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Centre for Food Safety
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
43/F, Queensway Government Offices
66 Queensway, Hong Kong

**Re: Proposed Amendments to the Harmful Substances in Food
Regulations (Cap. 132AF)**

Dear Sir,

The Hong Kong College of Community Medicine (HKCCM) welcomes the Government's proposal to update and amend the Harmful Substances in Food Regulations (Cap. 132AF) to better protect public health of the local population including infants.

With over 95% of food on sale in the local market are imported, our population all along enjoy a great variety of cuisines from all over the world. It is important to constantly review and update the local food safety standards to bring them in line with international standards. To this end, HKCCM reckons the government's commendable efforts in the current review by following recommendations of the World Health Organization, harmonising local food standards with those of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and making reference to practices of other countries/places.

HKCCM supports the government's proposal to tighten the regulatory control of three types of mycotoxins, set maximum levels for five other types of harmful substances in edible fats and oils, condiments and formula products for infants, and prohibit the import and sale of partially hydrogenated oils. With a strengthened regulatory regime, the local population will be better protected against a host of hazards that would lead to chronic diseases like cancers and coronary heart diseases.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Joan Fok
Honorary Secretary
Hong Kong College of Community Medicine