

財 經 事 務 及 庫 務 局  
( 庫 務 科 )  
香 港 下 亞 厘 畢 道  
中 區 政 府 合 署



FINANCIAL SERVICES AND  
THE TREASURY BUREAU  
(The Treasury Branch)  
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21 April 2011

Mr Raymond Lam  
Clerk to Panel on Security  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lam,

**Legislative Council Panel on Security  
Follow-up to Special Meeting on 8 April 2011**

In respect of the follow-up enquiry by Hon WONG Ting-kwong on the subject of handling seized illicit cigarettes after the Special Meeting on 8 April 2011, the Administration's reply is set out below.

Under the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance (Cap. 109), seized illicit cigarettes will be forfeited by the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) after an order of forfeiture is granted by the court or on the condition that no legal claim is made. Between 2002 and March 2011, C&ED has forfeited approximately a total of 986 million sticks of illicit cigarettes (Annex), of which 85% have been destroyed. The rest will be destroyed after relevant procedures on the cases involved have been completed.

Yours sincerely,

( Ms Shirley Kwan )

for Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Encl

c.c. C of C&E (Attn: Mr C K Chow)

Number of Illicit Cigarettes Forfeited by C&ED  
Between 2002 and 2011  
(Up to late March 2011)

<b>Year*</b>	<b>No. of Illicit Cigarettes Forfeited (stick)</b>
2002	176 million
2003	143 million
2004	153 million
2005	90 million
2006	69 million
2007	108 million
2008	73 million
2009	59 million
2010	75 million
Jan-Mar 2011	40 million

\* Only the relevant figures after 2002 could be retrieved from C&ED's computer records.