Subcommittee on Refuse Collection and Resource Recovery: <u>Supplementary information in selected places</u>

- 1. At the meeting of Subcommittee on Refuse Collection and Resource Recovery on 5 June 2017, Members had discussed the major findings of two information notes entitled "Separation and collection of household waste in selected places" and "Waste recycling system in selected places" prepared by the Research Office. Members enquired for additional information on (a) whether the selected places tackled food waste generated by the business sectors before the household food waste; (b) enforcement action of the government in selected places over non-compliance behaviors in separation of household waste. Based on very limited information available in the public domain, the supplementary information is provided below.
- 2. On **food waste generated by business sectors**, it is noted that large food waste producers like restaurants in Seoul were required to separate, collect and recycle food waste since 1997. This arrangement was later extended to smaller food waste producers and households in Seoul. In 2005, South Korea introduced a ban on disposal of untreated food waste at landfills, which applied to both business and households. For Taipei, mandatory separation and collection of food waste was applied to both households and small businesses at the same time in 2003. For larger business establishments, while they had been required to dispose of and the treat solid waste (including food waste) in accordance with regulatory requirements, there is no available information on how far they were required to recycle the food waste. There is also no available information on policies towards food waste from business sectors in Berlin.
- 3. **On enforcement action**, the non-compliance rate with respect to mandatory separation of household waste introduced in Taipei in 2005 was estimated to be less than 0.2% between July 2006 and June 2007, according to the Taipei Environmental Protection Department. About 180 000 inspections at fixed spots were taken over the same period, with 387 advices issued and 5 prosecutions. As for the enforcement figures in Seoul and Berlin, there are no publicly available information in English.

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