

Hong Kong Customs signs MoU with copyright protection associations in Japan and Korea to strengthen co-operation (with photos)

Hong Kong Customs today (April 26) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Content Overseas Distribution Association (CODA) in Japan and the Copyright Overseas promotion Association (COA) in Korea respectively to pledge further collaboration in combating intellectual property rights (IPR) infringement.

As today is World Intellectual Property Day, the Assistant Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Intelligence and Investigation), Mr Mark Woo, signed an MoU on behalf of Customs by videoconferencing with the Representative Director of the CODA, Mr Takero Goto, and the Executive Director of the COA, Mr Itae Choi, respectively to signify the mutual commitment and determination of Hong Kong Customs and relevant associations in the two countries on IPR protection through strengthening various areas of co-operation, such as joint promotional activities, training and information exchange.

Mr Woo said at the signing ceremony that in addition to law enforcement, Hong Kong Customs has attached great importance to maintaining close co-operation with copyright and trademark owners in promoting IPR education, especially among the younger generation. The MoU signed today also marks a significant milestone along the course of ongoing collaboration between Hong Kong Customs and the IPR sector.

Hong Kong Customs will continue to seek opportunities to expand the scope of co-operation with other IPR sectors to curb IPR infringing crimes.



List of private doctors who can prescribe COVID-19 oral drugs published

A Government spokesman said that the list of private doctors who have obtained COVID-19 oral drugs for prescription, namely Paxlovid and Molnupiravir, through a dedicated online platform has been published on a designated website today (April 26).

The Government had earlier announced that the above two COVID-19 oral drugs would be provided to private doctors free of charge for prescribing the drugs to suitable COVID-19 patients. The Department of Health issued a letter on April 11 to private doctors who have registered under the Electronic Health Record Sharing System (eHRSS) informing them that they could make requests for provision of the two COVID-19 oral drugs via the dedicated online platform. The list of private doctors registered with the eHRSS who have obtained the COVID-19 antivirals for managing COVID-19 cases is published on www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/tp_pd_antiviral.pdf to facilitate the public in receiving treatment. The list will be updated when appropriate to reflect the changes in the number of doctors.

Guidelines, fact sheets on the use of the drugs as well as other points to note provided by the Hospital Authority (HA) are available for download at the platform. Private doctors must follow the treatment guidelines set out by the HA. They should not charge patients any fees for the COVID-19 oral drugs. The spokesman said that in order to keep track of the prescriptions, private doctors who wish to prescribe the COVID-19 oral drugs should have registered under the eHRSS. After they log in to the platform to make the requests, a drug distributor will distribute the drugs concerned to their selected practice address among those they have registered with the eHRSS. The distributor will process the requests as far as possible on the following working day for those requests made before 4pm during weekdays. A maximum of 10 standard courses of treatments for each antiviral is allowed on each order request. Allocation of the antivirals will be subject to availability and usage of the drugs under the doctor's account.

Fraudulent websites and fraudulent mobile application related to Bank of

Singapore Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Bank of Singapore Limited relating to fraudulent websites and a fraudulent mobile application, which has been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#).

The HKMA wishes to remind the public that banks will not send SMS or e-mails with embedded hyperlinks which direct them to the banks' websites to carry out transactions. They will not ask customers for sensitive personal information, such as login passwords or one-time password, by phone, email or SMS (including via embedded hyperlinks).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the app concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

Committee on Review of Residential Child Care and Related Services holds first meeting

The Committee on Review of Residential Child Care and Related Services chaired by the Director of Social Welfare held its first meeting today (April 26) to discuss the terms of reference of the Committee as well as the scope and timetable of the review.

In the meeting, representatives of the Social Welfare Department briefed members on the current situation and monitoring mechanism of the residential child care and related services. The members then exchanged preliminary views on three major review areas, namely service regulation and monitoring; service planning and provision; and service quality, and will discuss these issues in detail in future meetings.

The Committee agreed that the review will be conducted in two phases. The first phase, expected to be completed in September this year, will focus on the services for children aged below 6, including residential child care centres (also known as residential crèches and residential nurseries), and

residential special child care centres. The second phase, expected to be completed in March 2023, will cover the review of other types of residential child care services, including children's homes and reception centre, boys'/girls' homes and hostels, as well as non-institutional services, namely foster care service, small group homes (SGHs) and SGHs for mildly mentally handicapped children.

Apart from the Director of Social Welfare as the Chairman, members of the Committee include Legislative Council members, experts in children's affairs, representatives of welfare organisations with relevant experience, as well as experts from the medical, legal and business sectors. The Committee will seek stakeholders' views in due course as well.

The Committee was set up on April 19 this year to conduct a comprehensive review on the existing residential child care and related services, the interface among services and service monitoring so as to identify areas for improvements, work out feasible measures for enhancement and put forward concrete proposals on the areas under review.

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