

財經事務及庫務局

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FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE
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來函檔號 Your Ref. :

25 November 2016

Miss Flora TAI
Clerk to House Committee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Tai,

**Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Regulation 2014
(Commencement) Notice**

The Government published in the Gazette today a notice (at Annex) to appoint 27 January 2017 as the commencement date of the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Regulation 2014 ("Amendment Regulation"). Since the Amendment Regulation was enacted in March 2014, we would like to provide the House Committee with an update on the preparatory work by the Customs and Excise Department ("C&ED") for its commencement.

The Amendment Regulation was enacted to amend the Dutiable Commodities Regulations (Cap 109, sub leg A) to enable the launch of an electronic licensing system for traders of dutiable commodities. The Amendment Regulation went through negative vetting by the Legislative Council ("LegCo") without any subcommittee formed or any amendment

proposed. The electronic licensing system will be built into the Dutiable Commodities System ("DCS") which is a new electronic platform operated by C&ED. Under the DCS, all licence applications relating to the import, export, manufacture and storage of dutiable commodities would need to be submitted to C&ED in electronic form.

The DCS will come into operation in January 2017 (as mentioned in the paper issued to the LegCo Panel on Financial Affairs for discussion on 6 January 2014 and the LegCo Brief issued on the Amendment Regulation on 19 March 2014) as scheduled. To prepare for the launch, C&ED has run briefing sessions for the licensees and has notified the stakeholders of the implementation of the new system. The stakeholders are generally content with the arrangements under the new system. The Amendment Regulation should commence on 27 January 2017 to tie in with the launch of the DCS on the same day.

We should be grateful if you could help disseminate the information to Members of the House Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GAM'.

(Gary Poon)

for Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Encl.

c.c. Commissioner of Customs and Excise
(Attn: Mr T W Mak)

Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Regulation 2014 (Commencement) Notice

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**Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Regulation 2014
(Commencement) Notice**

Under section 1 of the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Regulation 2014 (L.N. 31 of 2014), I appoint 27 January 2017 as the day on which the Regulation comes into operation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Koch', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Secretary for Financial Services and
the Treasury

21 November 2016