立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)213/13-14 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB2/PL/FE

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Minutes of special meeting held on Monday, 4 February 2013, at 4:30 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC (Chairman) Hon Steven HO Chun-yin (Deputy Chairman)

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP

Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP

Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau

Hon Claudia MO

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Members attending

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

Members absent

Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che Hon WONG Yuk-man

Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Public Officers: attending

Dr KO Wing-man, BBS, JP Secretary for Food and Health

Mrs Marion LAI CHAN Chi-kuen, JP

Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Mr Philip CHAN Kwan-yee, JP

Deputy Secretary for Food & Health (Food)2

Mr Andy CHAN
Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing
(Transport)2

Mr Clement CHEUNG, JP Commissioner for Customs and Excise

Mr K H YU, C.D.S.M., C.M.S.M

Assistant Commissioner for Customs and Excise (Boundary and Ports)

Mr Erick TSANG Assistant Director of Immigration (Control)

Mr K F SHAM Principal Immigration Officer (Enforcement) Immigration Department

Mr W F YUK Assistant Director, Efficient Unit(2) Efficiency Unit

Mr Brian LO, JP
Deputy Director-General of Trade and Industry
(Commercial Relations, Controls and Support)
Trade and Industry Department

Attendance by invitation

: <u>Item I</u>

Hong Kong General Chamber of Pharmacy Limited

Mr LAU Oi-kwok Chairman

Snow Brand Hong Kong Company Limited

Ms Virginia MO General Manager – Sales & Marketing

Hong Kong Suppliers Association Ltd

Mr Jacky YU Committee Member

Danone Baby Nutrition (HK) Limited

Mr Bruno Chevot General Manager

Wyeth Nutrition

Miss Veronica SZE Senior Public Affairs Manager

Nestle Hong Kong Limited

Ms Eleanor CHAN
Director – Legal & Corporate Affairs, HK

FrieslandCampina (Hong Kong) Ltd

Mr Arnoud van den Berg General Manager

Mead Johnson Nutrition (Hong Kong) Ltd

Ms Regina TAM Marketing Director

Hong Kong Infant and Young Child Nutrition Association

Ms Florence WONG Vice-President

Abbott Laboratories Ltd

Mr Andrew WONG Ka-chai Regulatory Affairs Manager

Clerk in attendance

Ms Elyssa WONG

Chief Council Secretary (2) 5

Staff in attendance

Mr Jove CHAN

Senior Council Secretary 2 (6)

Ms Priscilla LAU

Council Secretary (2) 5

Ms Michelle LEE

Legislative Assistant (2) 5

Action

I. Measures to stabilize supply of formula products for infants and young children

(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)595/12-13(01) and (02))

Views of deputations

At the invitation of the Chairman, the following 10 deputations presented their views on measures to stabilize supply of powdered formula for infants and young children -

- (a) Hong Kong General Chamber of Pharmacy Limited;
- (b) Snow Brand Hong Kong Company Limited;
- (c) Hong Kong Suppliers Association Ltd;
- (d) Danone Baby Nutrition (HK) Limited;
- (e) Wyeth Nutrition;
- (f) Nestle Hong Kong Limited;
- (g) FrieslandCampina (Hong Kong) Ltd;

- (h) Mead Johnson Nutrition (Hong Kong) Ltd;
- (i) Hong Kong Infant and Young Child Nutrition Association; and
- (j) Abbott Laboratories Ltd.
- 2. <u>Members</u> also noted the written submission from Hong Kong Retail Management Association.
- 3. A summary of the views of deputations is in the **Appendix**.
- 4. <u>Secretary for Food and Health</u> ("SFH") briefed members on measures implemented by the Administration to stabilize supply of powdered formula for infants and young children in Hong Kong, details of which were set out in the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)595/12-13(01)).
- 5. <u>Members</u> noted the information note entitled "Measures to stabilize supply of formula products for infants and young children" (LC Paper No. CB(2)595/12-13(02)) prepared by the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Secretariat.

