

漁農自然護理署
九龍長沙灣道三零三號
長沙灣政府合署六樓



AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND
CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
6/F Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices,
304 Cheung Sha Wan Road,
Kowloon, Hong Kong

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電話號碼 Tel. No. : (852) 2150 6969 / 2150 6968
傳真號碼 Fax. No. : (852) 2376 3749
電郵地址 Email : hk_cites@afcd.gov.hk

6 June 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap.586)
Proposed Fee Revision

This circular aims to seek your comments regarding a proposed fee revision for the licences and certificates issued under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap 586) (“the Ordinance”).

The Ordinance stipulates that the import, introduction from the sea, possession, export and re-export of animal and plant species scheduled under the Ordinance are subject to licensing requirements. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) issues licences to regulate the trade in these species. AFCD also issues re-export certificates in respect of animals or plants for the purpose of facilitating applicants’ compliance with the requirements imposed in relation to the Convention on International trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) by any CITES Party. There are nine fee items under the Ordinance, the fees of which are prescribed in Schedule 2 to the Ordinance.

According to the “user pays” principal of government policy on fees, the fees charged by the Government should be set at a level aiming at the attainment of full cost recovery and be reviewed regularly to prevent fee items from being turned into heavily subsidised items. The existing fees for the above licences and certificates have been in force since 2006. Due to inflation and increase in operational costs over the years, the current fees and charges can no longer reflect the actual capital expenditure and the cost of services. AFCD has considered and reviewed the relevant fee items, and proposed to introduce appropriate adjustments to each of them. The proposed fee adjustments are tabulated in the Annex. AFCD will also strictly control costs and reduce the need for increasing fees and charges as far as possible in the future.

To implement the new fees, Schedule 2 to the Ordinance would be amended. We plan to initiate the legislative amendment exercise in the coming months and implement the new fees in early 2020. If you have any comments regarding the proposed fee revision, please contact us by fax, e-mail or post by 28 June 2019. Our contact details are as follows:-

Fax : (852) 2376 3749
Email address : hk_cites@afcd.gov.hk
Postal address : 5/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices,
303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon

Yours faithfully,

(Edward LAU)

for Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Encl.

覆函請寄交「漁農自然護理署署長」

Please address all replies to Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation