## <u>SFH appeals to fishermen and deckhands</u> <u>to get vaccinated (with photos)</u>

The Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, visited the Aberdeen Wholesale Fish Market today (July 15) to observe the Government's outreach vaccination service for fishing vessel deckhands.

Professor Chan said, "I am delighted to learn that over 600 fishing vessel deckhands joined this outreach vaccination service. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the fishing vessel deckhands and the fishermen associations for their positive response to the vaccination service.

"These fishing vessel deckhands support local fishing vessels in their operations in Mainland waters, and assist in the unloading of fish catches at wholesale fish markets. They help maintain a steady supply of fresh marine fish in Hong Kong.

"Mainland fishing vessel deckhands travel frequently between Hong Kong and Mainland waters, and have contact with fellow local crew members on fishing vessels and the staff and buyers and others at wholesale fish markets. This outreach vaccination service is of utmost importance to safeguarding public health and ensuring normal operation of relevant businesses."

Professor Chan expressed the hope that more fishermen and fishing vessel deckhands can get vaccinated. She appealed to individuals from various sectors and trades for their active participation in the "Early Vaccination for All" campaign with a view to protecting themselves and their families. She said, "The situation of COVID-19 infection remains severe. In the face of challenges posed by mutant strains, we count on our citizens to fulfil their civic responsibility and receive vaccines extensively in order to strengthen the immunity barrier in Hong Kong."

Professor Chan expressed her gratitude to the medical team and administrative support staff for providing the outreach service at the Aberdeen Wholesale Fish Market today.