Special hotline service

- 6. The Deputy Chairman expressed concern about the hotline services provided by the suppliers of powdered formula. According to the Administration, many parents had complained that telephone calls made to the hotlines of certain suppliers were unanswered. However, the suppliers of powdered formula said that they had improved their hotline services. He requested the suppliers of powdered formula to provide information on the resources deployed for their hotline services.
- 7. <u>Ms Virginia MO</u> of Snow Brand Hong Kong Company Limited advised members that its hotline service had not encountered any problems. <u>Ms Regina TAM</u> of Mead Johnson Nutrition (Hong Kong) Ltd ("Mead Johnson") advised that the company provided 46 telephone lines from 9 am to 9 pm daily. When all the 46 lines were occupied, the Government's hotline would act as a safety net to receive unanswered calls and refer their orders to Mead Johnson. She further advised members that the company had made steady improvement to its hotline service and on-line ordering service. <u>Mr Arnoud van den Berg</u> of FrieslandCampina (Hong Kong) Ltd ("FrieslandCampina") said that 90% of calls made to the hotline of

FrieslandCampina were handled by its hotline service team and the remaining 10% were handled by the Government's hotline.

- 8. Mr Vincent FANG, Ms Emily LAU, Dr Helena WONG and Mr Tommy CHEUNG expressed objection to the Government's provision of a special hotline service which aimed to assist local parents in placing purchase orders for powdered formula. These members were of the view that it should be the suppliers' responsibility to strengthen their own hotline services and public money should not be used to subsidize the suppliers for this purpose. They urged the Administration to follow up with the suppliers to ensure that local parents could place purchase orders via the suppliers' own hotline services. Dr WONG further commented that the suppliers of powdered formula should stop advertising their powdered formula and deploy more manpower resources to strengthen their 24-hour hotline services.
- 9. <u>SFH</u> explained that owing to the supply chain failure in relation to powdered formula, the Government was forced to intervene by providing this special hotline service as a safety net to ensure smooth procurement of powdered formula by local parents. <u>SFH</u> stressed that the special hotline service would be a short-term measure only and it would be stopped when supply returned to normal.

Supply chain management

- 10. Mr Vincent FANG expressed concern about the conflicting views expressed by the suppliers of powdered formula and pharmacy stores on the supply of powdered formula. While pharmacy stores considered that there was an acute shortage of powdered formula at the retail level, the suppliers of powdered formula had stressed that they had sufficient supply of powdered formula to meet the demand. Mr FANG sought information from Mead Johnson and FrieslandCampina about their supply of powdered formula to pharmacy stores. He expressed worry that the suppliers might be deliberately creating a shortage of powdered formula in order to manipulate its future prices.
- 11. <u>Ms Regina TAM</u> of Mead Johnson and <u>Mr Arnoud van den Berg</u> of FrieslandCampina advised members that shortly before the Chinese New Year this year, their companies had increased substantially their supply of powdered formula by 540 000 tins and to one million tins respectively having taken into account the usual surge in demand during the Chinese New Year period. However, the increase in demand this year was unusually large and hence, local parents might not be able to procure powdered formula for their infants and young children.

- 12. <u>Mr James TO</u> suggested that consideration could be given to placing direct orders with the retail outlets to assist parents in procuring powdered formula. Suppliers and retailers could work together to set up a mechanism under which parents could collect their orders at designated retail outlets through placing orders via the hotlines operated by the suppliers. He sought the view of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Pharmacy Limited ("the General Chamber of Pharmacy") on his suggestion. Noting that only powdered formula for infants was in high demand, <u>Mr TO</u> asked FrieslandCampina whether it could increase the supply of powdered formula for infants only to retail outlets.
- 13. Mr LAU Oi-kwok of the General Chamber of Pharmacy advised members that among the 280 retail outlets of its members, 40 of them had already worked with the suppliers' mother's clubs to help deliver orders referred to them via the hotlines to local parents. Mr LAU said that the suppliers of powdered formula had agreed to replenish the stock at retail outlets expeditiously in order to meet the demand from local parents. Priority would be given to purchases from local parents and the retail prices of powdered formula would be maintained at a reasonable level.
- 14. <u>Mr Arnoud van den Berg</u> of FrieslandCampina informed members that under its "Store Reservation Program", which was available exclusively to Hong Kong parents who were members of its mother's club, powdered formula would be delivered to local parents through the home delivery service or to any one of the 400 specific retail outlets.
- 15. <u>SFH</u> welcomed Mr James TO's suggestion and considered that it might help address the supply chain failure in the long run. However, it was still necessary to implement other short-term measures in order to stabilize the supply of powdered formula and ensure that the needs of local infants and young children were met.
- 16. <u>Ms Emily LAU</u> was delighted to note that the major suppliers of powdered formula and pharmacy stores had no plan to increase their prices of powdered formula, and they undertook to combat the malpractices of some retailers. She stressed that although parallel trading activities per se was not an offence, it was of utmost importance that the market was in order and local parents could procure powdered formula for their infants and young children. She urged the suppliers to establish a mechanism for prioritizing supply to local parents, and meeting the demand from parallel traders.
- 17. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> queried if the supply of powdered formula was genuinely sufficient to meet the demand. In particular, she queried whether

