



# 2024

## Customs and Excise Department

### Departmental Review

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# Our Vision

• We are one of the world's leading customs organisations which safeguard national security, protect interests of the society, facilitate legitimate trade and promote economic development.

# Mission

- to safeguard national security
- to protect the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region against smuggling
- to protect and collect revenue on dutiable goods
- to detect and deter narcotics trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs
- to protect intellectual property rights
- to protect consumer interests
- to protect and facilitate legitimate trade and industry and to uphold Hong Kong's trading integrity
- to regulate money service operators and dealers in precious metals and stones
- to combat money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism
- to fulfill international obligations

# Values

- Patriotism and Loyalty
- Professionalism and Respect
- Lawfulness and Justice
- Accountability and Integrity
- Foresight and Innovation

# Message from the Commissioner



**Upholding** the principle of “Enhancing Strengths and Thriving through Innovation and Connectivity”, the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) made remarkable achievements in safeguarding national security, promoting economic development and serving the community in 2024. Over the past year, C&ED continued to adopt a multi-pronged strategy to combat smuggling, drug trafficking and other illegal activities. Specifically, a comprehensive range of control measures have been put in place across the entire supply chain to address the threat posed by emerging drugs, demonstrating C&ED’s unwavering commitment to safeguarding the country’s southern gateway from the inflow of drugs. To facilitate trade, C&ED not only strived to optimise customs clearance procedures through the expansion of co-operation networks with various economies and the implementation of new measures to facilitate logistics, but also proactively advanced the development of “Smart Customs” and introduced state-of-the-art technology to enhance efficiency, thereby consolidating Hong Kong’s status as an international financial, shipping and trade centre. Furthermore, C&ED also stepped up its efforts in youth development with the aim of nurturing young people as future pillars of society with an affection for our country and our city.

Looking ahead to 2025, the safeguarding of national security and the promotion of prosperity and stability in Hong Kong shall remain the priority tasks of C&ED. By leveraging Hong Kong’s distinctive advantages of “enjoying strong support of the Motherland and being closely connected to the world” under “One Country, Two Systems”, C&ED will proactively integrate into the overall development of our country, and utilise its role as the Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific Region of the World Customs Organization to tell good stories of Hong Kong in the international arena. In the face of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, C&ED will persist in enhancing the quality of its services to the community with professionalism and steadfast dedication, in order to make more significant contributions to the long-term development of both the country and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

**CHAN Tsz-tat**

CDSM

Commissioner of Customs and Excise

# Foreword

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## Law Enforcement

In 2024, C&ED detected a total of 31 242 cases, arrested 27 877 persons, and seized contraband with a total value of \$9.18 billion. Among these cases, illicit cigarette cases accounted for approximately 68% of the total. Meanwhile, in response to the emerging drug etomidate, C&ED has implemented a comprehensive range of enhanced control measures across the entire supply chain at the source, distribution and retail levels. To combat the inflow of duty-not-paid cigarettes into the territory, a consultancy study on the duty stamp system has been concluded, laying a foundation for the proposed system to be implemented in 2026. As regards large-scale smuggling cases, C&ED continued to adopt the strategy of “cracking down on major cases and targeting syndicate masterminds”, which successfully dealt a heavy blow to a number of cross-boundary crime syndicates.

## Trade Facilitation

In order to strengthen Hong Kong’s unique status as an international trading and logistics hub, C&ED continued to strike a balance between effective law enforcement and efficient trade facilitation. As at the end of 2024, the number of clearance points under the Single E-lock Scheme had increased to 93. C&ED also signed the Hong Kong Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Mutual Recognition Arrangements with 16 economies around the world and will further extend the coverage of the AEO Programme. To tie in with the Trade Single Window Phase 3 service targeted for phased implementation from 2026, C&ED will actively explore and advance data connectivity with the Mainland’s single window system.

## Consumer Protection

In 2024, C&ED received a total of 12 436 complaints about suspected violations of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TDO), representing a decrease of 34% when compared with 2023. This included a notable surge in complaints related to fitness services as a result of the closure of a major chain group. In addition, C&ED’s Quick Response Team promptly handled complaints against unfair trade practices of medicine shops, such as the use of unclear pricing units involving catty, tael and mace, which are commonly encountered by visitors. The majority of these complaints were resolved through intervention. During the year, C&ED successfully prosecuted 34 cases of contravention of the TDO, with some cases receiving deterrent sentences. Furthermore, the Department stepped up its promotion and education efforts through multiple channels to enhance the awareness of consumer rights among members of the public and visitors, and collaborated with relevant organisations to promote compliance.

