

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2) 2518/02-03

Ref : CB2/PL/FE

**Paper for the House Committee meeting on
20 June 2003**

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Changes to the proposed duty visit to Australia and Japan

Purpose

This paper informs Members of the changes to the overseas duty visit to be conducted by the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene.

Background

2. On 7 February 2003, the House Committee endorsed the proposal of the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene to conduct a duty visit to Australia and Japan from 13 to 22 April 2003 to study the food regulatory systems in these countries. Due to unforeseen work commitments arising from the SARS outbreak, the Panel decided in early April 2003 to defer the visit to a later date. Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, Chairman of the Panel, made a verbal report at the House Committee meeting on 11 April 2003 on the postponement of the duty visit.

Recent developments

3. The Panel proposed in May 2003 to conduct the visit to Australia and Japan from 19 to 29 July 2003. The assistance of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (HKETO) in Sydney and Tokyo was sought in making the visit arrangements. The HKETO in Tokyo recently informed the Secretariat that the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries would be undergoing internal reorganisation in July 2003 and would not be able to receive the delegation during that period. The Panel has therefore decided to postpone the visit to Japan to early December 2003 and will confirm the visit arrangements nearer the time.

4. With the postponement of the visit to Japan, the Panel has decided to extend the visit to Australia by one day so that the visits/meetings can be better spaced out. The revised duration of the visit to Australia will be from 19 to 25 July 2003. As at 18 June 2003, a total of 4 Members (including 1 non-Panel Member) have indicated interest in joining the visit to Australia. The name list of the delegation and the revised estimates of the duty visit to Australia are in **Appendices I & II** respectively.

Advice sought

5. Members are requested to take note of the changes to the overseas duty visit to be conducted by the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene detailed in paragraphs 3 and 4.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
18 June 2003

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Overseas duty visit to Australia from 19 to 25 July 2003

List of participants
(as at 18 June 2003)

Panel members

Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP (Chairman)

Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung

Hon LEUNG Fu-wah, MH, JP

Non-Panel Member

Hon LI Fung-ying, JP

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
18 June 2003

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

**Estimated budget for the overseas duty visit to
Australia from 19 to 25 July 2003**

Items	Estimated expenses HK\$ (per person)	
	<u>Economy class</u>	<u>Business class</u>
1. Return air passage Hong Kong / Canberra / Melbourne / Hong Kong	9,513	28,263
2. Hotel accommodation (5 nights) Canberra and Melbourne	4,134	
3. Overseas subsistence allowance (other than hotel accommodation) Canberra and Melbourne	2,756	
4. Travel insurance	242	
5. Airport tax & TIC fee	620	
TOTAL :	17,265	36,015

NOTE :

Other expenditure including hospitality, local group transportation, interpretation services and souvenirs will be charged against other votes of the Secretariat.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
18 June 2003