

LC Paper No. CB(2) 2532/01-02(08)

Ref.: CB2/PL/FE

LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene Meeting on 15 July 2002

Proposal to undertake an overseas duty visit

Purpose

Members' comments are invited on a preliminary proposal for the Panel to undertake an overseas duty visit.

The proposed visit

Proposed scope

2. The Panel Chairman, in discussion with some Panel members, has suggested that the Panel conduct a visit to Japan and Australia to gain a better understanding of the import and export control of food products and the regulation of food business in these countries. The areas of study will include :

- quarantine systems for imported food;
- regulation and procedures for exported food;
- food labelling requirements; and
- licensing and regulation of food business.

3. On the advice of the Chairman, the Research and Library Services Division of the Secretariat has been requested to provide some background information. Two information notes are attached at **Appendices I and II** for members' reference.

Proposed duration

4. The visit will last for about seven days in April 2003 in Japan and Australia to meet with the regulatory authorities, industry corporations and relevant parliamentary committee(s).

The way forward

5. Subject to members' agreement in principle for the Panel to undertake the visit, the Secretariat will proceed with preparatory work. The Panel will be further consulted on the details of the proposed visit.

Council Business Division 2 Legislative Council Secretariat 10 July 2002