

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

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(These minutes have been cleared  
with the Chairman)

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**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

**Minutes of special meeting  
held on Monday, 1 August 2011, at 11:45 am  
in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building**

**Members present** : Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP  
Hon KAM Nai-wai, MH  
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

**Members absent** : Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH  
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP  
Hon WONG Sing-chi  
Hon WONG Yuk-man

**Clerk in attendance** : Mrs Sharon TONG  
Principal Council Secretary (2)

**Staff in attendance** : Ms Mina CHAN  
Council Secretary (2) 7  
  
Ms Michelle LEE  
Legislative Assistant (2) 7

**I. Arrangements for the proposed duty visit to Japan in response to an invitation**

The delegation list

The Chairman advised that the purpose of this special meeting was to discuss the invitation from the Government of Japan to visit Japan. He received a letter last month from the Consul General of Japan in Hong Kong inviting three Panel members including the Chairman to a visit under a programme sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Participating members could also suggest one more place to visit other than Tokyo. The Legislative Council Secretariat had asked the Consulate-General of Japan whether other members apart from the three mentioned in the invitation could join the visit on a self-financing basis. According to the Consulate-General of Japan, the delegation was limited to three Panel members only. The Chairman said that as at 29 July 2011, five members (i.e. Mr Fred LI, Mr Vincent FANG, Dr Joseph LEE, Mr Alan LEONG and Mr WONG Yuk-man), excluding the Chairman, had indicated interest in joining the visit. As such, the Panel had to discuss how to determine the delegation list.

2. Members agreed to accept the invitation and decided that the Chairman should draw lots to determine the other two participating members. According to the result of lot drawing, Mr Fred LI and Mr WONG Yuk-man were members of the delegation. Should any participating member subsequently withdraw from the visit, Mr Vincent FANG would fill his place.

Proposed areas of study, places and dates of visit

3. Members agreed that the following areas be studied by the delegation during the visit to Japan -

- (a) the food safety measures taken by the relevant authorities in Japan in response to the Daiichi nuclear power plant incident;
- (b) the surveillance and testing of food in particular on the radiation levels for export from Japan and the resources deployed;
- (c) the mechanism for certification by the competent authority of Japan certifying that the radiation levels of food exported from five prefectures of Japan, namely, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma and Chiba, to Hong Kong do not exceed the standards laid down by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in the

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Guideline Levels for Radionuclides in Foods Contaminated following a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency; and

- (d) the impact on food exporters of the Daiichi nuclear power plant incident and the assistance provided by the Japanese Government.

4. Mr Fred LI suggested that the delegation visit the five prefectures of Japan (i.e. Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma and Chiba) from which the food products imported into Hong Kong were currently prohibited.

5. Mr KAM Nai-wai said that other places where their exports of some specific food products to Hong Kong were largest in Japan could also be considered.

6. The Chairman proposed to visit the places where their food products might also have been affected by the Daiichi nuclear power plant incident. He would liaise with the trade to identify its areas of concern for the delegation to study and places to visit.

7. Dr Joseph LEE and Mr Fred LI agreed that the places where their food exports to Hong Kong were significant be included in the itinerary of the visit to Japan.

8. The Chairman proposed that the visit be scheduled for 25 to 30 September 2011 subject to the confirmation of the receiving authorities. Members agreed.

Other arrangements

9. Dr Joseph LEE enquired whether there would be any follow-up such as holding press conference and issuing press release after the visit.

10. The Chairman explained that the delegation was required to submit a report to the House Committee after the conduct of the visit. The delegation could address the media's concerns after returning from the visit where necessary. The Chairman also requested the Secretariat to explore with the Consulate-General of Japan whether arrangement could be made for a staff member of the Secretariat to accompany the delegation during the visit.

Secretariat

11. Mr Alan LEONG suggested that the Centre for Food Safety be invited to give views on the areas of study and places of visit by the delegation. Members agreed.

Secretariat

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**II. Any other business**

12. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:07 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
19 August 2011