

中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衞生局

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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15 January 2015

Ms Alice LEUNG
Clerk to LegCo Panel on Food Safety and
Environmental Hygiene
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Fax: 2509 9055)

Dear Ms Leung,

LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene Substandard Lard Incident and Food Safety Issues of Cooking Oil

When the captioned issues were discussed by the LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene at its meeting on 11 November 2014, Members requested the Government to provide supplementary information. Below is our reply.

The Administration is requested to provide supplementary information in response to a Member's concern about the investigation work carried out by the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) and whether those cases of incorrect declaration involved any breaches of laws and regulations

2. As mentioned in paragraph 19 of the discussion paper for the meeting on 11 November 2014, in response to the concern over the domestic export records in respect of edible lard despite the non-existence of edible

lard production business in Hong Kong, C&ED has checked carefully the domestic export declaration records under the Hong Kong Harmonised System (HKHS) code 1501 1000¹ between January 2013 and July 2014 and found that the declaration involved four exporters. Except Globalway Corporation Limited which is still under Police investigation for allegation of fraud, C&ED had come into contact with the other three exporters and checked their records on the import and export of relevant products. It was found that all the three exporters had made errors in their trade declaration.

3. Among the three exporters, two incorrectly declared that the edible lard not manufactured in Hong Kong was domestic exports, instead of re-exports. C&ED had completed the investigation and instituted prosecutions against those two exporters. For the third one, the commodity concerned had been correctly declared as lard not for human consumption, but the HKHS code had been incorrectly declared. The case is still under investigation.

Yours sincerely,

(Henry LAI)

for Secretary for Food and Health

HKHS code 1501 1000 covers lard, other than that of heading 0209 (pig fat free of lean meat and poultry fat, not rendered or otherwise extracted, fresh, chilled, frozen, salted, in brine, dried or smoked) or heading 1503 (lard stearin, lard oil, oleostearin, oleo-oil and tallow oil, not emulsified or mixed or otherwise prepared).