## Mainland/International Co-operation

With the growing complexity of cross-boundary crimes and the evolving international landscape, C&ED has attached great importance to close collaboration with the General Administration of Customs of the Mainland and law enforcement agencies worldwide. Since July 2024, C&ED has held the position of the Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific (A/P) Region of the World Customs Organization (WCO) for a two-year term. Upon assuming this pivotal role, C&ED has successfully hosted a number of large-scale international conferences and regional workshops in Hong Kong, bringing together experts from around the globe to exchange experiences, thereby further consolidating Hong Kong’s leading role in international customs affairs.



## Smart Customs

Advanced technology is an important pillar in enhancing enforcement efficiency and facilitating customs clearance. Over the past year, to boost case handling efficiency as well as intelligence analysis and risk alert capabilities, C&ED pressed ahead with various measures under the Smart Customs Blueprint and introduced more advanced inspection equipment with automated contraband detection function, such as Computed Tomography Scanners, Smart Under Vehicle Robots and the Smart Seizure Management System. C&ED is also actively developing the Customs Big Data Application System to meet future challenges.

## Human Resources Management

Staff training and team building are fundamental to the sustainable development of C&ED. To address the ever-changing enforcement environment, C&ED enhanced internal training over the past year by incorporating topics such as safeguarding national security, the Constitution, the Basic Law, knowledge on customs operations and application of the latest technologies into its induction and in-service training programmes. C&ED continued to promote talent succession and diversified development. Memoranda of Understanding were signed with institutions such as the National Academy of Governance, the Vocational Training Council and The University of Hong Kong to deepen professional training. Meanwhile, proactive recruitment strategies were employed to attract more young talent to join C&ED.

## Serving the Community and Engaging the Youth

In 2024, C&ED continued to actively engage in community services and deepen its work on youth development. Through the social media platforms, including Douyin, Xiaohongshu, WeChat, Facebook and Instagram, C&ED strengthened its interaction and connection with the public. The C&ED Volunteer Team also participated in various charitable and volunteer work on an on-going basis, serving the grassroots and demonstrating a spirit of care while contributing to the community. Customs YES continued to flourish, attracting 7 935 individual members and 58 organisation members by the end of 2024. Throughout the year, over 490 diverse activities were organised, which were well-received by young people. During the year, the Foot Drill and Flag Party of the Customs Youth Leader Corps comprising 40 members was established under the programme. This is the first youth group under the Security Bureau to perform Chinese-style rifle foot drill. It aims to foster a sense of national identity, law-abiding awareness and team spirit among young people, and to nurture future leaders for Hong Kong with a commitment to responsibilities and a sense of belonging to our country.

## Challenges Ahead

Looking forward to the coming year, the safeguarding of national security and the promotion of prosperity and stability in Hong Kong shall remain our priority tasks. By upholding the belief of “enhancing strengths and thriving through innovation”, we will fully leverage our distinctive advantages of “enjoying strong support of the Motherland and being closely connected to the world”. While proactively integrating into the overall development of our country, we, in the capacity as the WCO Vice-Chairperson for the A/P Region, will tell good stories of Hong Kong in the international arena.

## 01

# Memorable Events

25 Jan  
2024

## International Customs Day 2024

**With** the theme of “Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose”, C&ED hosted the International Customs Day Celebration Reception, which encouraged Customs administrations to actively strengthen ties with traditional partners and proactively explore new collaborative opportunities, connecting various sectors to combat cross-boundary crimes and safeguard social security. Officiated by the Director of Public Prosecutions, Ms. Maggie YANG, and the then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO, the reception was graced by the presence of nearly 300 esteemed guests.



5-7 Mar  
2024

## 6<sup>th</sup> World Customs Organization Global Canine Forum

**C&ED** hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> World Customs Organization (WCO) Global Canine Forum, bringing together over 120 participants from 46 Customs administrations, the WCO and local law enforcement canine forces for in-depth discussions and experience sharing on canine enforcement issues.





8 Mar  
2024

## Official launch of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Three-Places-One-Lock Scheme

**The** Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Three-Places-One-Lock Scheme was officially launched to create a new green logistics corridor for enhancing clearance efficiency and further promoting the logistics and economic development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.



12-14 Mar  
2024

## Regional High-Level Conference on IP Protection

**C&ED** held a high-level conference on intellectual property (IP) protection for the first time, bringing together 200 IP experts and industry stakeholders from the Asia-Pacific region to share their experience in and strategies for IP protection while exploring ways to strengthen co-operation and information exchanges from various perspectives for enhancing enforcement effectiveness.





