

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)179**

**(Question Serial No. 2991)**

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 foods (other than food ingredients) imported from the Mainland and foods for sale online, please advise how the Department will step up the sampling and testing work this year, and whether a separate set of standards or procedures will be established in this connection; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 40)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety's (CFS) Food Surveillance Programme (Programme) takes food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels (including online sale) using a risk-based approach. The sampling programme is under regular review each year, taking into account past food surveillance results, local and overseas food incidents as well as relevant risk analyses etc, and is endorsed by the Expert Committee on Food Safety. The same set of standards, which is science-based, is applied to all samples with a view to safeguarding food safety and public health.

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