Import of poultry meat and products from Tuaran District of Sabah State in Malaysia suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (August 7) that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) about an outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Tuaran District of Sabah State in Malaysia, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend 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 Hong Kong imported about 100 tonnes of frozen poultry meat and 190million poultry eggs from Malaysia in the first six months of this year.

"The CFS has contacted the Malaysian authorities over the issue and will closely monitor information issued by the OIE on avian influenza outbreaks. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.

<u>Temporary suspension of self-service</u> <u>library station services</u>

The self-service library station located at Island East Sports Centre Sitting-out Area will suspend services from 8pm on August 13 to 3am on the following day to facilitate periodic inspection and testing of electrical installations at the venue, a Leisure and Cultural Services Department spokesman announced today (August 7).

During the service suspension period, readers are welcome to use the book drop service of other public libraries to return library materials. They may also renew library materials by telephoning 2698 0002 or 2827 2833 or via www.hkpl.gov.hk.

Yuen Long recycling site raided by EPD for illegal handling of hazardous electronic waste (with photos)

A recycling site in Yuen Long, which illegally handled hazardous electronic waste (e-waste), was raided during an inter-departmental blitz enforcement operation in January by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). The company concerned, Mei Wah Environmental (Hong Kong) Company Limited, was convicted at Fanling Magistrates' Courts today (August 7) for contravening the Waste Disposal Ordinance (WDO) and the Waste Disposal (Chemical Waste) (General) Regulation and was fined a total of \$130,000. This company was also fined \$41,000 in May this year for contravening the WDO and the Regulation.

An EPD spokesman said that a blitz operation was jointly conducted with the Police in January this year at various open recycling sites at Shan Ha Tsuen in Yuen Long. It was found that a recycling site operated by Mei Wah Environmental (Hong Kong) Company Limited illegally stored waste printed circuit boards (PCBs) and LCD monitors, which are classified as chemical waste. About 6 700 waste LCD monitors and five bags of waste PCBs weighing about 1.2 tonnes were found during the operation, with a total market value of approximately \$800,000. Upon investigation and evidence gathering, the EPD initiated prosecution against the operator of the recycling site concerned in accordance with the Regulation.

The spokesman stressed that dismantled or destroyed PCBs, LCD monitors and cathode ray tubes are hazardous e-waste, containing heavy metals and other toxic substances. They are classified as chemical waste and are regulated under the existing laws on chemical waste disposal. The EPD is all along been committed to combating the illegal collection, storage, handling and import and export activities of hazardous e-waste. Anyone who violates the above laws shall be liable to a maximum fine of \$200,000 and six months' imprisonment for the first conviction. For subsequent offences, offenders are liable to a maximum fine of \$500,000 and two years' imprisonment.

Members of the public may visit the EPD's website for more information about the control of chemical waste:
www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/guide ref/guide cwc.html





Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 is 104.2 (same as yesterday's index).

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Exchange Fund Bills Tender Results

Tender date : August 7, 2018

Paper on offer : EF Bills Issue number : 01832

Issue date : August 8, 2018
Maturity date : November 7, 2018
Amount applied : HK\$133,160 MN

Amount allotted : HK\$40,096 MN

Average yield accepted : 1.33 PCT Highest yield accepted : 1.35 PCT

Pro rata ratio : About 18 PCT

Average tender yield : 1.37 PCT

Tender date : August 7, 2018

Paper on offer : EF Bills

Issue number : H1861

Issue date : August 8, 2018 Maturity date : February 8, 2019

Amount applied : HK43,700 \ MN$ Amount allotted : HK11,000 \ MN$

Average yield accepted : 1.47 PCT Highest yield accepted : 1.48 PCT

Pro rata ratio : About 99 PCT Average tender yield : 1.57 PCT

Tender date : August 7, 2018

Paper on offer : EF Bills Issue number : Y1892

Issue date : August 8, 2018

Maturity date : August 7, 2019

Amount applied : HK\$14,900 MN

Amount allotted : HK\$5,000 MN

Average yield accepted : 1.60 PCT

Highest yield accepted : 1.62 PCT

Pro rata ratio : About 37 PCT

Average tender yield : 1.72 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Tenders to be held in the week beginning August 13, 2018:

Tender date : August 14, 2018

Paper on offer : EF Bills Issue number : Q1833

Issue date : August 15, 2018 Maturity date : November 14, 2018

Tenor : 91 Days

Amount on offer : HK\$43,848 MN

Tender date : August 14, 2018

Paper on offer : EF Bills Issue number : H1862

Issue date : August 15, 2018
Maturity date : February 13, 2019

Tenor : 182 Days

Amount on offer : HK\$10,000 MN