



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

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23 June 2011

Clerk to Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong
(Attn: Mrs Sharon TONG)

(Fax: 2509 9055)

Dear Mrs TONG,


**LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Follow up to meeting on 17 May 2011**

At the above meeting, we undertook to provide additional information on the food control measures by overseas authorities on food exports from Japan related to the Japan nuclear incident there. A table summarizing the information is at **Annex**.

We were also asked to provide the criteria and timetable for revocation of the order made by the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene under section 78B of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to prohibit the import and supply of certain food products from five prefectures in Japan on 23 March 2011. You may wish to note that the Expert Committee on Food Safety has advised the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) to keep in view the discussion and recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and World Health Organisation (WHO) in formulating the medium and long term monitoring programme, in response to the nuclear incident in Japan.

The IAEA is holding a special meeting and will make an initial assessment on the impact of the incident, including that on the environment and food chain. The Administration considers it prudent to await the outcome of the IAEA's special meeting before deciding on the next step. In considering whether the Order should be revoked, the Administration will have regard to, among others, the information released by IAEA and WHO, the results of food tests conducted by the Japanese authorities and those by CFS, and the risk of radiation contamination.

Yours sincerely,


(Kevin YEUNG)
for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Fax No.: 2877 9507)

**Food Control Measures by Overseas Authorities on Food Exports from Japan
related to Nuclear Incident in Fukushima, Japan on 11 March 2011
(As at 23.6.2011)**

Countries /Areas	Food Control Measures Implemented by the Overseas Authorities	Japan Prefectures Involved (name and number)	Food Items Involved
<i><u>Asia</u></i>			
The Mainland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To ban import of food, agricultural products for human consumption and animal feeds from prefectures in Japan (24.3.2011 and latest update on 17.6.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Chiba, Miyagi, Yamagata[#], Niigata, Nagano, Yamanashi[#], Saitama and Tokyo (12 prefectures) <p>#Import of food, agricultural products for human consumption and animal feed produced after 22.5.11 in Yamagata and Yamanashi that complied with the Mainland's requirements is permitted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Food, agricultural products for human consumption and animal feed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To require official certificate of compliance for radiation inspection and testing; and proof of origin (8.4.2011 and latest update on 17.6.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Other parts of Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vegetable and its products, milk and milk products, seafood products and aquatic animals, tea and its products, fruit and its

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To require proof of origin issued by the Japan Government (8.4.2011 and latest update on 17.6.2011) 		<p>products, herbal medicinal products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Other food, agricultural products for human consumption and animal feeds
Macau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To temporarily suspend the import applications of food products from 12 prefectures in Japan (23.3.2011 and latest update on 12.4.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Chiba, Miyagi, Yamagata, Niigatta, Nagano, Yamanashi, Saitama and Tokyo (12 prefectures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All food
Taiwan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To suspend processing import applications of all food produced from areas of Japan affected by the radiological contamination ● If food from another region in Japan was found with unsatisfactory results of radiological contamination in the future by either authorities in Japan or Taiwan, the import applications of food from that affected region would not be processed (25.3.2011)) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Areas of Japan affected by the radiological contamination (Food found with unsatisfactory results of radiological contamination by either authorities in Japan or Taiwan) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All food
India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To consider suspension of food articles coming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Whole of Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All food

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	<p>from Japan (5.4.2011)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To lift the ban on food imports from Japan with immediate effect as no item had yet been tested positive for radioactive contamination (8.4.2011) ● To request mandatory 'no-radiation' certification from the Japanese authorities and radiation checks (8.4.2011) 		
Singapore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To suspend imports of selected food items from affected areas in Japan (23.3.2011 and latest update on 16.5.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi and Gunma (4 prefectures) ● Chiba, Kanagawa, Tokyo and Saitama (4 prefectures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Milk, milk products, seafood, meat, fruits and vegetables ● Fruits and vegetables
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To implement hold-and-test arrangements for food imports from Japan. The products will only be released for sale when test results show that there is no radioactive contamination (25.3.2011) ● To require every consignment of affected food products be accompanied with a certificate of origin (COO) (21.4.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Whole of Japan ● Whole of Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fruits and vegetables, seafood, meat, milk and milk products ● Milk and milk products, meat, seafood, fruits and vegetables (fresh and processed) and seaweed.
South Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To stop import of certain Japanese food from 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cabbage leaf vegetables,

