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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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5 November 2020

Ms Flora TAI
Clerk to the House Committee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms TAI,

Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599) Amendment Regulations

I refer to Hon Hui Chi-fung's request for a written response on the Administration's issuance of Legislative Council (LegCo) briefs regarding amendment regulations made under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599).

Since the end of the 2019-2020 LegCo session, there were altogether 19 amendment regulations made under Cap. 599 in response to the rapidly changing situation of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) epidemic in Hong Kong. During the said period, we have implemented various measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the community in light of the third wave of the epidemic, including measures to strengthen border control, enhance social distancing among members of the public, enhance surveillance and testing as well as epidemiological investigations,

develop facilities for quarantine, isolation, treatment and "test and hold", enhance infection control measures at different premises, reserve and/or procure potential vaccines, etc. We regret that the manpower of the Food and Health Bureau has been over-stretched by the aforementioned work and we have not been able to provide the LegCo brief as promptly as we would like amidst the third wave. We have endeavoured to provide relevant information to LegCo as soon as we are in a position to do so and all LegCo briefs had been issued by 23 October 2020.

Yours sincerely,

(James LAM)

for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c.

Administration Wing (Attn: Miss Emily SOM)