



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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Dr Hon. LEUNG Ka-lau
Chairman, Panel on Health Services
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Dr Leung,

**Panel on Health Services
Special meeting on 15 February 2011**

Thank you for your letter dated 2 February 2011 to the Secretary for Food and Health.

The Government's proposal to commence the relevant sections of Chinese Medicine Ordinance and Chinese Medicine Regulation related to mandatory registration of proprietary Chinese medicine was thoroughly discussed at the Health Services Panel meeting on 12 July 2010, which the Undersecretary for Food and Health attended to explain the government policies as well as answer questions from Members. Before that, the Chinese Medicines Board and the Department of Health had made considerable efforts and carried out various consultation activities since 2009 to prepare the Chinese medicines trade for the implementation of the mandatory registration of pCm and inform the trade of the imminent commencement of the mandatory registration. These

activities include briefing sessions, publicity of the relevant requirement through newsletters and internet, letters to all applicants for pCm registration, attending meetings of Chinese medicines traders associations, etc.

The relevant commencement notice was subsequently gazetted on 8 October 2010, tabled at the Legislative Council on 13 October 2010 and became effective on upon completion of the negative vetting procedure.

We note that some members of the trade may still have concerns over the details of implementation as well as some technical aspects of the registration regime, the Department of Health is well-positioned to address their concerns at the special Panel meeting with deputations.

Yours sincerely,



(Estrella CHEUNG)
for Secretary for Food and Health