the additional 540 000 tins of powdered formula supplied by Mead Johnson were sufficient to meet the needs of local infants and children as well as those from the Mainland. She requested the suppliers to provide information on their turnover and stock level so as to increase public confidence in the adequacy of their supply of powdered formula. Mr Tommy CHEUNG raised similar concern. He pointed out that while the suppliers had reiterated that they had sufficient stock, it was widely reported that powdered formula for the early stages supplied by Mead Johnson and FrieslandCampina were often out of stock.

- 18. Ms Regina TAM of Mead Johnson reiterated that Mead Johnson had been steadily increasing its supply, which was more than sufficient for the demand from local infants and children. Mead Johnson had also given priority to orders from local parents and it had appealed to the retailers to do the same. Regarding the provision of information on turnover and stock level, Ms TAM said that authorization from the management of the company was necessary before she could give the information. Nevertheless, some relevant statistical data were available in the public domain.
- 19. <u>Mr Arnoud van den Berg</u> of FrieslandCampina advised members that there was sufficient stock of powdered formula for all the different stages. To further strengthen supply, FrieslandCampina offered a 52-week guarantee on the supply of powdered formula to local parents who placed orders through its hotline or from the Government's hotline service.
- 20. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> maintained her view that suppliers of powdered formula should take into account both the local demand and the demand from the Mainland when making the forecast of the demand and supply of powdered formula for Hong Kong. <u>Dr WONG</u> also urged the Administration to step up its efforts to promote breastfeeding. She also considered it important for the Administration to advise parents that switching powdered formula for their infants and young children should not affect the health of their children as powdered formula of different brands were in general very similar in composition.
- 21. <u>Mr Tommy CHEUNG</u> said that pharmacy stores were facing hard times as they were vulnerable to exploitation such as from high rental cost and excessive regulations. As they generally could not maintain a large stock of inventory, <u>Mr CHEUNG</u> urged the suppliers to increase the frequency of stock replenishment to pharmacy stores in order to ensure sufficient supply to customers at the retail level.

- 22. <u>Ms Regina TAM</u> of Mead Johnson advised members that the company could replenish the stock of its products at a particular pharmacy store as frequently as needed, such as three times a week. <u>Mr Arnoud van den Berg</u> of FrieslandCampina advised that the company normally replenished its stock at retail outlets once to three times a week. During the past few weeks, the company had increased the frequency of stock replenishment at retail outlets on a daily basis, particularly to districts with a high demand for powdered formula.
- 23. Mr LAU Oi-kwok of the General Chamber of Pharmacy pointed out that certain small pharmacy stores could only have its stock replenished once a week. He also expressed concern that small pharmacy stores could not request the suppliers to replenish the stock of powdered formula for individual stages. Each request for stock replenishment would involve a bundle of powdered formula for all the various stages, some of them were in low demand.
- 24. The Chairman, Mr Tommy CHEUNG, and Ms Claudia MO expressed grave concern about the bundling sale of powdered formula for all stages by the suppliers of powdered formula. Mr CHEUNG criticized that the bundling arrangement was the main reason for the failure of parents to procure powdered formula for their infants and young children. He urged the Administration and the Consumer Council to look into the matter. Ms MO expressed concern about the legality of this bundling arrangement in Hong Kong. She urged the Administration to expeditiously investigate the matter. The Chairman enquired whether supermarkets and chained pharmacy stores were also subject to this bundling arrangement and whether the wholesale price of powdered formula was the same for both supermarkets and small pharmacy stores.
- 25. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr LAU Oi-kwok of the General Chamber of Pharmacy informed members that he had no information about whether supermarkets and small pharmacy stores were subject to the same wholesale price of powdered formula or the same bundling arrangement. Ms Regina TAM of Mead Johnson advised that the wholesale price was commercial sensitive information and it was not appropriate for her to disclose the information. However, she would follow up on the issue in relation to the bundling arrangement. Mr Arnoud van den Berg of FrieslandCampina advised that the bundling arrangement was made taking into account the demographic situation in Hong Kong.
- 26. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> said that the bundling arrangement might come from other intermediaries rather than the suppliers. He requested the suppliers to provide their sales records to remove the doubt.

