

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 28 June 2004)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Policy on the issue of Food Factory (Meat Roasting) Licence	20 November 2002	The Administration to provide a paper to report the outcome of its consultation with the trade on the proposed policy on the issue of Food Factory (Meat Roasting) Licence.	A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response. Response awaited.
2. Team Clean's further report on measures to improve environmental hygiene in Hong Kong <i>(see also item 8)</i>	15 August 2003	The Administration to provide the following information - (a) <i>effects on public health</i> : how far the protection rendered to the public against avian influenza would be further enhanced by banning live poultry trade at retail level; (b) <i>economic costs</i> : a comparison between the costs devoted to the surveillance and control of the disease and the total economic return generated by the live poultry trade; and (c) <i>social costs</i> : an assessment on the social costs incurred by imposing	A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response. Response awaited.

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		such a ban, e.g. considering the number of people losing their jobs and the chance of their getting new employment.	
3. Discovery of Vibrio Cholerae in retail fish stalls and the quality of fish tank water	16 September 2003	The Administration to provide the findings of FEHD's investigation into the presence of Vibrio Cholerae in PARKnSHOP's Pok Fu Lam Shop upon completion of the investigation.	A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response. Response awaited.
4. Mercury level in seafood	25 November 2003	The Administration was requested to consider setting up a hot-line service for public inquiry on food safety.	The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2871/03-04 on 18 June 2004.
5. Conversion of aqua privies into flushing toilets	25 November 2003	The Administration was requested to provide information on the location of the 100 aqua privies to be converted into flushing toilets.	The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2596/03-04 on 1 June 2004.
6. Regulatory control of "private kitchens"	18 December 2003	The Administration to provide information on - (a) operation of "private kitchens" in small houses in the New Territories; (b) differences in fitting-out requirements between the traditional	A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response. Response awaited.

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		<p>restaurants and "private kitchens"; and</p> <p>(c) licensing requirements of the private clubs as compared with those for the "private kitchens".</p>	
<p>7. Measures against avian influenza (AI)</p>	<p>10 March 2004</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide a progress report on the proposed interim measures outlined in its paper issued for the Panel meeting on 25 February 2004 -</p> <p>(a) import of live, chilled and frozen poultry;</p> <p>(b) development of local hatchery operation; and</p> <p>(c) review of existing regulatory framework for local poultry farming.</p> <p>The Administration was also requested to provide the criteria and the timetable for implementation, as well as the scientific basis in support of its proposals.</p>	<p>Regarding (a), the Administration provided further information at the Panel meetings on 2 and 15 April 2004 [LC Paper Nos. CB(2) 1930/03-04(01) & CB(2) 2051/03-04(01)], and also in its letters to Panel Chairman on 23 & 29 April 2004 [LC Paper Nos. CB(2) 2147 & 2201/03-04].</p> <p>A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response to the outstanding issues.</p> <p>Response awaited.</p>

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8. Consultation paper on "Prevention of avian influenza : Consultation on long term direction to minimise the risk of human infection"	2 April 2004	The Administration was requested to provide information on - (a) the estimated number of persons currently engaged in the transportation and sale of poultry, and the number that can switch to the new trades if the proposed approaches of "cold chain" or "freshly slaughtered poultry" were adopted; (b) the estimated gross product value of the poultry trade and the Government expenses to prevent/control AI; and (c) scientific basis for increasing the number of rest days in retail markets.	A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response. Response awaited.
9. Resumption of importation of live chickens	27 April 2004	The Administration to - (a) provide a paper on the health rules and importation control measures for fertile eggs; and (b) look into whether there was a market manipulation problem in the live chicken market.	A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response. Response awaited.

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10. Control of live fish wholesalers and fish tank water quality	27 April 2004	The Administration was requested to provide a report on the recent ciguatera poisoning incidents.	The Administration undertook to provide the report by the end of LegCo session in July 2004.
11. Chemical residues in food animals and food	25 May 2004	<p>The Administration to provide information on -</p> <p>(a) the inspection and sampling test mechanism for chilled fish, the amount tested last year and test results; and</p> <p>(b) the outcome and penalties imposed in the nine prosecuted cases as set out in paragraph 8 of the Administration's paper.</p>	<p>A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response.</p> <p>Response awaited.</p>
12. Monitoring of chemical levels in mung bean vermicelli and other food products	25 May 2004	The Administration to provide findings of the survey on the chemical level and packaging of food products imported from the Mainland without local agents.	The Administration undertook to provide the findings when they were available.
13. Investigation report on food poisoning incident	25 May 2004	The Administration to provide a paper on the incident happened on 24 May 2004 that many students of a primary school in Tseung Kwan O suffered from food poisoning after consuming sushi provided by the school caterer. The paper should	The subject will be discussed at the Panel meeting on 29 June 2004.

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		give an account of the incident, the findings of the investigation and any measures required to enhance monitoring of the supply of food by school caterers.	
14. Study on H7 and H9 virus	4 June 2004	The Administration to provide information on the study on H7 and H9 virus found at the poultry markets.	A letter dated 15 June 2004 was issued to remind the Administration to provide a response. Response awaited.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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