

**Bills Committee on
Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill**

**List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion
at the meeting on 8 October 2009**

- (1) To provide a written response (in tabular form) to the views of deputations as set out in their submissions.
- (2) To advise how local institutions could ensure that a genetically modified organism (GMO) involved in an operation is in “contained use”.
- (3) To provide a paper setting out the Administration’s stance on the need for a threshold on adventitious presence of GMO.
- (4) To provide a paper setting out the studies conducted before formulation of the Bill, policy intent of the enforcement provisions and the plan to enforce these provisions, as well as efforts being contemplated to promote public awareness of the Bill. To illustrate the application of the enforcement regime with practical examples, including papaya, tomato, cantaloupe, pumpkin, soya bean, peanut, mango, potato and yam.
- (5) To explain the difference between proposed sections 29 and 30. To also advise the circumstances under which a dwelling house is "used exclusively as a dwelling house", and whether a dwelling house with the presence of a GMO will still be considered as a dwelling house under proposed section 29(2). To further advise whether an authorized officer is empowered not only to enter and inspect any place or premises without notice, but also seize, remove and detain things without notice. If so, this may be a cause of concern for institutions, such as laboratories and academies, where the presence of GMOs is not uncommon.