- 27. <u>Ms Regina TAM</u> of Mead Johnson advised that she would need to seek management's approval for the provision of sales records. <u>Mr Arnoud van den Berg</u> of FrieslandCampina advised that the information could be provided to the Administration on condition that it was kept confidential. <u>SFH</u> advised that the Administration would follow up the issue with the suppliers and retailers.
- 28. Noting that parents had no information about the stock availability of retail outlets and hence had difficulties in procuring powdered formula for their infants and young children, <u>Dr Joseph LEE</u> suggested the establishment of a web-based platform to announce on a daily basis the supply of powdered formula at retail outlets in different districts.
- 29. <u>Ms Regina TAM</u> of Mead Johnson advised that the company would consider providing more information on its website to enable parents to procure powdered formula for their infants and young children. <u>Mr Arnoud van den Berg</u> of FrieslandCampina advised that 100 tins of its formula products were delivered to each pharmacy store between 1 and 2 February 2013 so that parents could make their procurement.
- 30. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> noted a close relationship between advertising and sales of powdered formula. As the Administration was conducting a public consultation exercise on the marketing of formula and food products for infants and young children, she enquired whether the Administration would consider prohibiting advertising of powdered formula. <u>Ms Claudia MO</u>, however, considered it not appropriate to prohibit advertising of powdered formula simply because of a demand-supply imbalance.
- 31. <u>SFH</u> advised that it was premature to draw the conclusion of a close relationship among the demand, advertising and sales of powdered formula in Hong Kong. The consultation exercise on the Hong Kong Code of Marketing and Quality of Formula Milk and Related Products, and Food Products for Infants and Young Children ("the Hong Kong Code") would last until the end of February 2013. The Administration would revert to the relevant Panel on the outcome of the consultation exercise. <u>SFH</u> stressed that the implementation of the Hong Kong Code and the supply chain failure in relation to powdered formula were two separate issues and they should be handled separately.
- 32. <u>Ms Emily LAU</u> was of the view that the problem of supply chain failure in relation to powdered formula could be solved if Mainland parents could procure high quality powdered formula products on the Mainland. She requested SFH to relay her view to the relevant Mainland authorities.

She also requested the Administration to maintain close communication with the suppliers and retailers to stabilize supply and price of powdered formula. <u>SFH</u> advised that the Administration would closely monitor the market situation and liaise with the suppliers and retailers to ensure that they would step up their efforts to improve the supply chain management with a view to meeting the needs of local parents.

- 33. <u>The Chairman</u> asked whether the suppliers could provide sufficient powdered formula to meet the local needs in the past few weeks.
- 34. <u>Ms Regina TAM</u> of Mead Johnson advised members that the company was currently providing a hotline service, web-based ordering service as well as importing powdered formula into Hong Kong by air in order to ensure sufficient supply of powdered formula to meet the needs of local parents.
- 35. Mr Bruno Chevot of Danone Baby Nutrition (HK) Limited advised that while it was difficult to accurately forecast the demand from the Mainland, efforts would be made to ensure sufficient supply to meet the needs of local parents.
- 36. <u>Mr Arnoud van den Berg</u> of FrieslandCampina advised that FrieslandCampina had been increasing its supply of powdered formula since 11 January 2013 to ensure sufficient supply for local parents.

Export restriction on powdered formula

- 37. Holding the view that Hong Kong was a free market economy, Mr Vincent FANG expressed the strong objection of the Liberal Party to the Administration's proposal to amend the Import and Export (General) Regulations (Cap. 60 sub. leg. A) as it would impose export restriction on powdered formula. He expressed concern that such restriction would not be able to eliminate parallel trading activities, but would lead to an increase in the price of powdered formula. Ms Emily LAU also expressed concern about the impact of the proposed export restriction on the reputation of Hong Kong as a free port. The Administration should thoroughly consult the trade before putting forward the proposal.
- 38. <u>Mr Tommy CHEUNG</u> questioned the need to combat parallel trading as parallel trading activities per se was not an offence and they indeed made contributions to the local economy. <u>Dr LEUNG Ka-lau</u> shared Mr CHEUNG's view. He said that in the event that the Administration must impose an export restriction on powdered formula, the restriction should only apply to the two brands which were in short supply.

