

**Written submission to Bills Committee on Product Eco-responsibility
(Amendment) Bill 2013**

The Wholesale and Retail Task Force (WRTF) of the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee generally supports the proposed extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (PSBs) to cover all retailers in Hong Kong. WRTF welcomes the Government's proposal to streamline the compliance system by adopting a "retention" approach whereby a seller may retain and handle the PSB charge without the need of remitting to the Government. To address food hygiene concerns, WRTF hopes that the Government will reconsider retailers' earlier suggestion to exclude PSBs that are used to carry frozen/chilled food or broadly "temperature-controlled goods" from the ban on free distribution.

Wholesale and Retail Task Force
Business Facilitation Advisory Committee
June 2013