

## Import of poultry meat and products from areas in Poland, Korea and Australia suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (February 11) that in view of notifications from the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Lipno District of Kujawsko-pomorskie Region in Poland, Hampyeong-gun of Jeollanam-do Province and Gumi-si of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province in Korea; and an outbreak of highly pathogenic H7N8 avian influenza in Strathbogie Shire of the State of Victoria in Australia, the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the above-mentioned areas with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A CFS spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 6 600 tonnes of frozen poultry meat from Poland; about 80 tonnes of chilled and frozen poultry meat, and about 21.9 million poultry eggs from Korea; and about 1 030 tonnes of chilled and frozen poultry meat, and about 11.36 million poultry eggs from Australia last year.

"The CFS has contacted the Polish, Korean and Australian authorities over the issues and will closely monitor information issued by the WOAH and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreaks. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.