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(Translated)	affected areas of Japan (25.3.2011 and latest update on 7.6.2011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tochigi ● Gunma ● Ibaraki ● Chiba ● Kanagawa (6 prefectures)	leafy vegetables, turnips, mushrooms, bamboo shoot, ostrich fern and plum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spinach, kakina (a local Japanese vegetable) and tea leaves ● Spinach and kakina ● Spinach, kakina, parsley and tea leaves ● Cabbage leaf vegetables, leafy vegetables and tea leaves ● Tea leaves
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To request inspection certificate (radioactive Cesium, Iodine, etc.) issued by Japanese government (18.4.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Chiba, Miyagi, Yamagata, Niigata, Nagano, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All food

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		Saitama, Kanagawa, Shizuoka, Tokyo (13 prefectures)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To request certificate on origin of production (18.4.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remaining 34 prefectures in Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All food
<u>Countries/Areas other than Asia</u>			
Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To implement hold-and-test arrangements requiring testing of certain food items from the affected Japanese prefectures before allowing the products to be released for sale (24.3.2011 and latest update on 12.4.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kanagawa, Nagano, Niigata, Saitama, Tokyo, Yamagata, Miyagi and Shizuoka (8 prefectures) ● Fukushima, Gunma, Ibaraki, Tochigi and Chiba (5 prefectures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vegetables (frozen and dried) ● Fresh and dried fruit and vegetables, seafood and seaweed
Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To request acceptable documentation verifying food and animal feed products from areas of Japan affected by the ongoing nuclear crisis ● The products would not be allowed entry into Canada without acceptable documentation or test results verifying their safety (24.3.2011 and latest update on 1.4.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima, Gunma, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Miyagi, Yamagata, Niigata, Nagano, Yamanashi, Saitama, Tokyo and Chiba (12 prefectures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All food and animal feed products
European Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To require all products from 12 prefectures had to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima, Gunma, Ibaraki, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All food and feed

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(EU)	<p>be tested before leaving Japan and be subjected to random testing in the EU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Each consignment of food and feed from the 12 prefectures had to be accompanied by a declaration provided by the Japanese authorities (attesting that the product did not contain levels of radionuclides that exceeded the EU's maximum permitted levels) ● To require a declaration stating the prefecture of origin of feed and food, which would be randomly tested upon arrival in the EU (24.3.2011) 	<p>Tochigi, Miyagi, Yamagata, Niigata, Nagano, Yamanashi, Saitama, Tokyo and Chiba (12 prefectures)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remaining 35 prefectures of Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All food and feed
New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To require hold-and-test of imported food identified as potentially at risk (25.3.2011 and latest update on 1.6.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba, Miyagi and Gunma (6 prefectures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Milk and other products containing dairy, meat and offal of mammals and poultry, seafood and fish – dried, fresh and frozen, fresh vegetables and fruit – dried, fresh and frozen, seaweed – dried, fresh and frozen, dried mushrooms (where collected in the wild), tea, rice and cereals,

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Saitama, Tokyo, Yamanashi, Shizuoka and Kanagawa (5 prefectures) ● Niigata, Yamagata and Nagano (3 prefectures) 	<p>soy bean and related products eg soy bean paste, bean curd and miso, pickled ginger and wasabi.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tea ● Case-by-case assessment
United States of America (US)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To detain food products produced or manufactured from the affected Japanese prefectures unless shown to be free from radionuclide contamination (22.3.2011 and latest update on 17.5.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima, Ibaraki and Tochigi (3 prefectures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Milk, filled milk, milk-based infant formula, and produce products (Except those already restricted by U.S.)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To restrict import of specific products restricted by the Government of Japan (22.3.2011 and latest update on 15.6.2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fukushima and Tochigi ● Fukushima 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spinach ● Milk, mushrooms, sand lance, kakina, bamboo shoots, ostrich fern, spinach,

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ibaraki and Tochigi <p>(3 prefectures)</p>	<p>lettuce, celery, cress, endive, escarole, chard, collards, turnip, broccoli and cauliflower</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tea leaves