

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****FHB(FE)133****(Question Serial No. 0024)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

How many non-local food production farms and food processing plants (apart from those on the Mainland) were inspected in each of the years from 2015 to 2017? Please advise on the staff establishment required and expenditure involved in each of the above three years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 18)Reply:

Details of the non-local food production farms and food processing plants (apart from those on the Mainland) inspected in each of the years from 2015 to 2017 are as below -

Year	Food production farms	Food processing plants	Total	Places
2015	4	6	10	United Kingdom, Australia and Korea
2016	8	11	19	Namibia, Thailand, Greece and Malaysia
2017	11	23	34	Costa Rica, Paraguay, Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia and Brazil

The inspection work of food animal and fish farms outside Hong Kong is covered by an inspection unit in the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. That unit comprises 3 veterinary officers, 8 field officers and 1 fisheries officer. The actual expenditure was \$9.4 million in 2015-16 and \$10.5 million in 2016-2017. The revised estimate of expenditure in 2017-18 is \$11.7 million.

The inspection of vegetable farms, orchards and food processing plants outside Hong Kong is carried out by other units in CFS which are tasked with other duties as well. These units include officers such as an agricultural officer and 5 health inspectors. CFS does not have

breakdown on the resources used specifically for conducting inspection of vegetable farms, orchards and food processing plants outside Hong Kong.

- End -