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Our Ref.: FEHD/CRU/41/509/22

12th April 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

Proposed Regulatory Framework for Pesticide Residues in Food Technical Meetings with the Trade and the Formation of Technical Working Group on Food Classification

Thanks for your support over the past months on the proposed regulatory framework for pesticide residues in food. I would like to summarize our work so far and invite your participation to a technical working group.

Three Technical Meetings covering contents of the Framework

From 21 Jan to 31 March 2011, we have held a total of three Technical At these Meetings, we have introduced and discussed with participants on the contents of the proposed regulatory framework for pesticide residues in food to be introduced towards the end of this year. The relevant agenda, powerpoints and the Preliminary List of Proposed Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) and Extraneous Residue Limits (EMRLs) for Pesticide Residues in Food in Hong Kong have all been uploaded to the CFS's webpage on Proposed Regulatory Framework for Pesticide Residues Food http://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew fstr/whatsnew fstr 21 Pesti cide.html. We are also compiling a set of frequently asked questions based on the discussions at these Meetings for uploading to the website for your reference. You are most welcome to visit the site for more information.

Formation of Technical Working Group on Food Classification

In addition, as announced at the 3rd Technical Meeting held on 31 March 2011, we would set up a Technical Working Group on Food Classification (the Working Group) to examine food classification, processed food and other related issues, and to develop guidelines for the trade if necessary. Members of the trade are invited to join the Working Group.

Target participants

The Working Group, comprising members of the trade and relevant stakeholders, will contribute to the identification of food that are unique to the Asian and Hong Kong diet and their classification according to the Codex's food classification system, and to develop relevant guidelines for the trade if necessary. Therefore, participants should preferably be familiar with food types in Hong Kong, experienced in food classification, and have working understanding about the Codex Classification of Food. After the Working Group has developed initial proposals, the wider audience of the trade will be consulted through our established channels.

Details of the Working Group

Details of the first meeting of the Working Group are as follows –

Date:

20 April 2011

Time:

2:30p.m. to 4:30p.m.

Language:

Cantonese (Simultaneous interpretation services will NOT be

provided.)

Venue:

Room 915, Lockhart Road Municipal Services Building, 225

Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Enrolment

Interested parties please complete the attached enrolment form and return to us by facsimile at 2787 3638 on or before 16 April 2011. In order to contain the size of the Working Group to facilitate meaningful discussion, each company / organisation may nominate only one member. If there is oversubscription, priority would be given to nominees with relevant experiences as well as those who have attended the above three Technical Meetings before. For enquiries on the enrolment, please contact Ms MUI at 2381 6370.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

(Mr. Jong Cheung-hoi)

for Controller, Centre for Food Safety

Encls.