

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)429

(Question Serial No. 3401)

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:

It is stated that the Department will continue to review and update local food safety standards, guidelines and regulatory arrangements, including but not limited to those concerning harmful substances (including mycotoxins) and trans fats in foods. Please advise on the progress of the work in 2018, as well as the specific work plan and timetables, and the estimated manpower and resources required in 2019.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department have been closely monitoring the international developments and measures relating to safeguarding food safety, including making reference to the food safety standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other economies, as well as taking into account the local dietary practice and risk assessment results, to timely update the local food safety standards and regulatory arrangements on the basis of scientific evidence. Upon completion of the legislative amendments to the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations last year, CFS has been working on proposals to update the regulatory regime of harmful substances in food, including mycotoxins and trans fat. FHB and CFS plan to conduct public consultation on the proposals in 2019-20.

As updating food safety standards and regulatory arrangements is part and parcel of the work of CFS, we do not have breakdown on the manpower and resources used specifically in this area of work.

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