.

The task forces between the two places continued to closely communicate with each other on Hong Kong's anti-epidemic work with the support of the Central Government. The Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, and the Director of Health, Dr Ronald Lam, held a video conference today with experts of the National Health Commission, the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention and the Guangdong Provincial Centre for Disease Control and Prevention to exchange views and analyse the latest epidemic development in Hong Kong.

In respect of the Compulsory Universal Testing Scheme, the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Erick Tsang Kwok-wai, also had a video conference today with experts of the National Health Commission to

exchange and gauge their views for drawing up the implementation plan and making preparations.