HAD opens temporary heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department has opened 15 temporary heat shelters today (May 22) as the Very Hot Weather Warning (VHWW) is in force.

The shelters will be closed at 10pm if the VHWW is cancelled before 4.30pm. Otherwise, the shelters will be open until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's enquiry hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 15 temporary heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western —
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex,
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern/Wan Chai — Causeway Bay Community Centre 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City Hung Hom Community Hall
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices,
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong —
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po —
Shek Kip Mei Community Hall
G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin — Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre 45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong — Henry G. Leong Yaumatei Community Centre 60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Kwai Tsing -Kwai Shing Community Hall Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung North -Cheung Wah Community Hall Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling Sha Tin -Lung Hang Estate Community Centre Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin Tai Po -Tai Po Community Centre 2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po Tsuen Wan -Lei Muk Shue Community Hall G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan Tuen Mun -Butterfly Bay Community Centre Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun Yuen Long -Long Ping Community Hall Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long Yuen Long -Tin Yiu Community Centre Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

<u>Assess the risk of heat stroke to employees</u>

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following special announcement immediately, and repeat it at frequent intervals when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force:

The Labour Department reminds employers that as the Very Hot Weather

Warning is in force, they should assess the risk of heat stroke to their employees and adopt effective preventive measures such as providing cool drinking water, setting up temporary sunshade and providing mechanical aids to reduce physical exertion of employees. Employees should drink water regularly and be mindful of their physical condition. If early heat stroke symptoms such as headache and thirst appear, they should inform their supervisors and seek medical help immediately.

CHP reminds public on precautions against heat stroke during very hot weather

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (May 22) reminded members of the public, particularly those undertaking outdoor activities, to take heed of necessary measures against heat stroke and sunburn in very hot weather.

"The public should carry and drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration while engaging in outdoor activities," a spokesman for the CHP said.

"Those engaged in strenuous outdoor activities should avoid beverages containing caffeine, such as coffee and tea, as well as alcohol, as they speed up water loss through the urinary system," the spokesman explained.

"The obese, the sick, including those with heart disease or high blood pressure, the old and the young are more vulnerable to heat-related illnesses. They should pay special attention," the spokesman added.

The public should adopt the following precautions:

- Wear loose and light-coloured clothing to reduce heat absorption and facilitate sweat evaporation and heat dissipation;
- Avoid vigorous exercise and prolonged activities like hiking or trekking as heat, sweating and exhaustion place additional demands on the physique;
- Perform outdoor activities in the morning or late afternoon;
- For indoor activities, open all windows, use a fan or use airconditioning to maintain good ventilation; and
- Reschedule work to cooler times of the day.

If working in a hot environment is inevitable, introduce shade in the workplace where practicable, and start work slowly and pick up the pace gradually. Get into a cool area for rest at regular intervals to allow the

body to recuperate.

The public should also note the latest and the forecast Ultraviolet (UV) Index released by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO). When the UV Index remains high (6 or above):

- Minimise direct exposure of the skin and the eyes to sunlight;
- Wear loose long-sleeved clothing made of close-woven fabrics;
- Wear a wide brim hat or use an umbrella;
- Seek a shaded area or put on UV-blocking sunglasses;
- Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen lotion with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or above. Apply liberally and reapply after swimming or sweating; and
- While using DEET-containing insect repellents for personal protection against mosquito-borne diseases, apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent.

If symptoms develop, such as dizziness, headache, nausea, shortness of breath or confusion, rest and seek help immediately, and seek medical advice as soon as possible.

The public may get more information from the DH's Health Education Hotline (2833 0111), heat stroke page and <u>UV radiation</u> page; the HKO's Diala-Weather (1878 200), latest <u>weather and forecast</u>, <u>UV Index</u> and weather information for <u>hiking and mountaineering</u>; and <u>press releases</u> of the Labour Department on precautions against heat stroke for outdoor workers and their employers when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force.

Very Hot Weather Warning issued

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

The Hong Kong Observatory has issued the Very Hot Weather Warning.

To prevent heat stroke, avoid prolonged activities outdoors.

If engaged in outdoor work or activities, wear a wide-brimmed hat and light-coloured, loose-fitting clothes. Stay in shaded areas as much as possible.

Drink plenty of water, and avoid beverages containing caffeine or alcohol.

If you feel sick, consult a doctor right away.

EMSD urges public not to use three models of adaptors

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) today (May 21) urged the public not to use three models of adaptors with potential safety hazard and bearing no indication of the manufacturer's name or trade mark .

EMSD recently found three models of adaptors for sale that are imprinted with words "TRAVEL UNIVERSAL ADAPTOR" (see photos of the adaptors in annex). The exterior of those adaptors appears similar to each other but with different packaging and have two same features which are the irregular socket holes and multiple socket plug pins on adaptors.

In contravention of the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation, the three models of adaptors bear no indication of the manufacturer's name or trade mark. Furthermore, in the circumstances of one set of plug pins is being used and another set being drawn out at the same time, the live metal parts of the latter could pose electrical hazard.

As those adaptors could appear in different forms of packaging, the EMSD reminds members of the public not to purchase or use adaptors that contain the aforementioned features, and not to purchase electrical products that show no name or trademark of the manufacturer. The EMSD is investigating the source of sale of the adaptors and will take follow up actions in case of contravention of the relevant legal provisions.

The EMSD will further enhance the inspection of those products. For enquiries or reporting suspected cases of incompliance, please call 1823.