- <u>Dr LEUNG</u> added that according to some professional bodies, including the Hong Kong Paediatric Society, the Hong Kong College of Paediatricians, the departments of paediatrics of the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong, as the composition of powdered formula of different brands was very similar, switching brands of powdered formula should not pose any health risks to infants or young children.
- 39. Noting that the export restriction was proposed to be implemented in late February 2013, Ms Claudia MO expressed concern about the market situation during the Chinese New Year period. SFH advised that the Administration would introduce legislative amendments to the effect that except with a licence issued by the Director-General of Trade and Industry ("DGTI"), export of powdered formula from Hong Kong would be prohibited. This would serve to strike a balance between imposing a restriction on export of powdered formula whilst facilitating legitimate trading activities by way of a licensing arrangement. However, it would take time to build up the licensing arrangement. The proposed legislative amendments would be ready for submission to the Executive Council Subject to ExCo's endorsement, the proposed ("ExCo") in February. licensing arrangement would take effect immediately. SFH further advised that there were normally less parallel trading activities during the Chinese New Year period and the Administration would continue to closely monitor the market situation.
- 40. <u>The Chairman</u> informed members of his decision to extend the meeting for 15 minutes beyond its appointed time to allow more time for discussion.
- 41. As the proposed export restriction would provide exemption for each person to carry no more than 1.8 kilogrammes of powdered formula for personal use, Ms Claudia MO was concerned that parallel traders might take advantage of this exemption arrangement and employed a large number of people to help them carry powdered formula to the Mainland. She further pointed out that among the 20 million people travelled from the Mainland to Hong Kong in 2012, 56% of them had not stayed overnight. It could not be ruled out that some of them were involved in parallel trading She urged the Administration to consider suspending the "multiple entry permits" arrangement. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed similar view. He considered that the measures to combat parallel trading activities should be timely implemented and stringently enforced in order to achieve the best results. The Administration should also formulate medium- and long-term measures to ensure stable supply of powdered formula for local parents.

- 42. <u>SFH</u> stressed that in addition to measures such as the special hotline service, strengthened enforcement by the Immigration Department and the Customs and Excise Department, as well as the lowering of the weight limit on passenger luggage for the East Rail Line of the MTR Corporation Limited, the Administration had proposed to amend the Import and Export (General) Regulations (Cap. 60 sub. leg. A) to combat the problem of parallel traders diverting large quantities of powdered formula away from Hong Kong.
- 43. Noting that most of the new measures were aiming at combating parallel trading activities, <u>Dr Joseph LEE</u> pointed out that the core issue of powdered formula was insufficient supply. He questioned whether the Administration and the suppliers could guarantee sufficient supply to local parents, and whether local parents could procure powdered formula through the special hotline service.
- 44. <u>The Chairman</u> suggested and <u>members</u> agreed to extend the meeting for a further 15 minutes to allow more time for discussion.
- 45. <u>SFH</u> advised that while the Administration could not ascertain the exact number of parallel traders in Hong Kong and the amount of powdered formula being diverted away from the supply chain in Hong Kong through parallel trading activities, it was observed that the supply of powdered formula in Hong Kong had increased four to five times between 2006 and 2012, but the number of babies born locally to Hong Kong women during the same period had increased from about 39 000 to 51 000 only. It could thus be deduced that a large amount of powdered formula had been consistently diverted away from the supply chain in Hong Kong through parallel trading activities over the past few years. Since such parallel trading activities had caused a supply chain failure in relation to powdered formula, the Administration considered it necessary to introduce legislative amendments to the effect that except with a licence issued by DGTI, export of powdered formula from Hong Kong would be prohibited.
- 46. Mr Albert CHAN was of the view that the weak enforcement efforts by the General Administration of Customs of the Mainland to combat parallel trading activities had led to a short supply of powdered formula in Hong Kong. He suggested that consideration be given to imposing an export tax on powdered formula. SFH advised that the aim of the legislative proposal was to increase the costs of parallel trading with a view to reducing the amount of powdered formula being diverted away from the supply chain in Hong Kong. He further advised that relevant authorities in Shenzhen and Hong Kong had stepped up enforcement efforts and carried out joint operations to combat parallel trading activities.

<u>Action</u>

Any other business

47. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 6:54 pm.

