<u>Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected</u> <u>heroin (with photo)</u>

Hong Kong Customs seized about 4.2 kilograms of suspected heroin with an estimated market value of about \$3.9 million at Hong Kong International Airport on March 6.

Four male passengers arrived in Hong Kong from Bangkok, Thailand, in the morning on March 6. Customs officers intercepted them for examination and found a total of eight packets of suspected heroin concealed inside the false compartments of the shoes worn by them. They were then arrested.

The arrested men, aged 23 to 38, have been jointly charged with one count of trafficking in a dangerous drug. They will appear at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts tomorrow (March 9).

Under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, trafficking in a dangerous drug is a serious offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$5 million and life imprisonment.

Members of the public may report any suspected drug trafficking activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).

