Bills Committee on Chinese Medicine (Amendment) Bill 2017

List of follow-up actions required of the Administration arising from the discussion at the meeting on 17 July 2017

The Administration was requested to provide:

Regulation of Chinese medicines traders

(a) the respective lists of holders of the four types of Chinese medicines trader licences issued by the Chinese Medicines Board ("CMB") of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong ("CMCHK") (i.e. retailer licence in Chinese herbal medicines, wholesaler licence in Chinese herbal medicines, manufacturer licence in proprietary Chinese medicines ("pCms"), and wholesaler licence in pCms);

(b) a copy of the recall guidelines for Chinese medicine products issued by CMCHK for the reference of Chinese medicines traders;

Regulation of Chinese herbal medicines

(c) the membership list of the International Advisory Board ("IAB") established under the Hong Kong Chinese Materia Medica Standards project, and information on the work undertaken and advice given by IAB in relation to the reference standards (in particular, the maximum permitted limits of heavy metals and pesticide residues) for the testing of Chinese Materia Medica to ensure their safety and quality;

(d) details of the market surveillance mechanism put in place by the Department of Health ("DH") to monitor the quality and safety of Chinese herbal medicines, including (i) the number of Chinese herbal medicines samples collected per month from the market for testing over the past two years, the sources from which such samples were taken and the Chinese herbal medicines covered by such samples; (ii) the testing items, methods, procedures and standards adopted for human risk assessment; and (iii) the results of the tests conducted on the Chinese herbal medicines samples taken in (i) above;

(e) in respect of the requirement set out in the Practising Guidelines for Wholesalers of Chinese Herbal Medicines promulgated by CMCHK that herbal medicines or processed herbal medicines should only be purchased from reputable suppliers, information on the suppliers from which the licensed wholesalers of Chinese herbal medicines imported/procured their Chinese herbal medicines, including the number of such suppliers which had complied with the Good Manufacturing Practice ("GMP") requirements in respect of Chinese herbal medicines in the Mainland;

Regulation of proprietary Chinese medicines

(f) the membership list of the working group established under CMB to review the definition of pCms;

(g) details of the market surveillance mechanism put in place by DH to monitor if there are any unregistered pCms sold on the local market, including (i) the number of routine inspections of the premises of local Chinese medicine traders conducted per month; (ii) whether only the premises of licensed Chinese medicine traders would be inspected or whether other retail outlets would also be covered; and (iii) how such inspections were carried out (e.g. whether they were announced or unannounced inspections);

(h) a comparison of the GMP requirements in respect of pCms adopted respectively in Hong Kong and the Mainland; and

Public and trade consultation

(i) details of the public and trade consultation conducted by DH in early 2017 on the legislative amendments proposed under the Chinese Medicine (Amendment) Bill 2017, including name list of the Chinese medicines traders/associations which had been consulted.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
22 September 2017