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
4 November 2013

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Special meeting on Monday, 4 February 2013 on measures to stabilize supply of formula products for infants and young children

Summary of views and concerns expressed by deputations

Organization	Major views and concerns		
Supply of formula products for infants and young children			
 Hong Kong General Chamber of Pharmacy Limited Nestle Hong Kong Limited Snow Brand Hong Kong Company Limited Wyeth Nutrition 	1. In the light of the public concern over the supply of infant formula in Hong Kong, the deputations stress that there is sufficient stock in the local market. Only individual brands of formula products are out of stock at the retail level.		
	2. The deputations also express support for the recommendation of the Department of Health on formula milk feeding that infant formulae are very similar in composition and parents should choose infant formula which meets the Codex Standards. If parents have difficulty in securing the brand consumed by their babies, they can consider switching to another brand.		
Hong Kong Suppliers Association Ltd	1. The deputation considers it important for the suppliers to ensure sufficient supply of formula products to meet the local needs and the demand from the Mainland. While there is sufficient stock in the market, the deputation considers that the supply chain management should be improved, in order to ensure a stable supply of formula products at the retail level.		

Organization		Major views and concerns		
 Abbott Laboratories Ltd Danone Baby Nutrition (HK) Limited FrieslandCampina (Hong Kong) Ltd Hong Kong Infant and Young Child Nutrition Association Mead Johnson Nutrition (Hong Kong) Ltd Nestle Hong Kong Limited 	1.	Pointing out the surge in demand for formula products during the Chinese New Year, the deputations stress that they have already put in place various measures to ensure a stable supply of formula products, such as increasing the supply of formula products in the period to meet the market demand, enhancing their hotline capacity and conducting visits to monitor the market situation at retail outlets.		
 Snow Brand Hong Kong Company Limited Wyeth Nutrition 	2.	Noting the surge in demand for formula products in the past few weeks, the deputations undertake to ensure an adequate supply of their formula products in Hong Kong in order to meet the market demand. Some deputations would further work with all stakeholders, including the Government, to find out a long-term solution to stabilize supply of formula products.		
Legislative proposal to restrict the export of formula products for infants and young children				
Hong Kong General Chamber of Pharmacy Limited	1.	The deputation is of the view that the trade should be allowed time to improve the supply chain management before the introduction of the legislative proposal to restrict the export of formula products from Hong Kong.		
 Hong Kong Retail Management Association Hong Kong Suppliers Association Ltd Mead Johnson Nutrition (Hong Kong) Ltd Nestle Hong Kong Limited 	1.	The deputations have strong reservations on the legislative proposal to restrict the export of powdered formula as it is not consistent with the free trade policy. They request the Administration to conduct a thorough consultation with the trade on the legislative proposal.		
	2.	There is also concern that the legislative proposal might further increase the workload of customs officers at boundary control points.		

Organization	Major views and concerns
Wyeth Nutrition	1. The deputation expresses concern over the legislative proposal to restrict the export of formula products. In its view, legitimate trading activities should not be affected and detailed information about the eligibility and application for export licences should be provided.
Others	
 Danone Baby Nutrition (HK) Limited FrieslandCampina (Hong Kong) Ltd Hong Kong Infant and Young Child Nutrition Association Hong Kong Retail Management Association Mead Johnson Nutrition (Hong Kong) Ltd Snow Brand Hong Kong Company Limited Wyeth Nutrition 	1. The deputations welcome the setting up of a special hotline by the Government to provide assistance to local parents who are unable to purchase formula products at the retail level.

Name of Organization	Submission (LC Paper No.)
Abbott Laboratories Ltd	LC Paper No. CB(2)603/12-13(05)
FrieslandCampina (Hong Kong) Ltd	LC Paper No. CB(2)595/12-13(05)
Hong Kong General Chamber of Pharmacy Limited	LC Paper No. CB(2)595/12-13(03)
Hong Kong Infant and Young Child Nutrition Association	LC Paper No. CB(2)603/12-13(04)
Hong Kong Retail Management Association	LC Paper No. CB(2)603/12-13(03)
Hong Kong Suppliers Association Ltd	LC Paper No. CB(2)595/12-13(04)
Snow Brand Hong Kong Company Limited	LC Paper No. CB(2)630/12-13(01)
Wyeth Nutrition	LC Paper No. CB(2)603/12-13(02)

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