



**NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES**

<b>1. Notifying Member:</b> <u>HONG KONG, CHINA</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
<b>3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Live hamsters for commercial purpose
<b>4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
<b>5. Title of the notified document:</b> Notice of Temporary Suspension on Commercial Imports of Live Hamsters into Hong Kong, China. <b>Language(s):</b> English. <b>Number of pages:</b> 1 <a href="https://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/quarantine/qua_ie/qua_ie_ipab/qua_ie_ipab_irrmpm/qua_ie_ipab_irrmpm.html">https://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/quarantine/qua_ie/qua_ie_ipab/qua_ie_ipab_irrmpm/qua_ie_ipab_irrmpm.html</a>
<b>6. Description of content:</b> A number of human COVID-19 cases in Hong Kong, China were found to be linked to hamsters tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus. Epidemiological investigation as well as viral sequencing suggest that hamsters, which were previously imported into Hong Kong, China, are the source of human infection. Commercial imports of live rodents and lagomorphs into Hong Kong, China were temporarily suspended between 18 January 2022 and 31 March 2022 for precautionary purpose. This emergency measure was adjusted from 1 April 2022 to cover only the temporary suspension of commercial imports of live hamsters.
<b>7. Objective and rationale:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
<b>8. Nature of the urgent problem(s) and reason for urgent action:</b> This emergency measure is necessary for protecting the public health of Hong Kong, China amidst the COVID-19 pandemic as set out in section 6.
<b>9. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text): <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number): <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None

<p><b>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</b></p>	
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b>  <a href="https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(22)00423-8/fulltext">https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(22)00423-8/fulltext</a></p>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Date of entry into force (dd/mm/yy)/period of application (as applicable):</b>  1 April 2022</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  Import and Export Division  5/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices  303 Cheung Sha Wan Road  Kowloon  Hong Kong  Fax: +(852) 2375 3563  E-mail: <a href="mailto:icsenquiry@afcd.gov.hk">icsenquiry@afcd.gov.hk</a></p>
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Text(s) available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  Import and Export Division  5/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices  303 Cheung Sha Wan Road  Kowloon  Hong Kong  Fax: +(852) 2375 3563  E-mail: <a href="mailto:icsenquiry@afcd.gov.hk">icsenquiry@afcd.gov.hk</a></p>