

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CIT)034**

Question Serial No.

3486

Head: 152 Government Secretariat: Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Commerce and Industry

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Commerce, Industry and Tourism)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please provide details in relation to the task of continuing to support the further development of wine-related businesses in Hong Kong, including specific measures, manpower deployment and the expenditure required. What were the annual volumes of wine being imported and exported, their respective value and the changes in such figures for the past 3 years, i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13? How many people were engaged in wine-related business and what were the changes in such figures during the same period? What wine-related training courses were offered in Hong Kong and how many places were available during the same period? What are the projected figures for 2013-14? How would the Administration assess the impact of the prevailing global economic environment on Hong Kong's position as a wine distribution centre?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

Details of our efforts in 2013-14 to support the further development of wine-related business are given below –

- (a) trade and investment promotion: the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau co-ordinates the promotion work of relevant agencies, namely the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the Hong Kong Tourism Board, and Invest Hong Kong, including wine promotion events such as the Wine and Dine Festival and the International Wine and Spirits Fair;
- (b) clearance facilitation: the Mainland customs facilitation scheme for wines imported from Hong Kong has been extended from Shenzhen to Guangzhou since November 2012. We will enhance its promotion and seek refinements in consultation with the Mainland Customs;

- (c) manpower training and education: the Government will carry out a manpower survey for the wine industry in 2013-14 for the first time. It aims to better examine the manpower situation, take stock of the nature and places of wine-related training courses being offered and assess the training needs in future, for reference by industry players and training providers;
- (d) wine storage: the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA) has reviewed its scheme for accrediting storage facilities in 2012, and set the direction for developing wine accreditation services. We will co-operate with the HKQAA;
- (e) combating counterfeit wine: the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) will continue to ally with the industry for strengthening co-operation in intelligence collection and market monitoring. C&ED will also continue to liaise with overseas and Mainland enforcement agencies for enhancing its capacity in intercepting any suspected counterfeit wine and verifying wine authenticity; and
- (f) international co-operation: we signed an agreement with Germany in May 2012, making a total of 13 agreements on wine co-operation. We will continue to look for other partners to strengthen promotional activities in areas including wine-related trade, investment, tourism, etc.

We cope with the workload arising from the implementation of the above measures through re-deployment of existing resources. The related expenditure are subsumed under the establishment of and provision for the Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch of this Bureau. It is difficult to quantify such expenditure separately. Regarding the two key wine-related promotion events mentioned in (a) above, the costs are met through government subvention, charging of fees and commercial sponsorship.

According to the Census & Statistics Department, the wine import figures from 2010-11 to 2012-13 are as follows:

#### Imports

Year	Total Value (\$ billion)	Year-on-year Change	Total Volume (ten million litre)	Year-on-year Change
2012-13 (up to Jan 2013)	67	-16.4%	4.4	+4.7 %
2011-12	94	+16.6%	4.8	+16.4%
2010-11	80	+74%	4.1	+15.9%

Exports (Re-exports)

Year	Total Value (\$ billion)	Year-on-year Change	Total Volume (ten million litre)	Year-on-year Change
2012-13 (up to Jan 2013)	14	-16.5%	1.6	-1.9 %
2011-12	20	+39%	1.9	+45.3%
2010-11	15	+78.6%	1.3	+40.6%

We keep a close watch on the industry's outlook of the wine markets, in particular that of the Mainland China given Hong Kong's role as the regional wine hub. The industry remains generally upbeat about the Mainland's market. For example, according to a market survey by Vinexpo (an internationally renowned wine fair organiser), the findings of which is released earlier this month, China is now the world's fifth largest wine-consuming country. Its consumption of wine is expected to grow by 39.6% between 2012 and 2016. This represents the fastest growth rate among all countries.

Name in block letters: ANDREW HY WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic  
Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism)

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CIT)079**

Question Serial No.

0717

Head: 152 Government Secretariat: Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Commerce and Industry

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Commerce, Industry and Tourism)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In 2013-14, the Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch will continue to support the further development of wine-related business in Hong Kong. What are the details of the work involved? Does the Government have any conversion plans to establish wine centres in other places or within Government structures? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

Details of our efforts in 2013-14 to support the further development of wine-related business are given below –

- (a) trade and investment promotion: the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau co-ordinates the promotion work of relevant agencies, namely the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the Hong Kong Tourism Board, and Invest Hong Kong, including wine promotion events such as the Wine and Dine Festival and the International Wine and Spirits Fair;
- (b) clearance facilitation: the Mainland customs facilitation scheme for wines imported from Hong Kong has been extended from Shenzhen to Guangzhou since November 2012. We will enhance its promotion and seek refinements in consultation with the Mainland Customs;
- (c) manpower training and education: the Government will carry out a manpower survey for the wine industry in 2013-14. It will assess the manpower demand and supply and training needs, for reference by industry players and training providers;

- (d) wine storage: the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency has reviewed its scheme for accrediting storage facilities in 2012, and set the direction for developing wine accreditation services. We will co-operate with the HKQAA;
- (e) combating counterfeit wine: the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) will continue to ally with the industry for strengthening co-operation in intelligence collection and market monitoring. C&ED will also continue to liaise with overseas and Mainland enforcement agencies for enhancing its capacity in intercepting any suspected counterfeit wine and verifying wine authenticity; and
- (f) international co-operation: we signed an agreement with Germany in May 2012, making a total of 13 agreements on wine co-operation. We will continue to look for other partners to strengthen promotional activities in areas including wine-related trade, investment, tourism, etc.

