

**Fifty-fourth Meeting of  
the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee**

***Agenda Item 3(a) : Report on the work of the  
Wholesale and Retail Task Force***

**Purpose**

This paper reports on the work of the Wholesale and Retail Task Force (WRTF) since the last Business Facilitation Advisory Committee meeting held on 31 January 2024.

**Work progress of WRTF**

***The amended Dangerous Goods Ordinance (Cap. 295) and E-services for Dangerous Goods related applications***

2. At the WRTF meeting of 10 April 2024, the Fire Services Department (FSD) briefed the WRTF on the highlighted amendments to the Dangerous Goods Ordinance, Cap. 295 (DGO) and E-services for dangerous goods (DG) related applications. Highlights of the amendments covered classification, packing, marking and labelling of DG, categorisation and requirements of Exempt Quantity, introduction of the control regime of Dangerous Goods in Consumer Packs and issue of a Code of Practice to the trades, etc.

3. The FSD proactively promotes the use of E-services among enterprises and citizens in line with the development of “Smart Government”. E-submission service has already been launched for nine DG-related applications. E-payment and e-licence services are also available for new applications, renewals, alterations and cancellations of DG licences.

4. The WRTF welcomed the briefing by the FSD on the highlighted amendments to DGO and the E-services.

***New Mechanism for Registration of New Drugs in treating serious or rare diseases and the measure of using Hong Kong-registered drugs in the Greater Bay Area***

5. The Department of Health (DH) briefed the WRTF on the new mechanism (the “1+” mechanism) for the registration of new drugs in treating serious or rare diseases in Hong Kong and update on the list of Hong Kong-registered drugs being used in the Greater Bay Area (GBA). Under the “1+” mechanism, applications for registration of new drugs in treating serious or rare diseases that are supported with local clinical data and scope of application recognised by local relevant expert are required to submit evidence of approval from the drug regulatory authority of one of the reference countries (instead of two). Since the “1+” mechanism came into effect in November 2023, application for two new drugs for treating metastatic colorectal cancer have already been approved.

6. As a facilitation measure for Hong Kong residents working and living in the GBA to seek healthcare services, the National Medical Products Administration, in November 2020, allowed designated healthcare institutions operating in the GBA to use Hong Kong-registered drugs with urgent clinical use, and medical devices used in Hong Kong public hospitals with urgent clinical use, subject to the approval of the People’s Government of Guangdong Province. As at mid-January 2024, 28 drugs and 28 medical devices have been allowed to be used in 19 designated healthcare institutions in the GBA.

7. The WRTF welcomed the “1+” mechanism, and considered the mechanism would enable Hong Kong to be more proactive in expediting the approval of applications for registration of new drugs for serious or rare diseases and would also strengthen Hong Kong’s capacity of drug evaluation.

***Digital Corporate Identity Platform***

8. Pursuant to the announcement in the Budget Speech 2024, the Government will set up a “digital identity of enterprises” platform, i.e. the business version of “iAM Smart”, to enable authentication of identity and verification of signature of enterprises using electronic government services or conducting online business transactions in a secure, convenient and efficient manner without having to go through complicated procedures, thus saving time and reducing the risk of human error. The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) briefed and collected views from the WRTF on the Digital Corporate Identity (CorpID) Platform to be

implemented. According to OGCIO's plan, the CorpID Platform will be launched progressively from end-2026, including a portal to apply for a digital corporate identity, as well as four key functions (i.e. corporate identity verification, digital signing, authorisation to share corporate information from the e-service application system(s) for form pre-filling, and document wallet to store the corporate digital licences).

9. The WRTF welcomed the CorpID Platform and expressed concerns regarding the user-friendliness, digital security and promotion of the Platform. The OGCIO acknowledged members' concerns in respect of these areas and agreed to continue to solicit suggestions and opinions from the trade on the Platform through different channels during the implementation process.

### **Way forward**

10. Members are invited to note the work progress of the WRTF. The WRTF will continue to monitor the development of the above initiatives.

**Business Facilitation Team**  
**Efficiency Office**  
**Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau**  
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