

**Subcommittee on Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination)
(Amendment) Regulation 2018**

**List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion
at the meeting on 26 June 2018**

The Administration was requested to provide the following supplementary information:

- (a) in relation to the 144 maximum levels ("MLs") for the 14 metallic contaminants in respect of different food/food groups set out in the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) (Amendment) Regulation 2018 ("the Amendment Regulation"),
 - (i) a stocktake of MLs (i.e. how many and which) that were brought in line with or, vice versa, did not follow the corresponding standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission ("Codex"); and for those MLs which did not follow the relevant Codex standards, whether or not they were more stringent than Codex;
 - (ii) a summary of MLs established for food/food groups which were of significance to the population in Hong Kong and where there was no relevant Codex ML and explanations on how these MLs were established;
 - (iii) a comparison between MLs set out in the Amendment Regulation and the existing maximum permitted concentrations ("MPCs") in the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations (Cap. 132V), viz. the respective numbers of MLs which were newly established standards; more stringent than the existing MPCs, less stringent than the existing MPCs or either the same as the existing MPCs; or the food groups of which were not comparable with those of the existing MPCs; and
- (b) the justifications of adopting an ML of 5 mg/kg for lead in both tea (green, black) and dried chrysanthemum; and the results of tests for metallic contamination (including lead) in tea leaves and dried chrysanthemum conducted by the Centre for Food Safety under its routine food surveillance programme on samples of such foods taken for laboratory testing in the past few years.