Regarding land and government buildings, we will continue to facilitate the sustained development of various industries, including the wine industry, through effective land use planning as well as a steady and sufficient supply of land. Government buildings are mainly used for government offices, public facilities or other government purposes. If there are surplus Government properties, tenancies would be invited by way of open tender for commercial purposes in general. There is no conversion plan to establish “wine centres” in Government buildings at this stage.

As a long-term measure, the Government is conducting a feasibility study on the long-term strategy for cavern development as one of the means for sustainable land supply. The study includes exploring the feasibility for housing some private facilities, such as wine cellars, in rock caverns.

Name in block letters: ANDREW HY WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic  
Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism)

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CIT)124**

Question Serial No.

1641

Head: 152 Government Secretariat: Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Commerce and Industry

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Commerce, Industry and Tourism)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please advise on the expenditures and manpower involved in the further development of wine-related businesses in Hong Kong.

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

Details of our efforts in 2013-14 to support the further development of wine-related business are given below –

- (a) trade and investment promotion: the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau co-ordinates the promotion work of relevant agencies, namely the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the Hong Kong Tourism Board, and Invest Hong Kong, including wine promotion events such as the Wine and Dine Festival and the International Wine and Spirits Fair;
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- (c) manpower training and education: the Government will carry out a manpower survey for the wine industry in 2013-14. It will assess the manpower demand and supply and training needs, for reference by industry players and training providers;

- (d) wine storage: the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency has reviewed its scheme for accrediting storage facilities in 2012, and set the direction for developing wine accreditation services. We will co-operate with the HKQAA;
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- (f) international co-operation: we signed an agreement with Germany in May 2012, making a total of 13 agreements on wine co-operation. We will continue to look for other partners to strengthen promotional activities in areas including wine-related trade, investment, tourism, etc.

We cope with the workload arising from the implementation of the above measures through re-deployment of existing resources. The related expenditure are subsumed under the establishment of and provision for the Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch of this Bureau. It is difficult to quantify such expenditure separately. Regarding the two key wine-related promotion events mentioned in (a) above, the costs are met through government subvention, charging of fees and commercial sponsorship.

Name in block letters: ANDREW HY WONG  
 Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic  
 Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism)  
 Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CIT)204**

Question Serial No.

4566

Head: 152 Government Secretariat: Commerce and Economic Development Bureau  
(Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch)      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Commerce and Industry

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
(Commerce, Industry and Tourism)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

Please advise this Committee of the action plan and estimated expenditure involved in the Administration's efforts to support the further development of wine-related businesses in Hong Kong in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

Details of our efforts in 2013-14 to support the further development of wine-related business are given below –

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- (d) wine storage: the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency has reviewed its scheme for accrediting storage facilities in 2012, and set the direction for developing wine accreditation services. We will co-operate with the HKQAA;
- (e) combating counterfeit wine: the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) will continue to ally with the industry for strengthening co-operation in intelligence collection and market monitoring. C&ED will also continue to liaise with overseas and Mainland enforcement agencies for enhancing its capacity in intercepting any suspected counterfeit wine and verifying wine authenticity; and
- (f) international co-operation: we signed an agreement with Germany in May 2012, making a total of 13 agreements on wine co-operation. We will continue to look for other partners to strengthen promotional activities in areas including wine-related trade, investment, tourism, etc.

We cope with the workload arising from the implementation of the above measures through re-deployment of existing resources. The related expenditure are subsumed under the establishment of and provision for the Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch of this Bureau. It is difficult to quantify such expenditure separately. Regarding the two key wine-related promotion events mentioned in (a) above, the costs are met through government subvention, charging of fees and commercial sponsorship.

Name in block letters: ANDREW HY WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic  
Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism)

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**CEDB(CIT)240**

Question Serial No.

3490

Head: 31 Customs and Excise Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Intellectual Property Rights and Consumer Protection

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

What are the specific measures as well as staffing provision estimated for 2013-14 for preventing and combating illegal activities related to counterfeit wine? What were the respective figures for the targeted investigations and enforcement actions carried out each year by the dedicated investigation team responsible for such activities under the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau of the Customs and Excise Department for the last 3 years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13)? What was the effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau of the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) has established a 7-member dedicated investigation team since August 2008, consisting of 1 Senior Inspector, 1 Chief Customs Officer and 5 Customs Officers to tackle counterfeit wine and trade mark infringement activities. We will maintain the existing staffing provision in 2013-14.

C&ED has also formed an alliance with the wine industry since October 2008 to strengthen co-operation in intelligence collection and the monitoring of market activities. In May 2011, a specialist team was set up under the alliance to assist enforcement against counterfeit wine. C&ED has also established a liaison network with overseas and Mainland enforcement agencies for the purpose of enhancing its capability in intercepting suspected counterfeit wine and verifying wine authenticity.

From 2010-11 to 2012-13, we received a total of 7 wine-related reports. Enforcement action was not found necessary after investigation. We will remain vigilant and continue to monitor the operation of the wine market closely.

Name in block letters: Clement CHEUNG  
Post Title: Commissioner of Customs and Excise  
Date: 27.3.2013