

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 5458)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health
This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume I Page 250 (if applicable)

Question (Member Question No. 56):

Under this programme, the Department will continue the laboratory analysis of the first Total Diet Study in Hong Kong to assess the risks of various food hazards. In this connection, please advise on the progress and details of the analysis, as well as the manpower and estimated expenditure to be involved.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

The First Hong Kong Total Diet Study (TDS) commenced in March 2010 and will be completed in 2014. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) has commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong to carry out the fieldwork of TDS which includes food sampling and preparation of food samples, at a contract value of about \$1.24 million. The fieldwork was completed in February 2011.

CFS performed laboratory analysis of over 140 substances, including persistent organic pollutants, pesticide residues, metallic contaminants, processing contaminants, mycotoxins, other contaminants and nutrients in food samples. The laboratory analysis was undertaken by existing staff of CFS and the Government Laboratory. The expenses incurred are absorbed within existing resources. The laboratory analysis stage was completed in late 2013. CFS has been releasing the study findings by phases. As of March 2014, seven reports have been released and are available on CFS' website. CFS will release the rest of the reports, i.e. the dietary exposure of the local population to organochlorine and certain nutrients, in phases in 2014.