

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 3370)**

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

Question:

With regard to the samples taken from food animals for testing of veterinary drug residues, please advise:

1. whether the testing is confined to fresh food animals or also applied to frozen and chilled meats; if yes, the details; if not, the reason(s); and
2. whether source tracing and subsequent special control measures will be employed if veterinary drug residues are detected in food animals; if yes, the details; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (Member Question No. 63)

Reply:

1. Samples for testing of veterinary drug residues are taken from live food animals as well as fresh/chilled/frozen food animal products. Samples from live food animals and fresh meat are taken at slaughterhouses while samples from fresh/chilled/frozen food animal products are taken at the import, wholesale and retail levels.
2. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) will inform the concerned competent authority and/or relevant government of the concerned country of origin if an unsatisfactory sample is found. Sampling for veterinary drug residues will be conducted for each of the future consignments from the concerned farms until CFS is satisfied that the cause of the contamination is rectified.