

**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 13 October 2017**

The Administration was requested to:

- (a) provide a copy each of the four practising guidelines for Chinese medicine traders promulgated by the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong ("CMCHK");
- (b) provide a comparison between (i) the standards formulated by CMCHK and currently used for testing of pesticide residues and heavy metal contents in Chinese herbal medicines sold in Hong Kong and (ii) the reference standards developed under the Hong Kong Chinese Materia Medica Standards ("HKCMMS") project in respect of the maximum permitted limits of pesticide residues and heavy metal contents in Chinese Materia Medica;
- (c) provide a comparison of the standards currently adopted in Hong Kong, the Mainland and other places around the world in respect of the maximum permitted limits of heavy metal contents in Chinese herbal medicines; and explain why the standards currently used for testing of heavy metal contents in Chinese herbal medicines sold in Hong Kong only covered four heavy metal contents (viz. lead, arsenic, cadmium and mercury);
- (d) provide further information to address the issues raised in paragraph 6 of item 3 and items 5 and 7 of the letter dated 27 September 2017 from Dr Helena WONG (LC Paper No. CB(2)2141/16-07(02)) in relation to the second stage test of the testing of pesticide residues and heavy metal contents in Chinese herbal medicines, the maximum permitted level (total intake) of arsenic and cadmium, and the formulation of standards for maximum permitted limits of sulphur dioxide in Chinese herbal medicines;

- (e) advise whether pharmaceutical manufacturers could manufacture health food products under the law; and if they could not, whether the Department of Health ("DH") would initiate investigations into suspected cases and take enforcement actions accordingly; and
- (f) advise the staff establishment of the Chinese Medicine Division of DH, which was mainly responsible for regulatory and public health affairs relating to Chinese medicine, and that of the dedicated unit to be set up under the Food and Health Bureau for developing Chinese medicine.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
17 November 2017