

APPENDIX 17

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

(Translation)

Our ref : FH CR 1/2526/13 Your ref: Tel: 3509 8927 Fax: 2136 3281

5 June 2019

The Public Accounts Committee Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong (Attn.: Mr. Anthony CHU) (Fax: 2543 9197)

Dear Mr. CHU,

Public Accounts Committee Chapter 8 of the Director of Audit's Report No 72 Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund and Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund

Your letter of 15 May 2019 to the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) refers. The response to the question addressed to the Food and Health Bureau is as follows:

Part 4: Government Issues

1) Regarding paragraph 4.13(b), for members of the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (SFDF) Advisory Committee and the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF) Advisory Committee who had difficulties in attending meetings and whose re-appointments are essential, what measures will the Food and Health Bureau take to encourage such members to attend meetings in the future? If the Bureau has no intention to take any follow-up measures, what are the reasons and how to solve the above problem? Members of the advisory committees of SFDF and SADF are appointed by SFH. When considering re-appointments of a member, SFH will take into account a number of factors, including the member's experience in his/her professional field, his/her contribution to the operation of funds and past attendance at meetings, etc.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will take appropriate measures to encourage members to attend meetings, including reminding members of the importance of attending meetings, scheduling meetings for date / time that is convenient to most members and reminding members before meetings.

I should be grateful if you could relay the above to Members of the Public Accounts Committee.

Yours sincerely,

(Bill WONG) for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c.

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury	(Fax no.: 2147 5239)
Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation	(Fax no.: 2377 4665)
Director of Audit	(Fax no.: 2583 9063)