APPENDIX 10

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九龍長沙灣道三零三號 長沙灣政府合署五樓



AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, 5th Floor Kowloon, Hong Kong

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 (2) in AF CR 1-160/74/2 PT. 7

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7 June 2021

The Public Accounts Committee Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong (Attn: Ms. Wendy JAN)

Dear Ms. JAN,

Public Accounts Committee Consideration of Chapter 3 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 76 Control of trade in endangered species by <u>the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department</u>

Thank you for your letter of 3 June 2021 concerning further questions raised by members on Chapter 3 of Director of Audit's Report No. 76. We are pleased to provide our response to the questions raised in the Appendix.

For any further questions, please contact the undersigned or our Senior Endangered Species Protection Officer, Mr. KWAN Sai-ping, Boris (Tel. 2150 6980).

Yours sincerely,

(LAI Kin-ming)

for Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Encl.

c.c. S

Secretary for the Environment (email: sen@enb.gov.hk) Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (email: sfst@fstb.gov.hk) Director of Audit (email: john nc chu@aud.gov.hk)

覆函請寄交「漁農自然護理署署長」 Please address all replies to Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation - 188 - Response to questions asked and information requested by the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislative Council in relation to the control of trade in endangered species by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department <u>in Chapter 3 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 76</u>

- Q1: With regard to the reply to question 2 (paragraphs 2.4(a) and 2.6 of the Audit Report) made by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, please provide a sample of an inspection report, and advise whether staff will be recruited to fill the vacancies as soon as possible.
- A1: The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is recruiting contract staff to fill the relevant vacancies and will keep in view the trade volume of endangered species so as to make timely internal redeployment to increase manpower to handle relevant work. A sample of an inspection report is at **Enclosure**.
- Q2: With regard to the reply to question 9 (paragraph 2.15 of the Audit Report), apart from reminding officers concerned to record the measurement of the keeping facilities, would inspection officers be required to record the measurement clearly on the application documents in the future to avoid a lack of standard in processing applications?
- A2: The AFCD has reminded inspection officers that they are required to record the measurements and attach photos of the keeping facilities in the inspection reports after inspection of the keeping premises. Supervisors will also examine the inspection reports to ensure that relevant information is recorded. The inspection reports shall then be enclosed in the relevant licence application files. As such, the application files will contain records of the measurements of the keeping facilities.

Q3: With regard to the reply to question 19 (paragraphs 3.18 to 3.22 of the Audit Report), please set out the details of the reward levels, including the ways to determine the levels and whether such data has ever been disclosed to the public.

A3: The reward scheme and the reward levels were established with the approval from the then Finance Bureau in 1999. The reward levels are mainly determined in accordance with the level of the fine imposed and the attractiveness of the reward. Under the reward scheme, if the intelligence leads to successful prosecution of the

*<u>Note by Clerk, PAC</u>: See Appendix 9 to this Report for the reply from Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation, and only extract of inspection report is attached.

offender, the registered informer may receive an amount equivalent to 10% of the fine imposed as a reward with a ceiling of \$50,000. If the penalty is non-monetary or if the intelligence does not lead to successful prosecution of the offender, but resulted in seizure of relevant specimens by the AFCD, the registered informer may receive 10% of the estimated market value of the seized specimens as a reward with a ceiling of \$5,000. When the reward scheme was established, AFCD had issued a relevant press release. Currently, they will explain details of the reward levels to all newly registered informers. The AFCD is conducting a comprehensive review on the reward scheme which includes enhancing publicity to the general public and disseminating details of the reward scheme.

- Q4: With regard to the reply to question 20 (paragraph 4.7 of the Audit Report), although the latest stocktaking exercise was smoothly completed in April this year, would the Department take measures to ensure that the stocktaking exercise on dead specimens is to be conducted annually in the future? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- A4: The annual stocktaking exercise is laid out in the operation manual of the Endangered Species Protection Division. Officers of the division are required to perform the concerned work according to the operation manual. The AFCD will make use of the bring-up mechanism to ensure that relevant officers are reminded to conduct the annual stocktaking exercise every year according to the schedule.

*<u>Note by Clerk, PAC</u>: See Appendix 9 to this Report for the reply from Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation.

Print Date : 17/01/2020

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Endangered Species Protection Division Import Inspection Report

Export Permit No.	:		Country	: ID (INDONESIA)			
Retrospective Inspection	: NO		Released w/o Insp.	: NO				
Importer	:		Purpose	: COMMERCIAL / TRADE				
Actual Import Date	: 17/01/2020		Info Reference No.	:				
Inspection Date	: 17/01/2020		ESP Case No.	:				
Inspection Ratio	: 177.000/177.000 100.00% T	ĨA.						
Inspection Location	: YUE SHI CHEUNG ROAD	YUE SHI CHEUNG ROAD, ABERDEEN		AWB/Bill of Lading : IMPO		ORTING VESSEL :		
Remarks	: IMPORTED 177 TAILS OF	F LIVE CHEILINUS UN	DULATUS IN TOTAL.					
Specimen		Licensed Qty	Inspecte	d Qty	%Inspected	Irregularity		
LIVE		200 TAIL		177	100 %	NO		
Specie	S	: CHEILINUS U	IEAD WR	ASSE)				
Appen	Appendix (Source)							
Country of Origin and Permit No.		: INDONESIA						
Count	y of Previous Export and Permit 1	No. :						
Remarks :								
Additional Information	: Total Count: 0 Imported	: 0 Not Imported: 0						
Inspection Officer :	(LEE LAI FAN)	Designation : FO(EP)25		Rep	ort Date : 17/01/2	020		

Photo Report for *Cheilinus undulatus* (Humphead Wrasses) Import Inspection under the CITES Export Permit









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	<u>Alamat</u> Manggala Wanabhaki Address e-mail:subdittp.ditkkiki	ii, Blok-VII LL7 JI. Gatet Subroto Jakarta 10270 Tel @gmail.com	p. (62-21) 57202	27, 5704501-04	Ext.769, Fax. (62-	21) 5720227, 5734	318			
l.	Surat Angkut Tumbuhan dan Satwa Permit	Liar No. :				X E	kport 🗌 In	nport Re-export	Others	
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Lembar I Asli (menyertai Spesimen) / Original (Accompanies the spscimen)

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