8-10 May  
2024

## 6th WCO Global AEO Conference

**C&ED** attended the 6th WCO Global AEO Conference co-organised by the WCO and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) to share how the Hong Kong AEO Programme assisted small and medium-sized enterprises in rising to challenges.





1 Jul  
2024

## C&ED officially assumed the position of the WCO Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific Region

On 29 June 2024, C&ED, in the name of Hong Kong, China, was elected as the WCO Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific (A/P) Region at the Customs Co-operation Council Sessions of the WCO in Brussels, officially assuming the role as regional representative in July 2024 for a term of two years until June 2026.



17 Jul  
2024

## Official launch of Fujian-Guangdong-Hong Kong Single E-lock Scheme

The Fujian-Guangdong-Hong Kong Single E-lock Scheme was officially launched. Three trucks carrying transshipment goods departed from Fujian and arrived at the Hong Kong International Airport the following day for further overseas shipment.



22-25 Oct  
2024

## 34th World Customs Organization Asia/Pacific Regional Contact Points Meeting

The meeting marked the first large-scale regional event hosted by C&ED since its assumption of the WCO Vice-Chairpersonship for the A/P Region. This four-day meeting gathered 70 representatives from A/P Customs administrations as well as from the WCO's regional entities. It covered a series of thematic presentations and discussions on issues of regional concern and allowed participants to explore Customs initiatives, enforcement strategies and training experiences from diverse perspectives in order to foster co-operation and information exchanges among A/P members.





20-21 Nov  
2024

## Regional Conference on Combating Illicit Cigarettes

**Co-hosted** by C&ED and the Australian Border Force, the first “Regional Conference on Combating Illicit Cigarettes” gathered members of the WCO and experts from law enforcement agencies for an in-depth exchange of views and sharing of experiences.





27 Nov  
2024

## Review Meeting cum signing of co-operative arrangement on drug detector dogs between the GACC and C&ED

**During** the meeting, C&ED and the GACC reviewed their co-operation over the past two years and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on co-operation in the training and breeding of drug detector dogs and the exchange of advanced technologies, paving the way for jointly promoting the intelligent and information-based management of drug detector dogs.



10-12 Dec  
2024

## C&ED and Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific jointly hosted International Forum on Combating Money Laundering and Transnational Organized Crimes: Criminal Networks, Trade Dynamics and Beyond

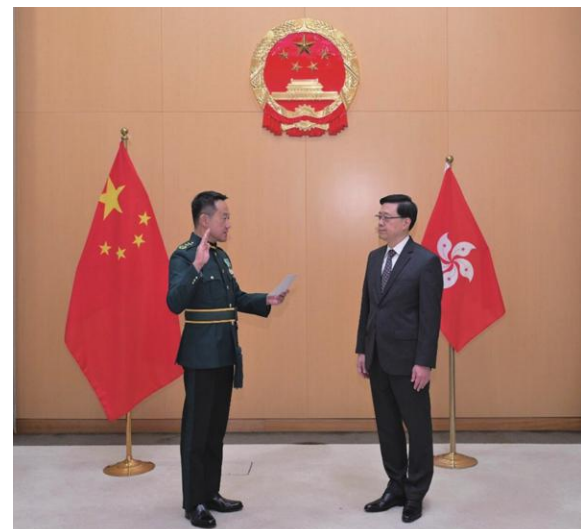
**Attended** by 250 representatives from law enforcement agencies, international organisations, regulatory agencies and the industries, the forum brought together top-notch experts of various disciplines and experienced law enforcers in the A/P region to explore the effective ways to combat money laundering and transnational crimes. C&ED signed a MoU with The University of Hong Kong at the forum to jointly devise training programmes on virtual assets and blockchain technologies. It is also planned to organise a workshop for Customs members in the A/P region in 2025 in order to strengthen their ability to combat money laundering.



31 Dec  
2024

## Appointment of Commissioner of Customs and Excise

**On** 31 December 2024, Mr. CHAN Tsz-tat was appointed as Commissioner of Customs and Excise.





## 02

## Organisation of the Department

Senior Management  
of the Customs and  
Excise Department

a. Commissioner of Customs  
and Excise  
**Mr. CHAN Tsz-tat**  
CDSM

d. Assistant Commissioner  
(Intelligence and Investigation)  
**Mr. WONG Ho-yin**

g. Assistant Commissioner  
(Boundary and Ports)  
**Ms. WONG Wai-chuen**

b. Deputy Commissioner  
of Customs and Excise  
(Control and Enforcement)  
**Mr. WOO Wai-kwan**  
CDSM

e. Assistant Commissioner  
(World Customs Organization)  
**Mr. LI Kin-kei**

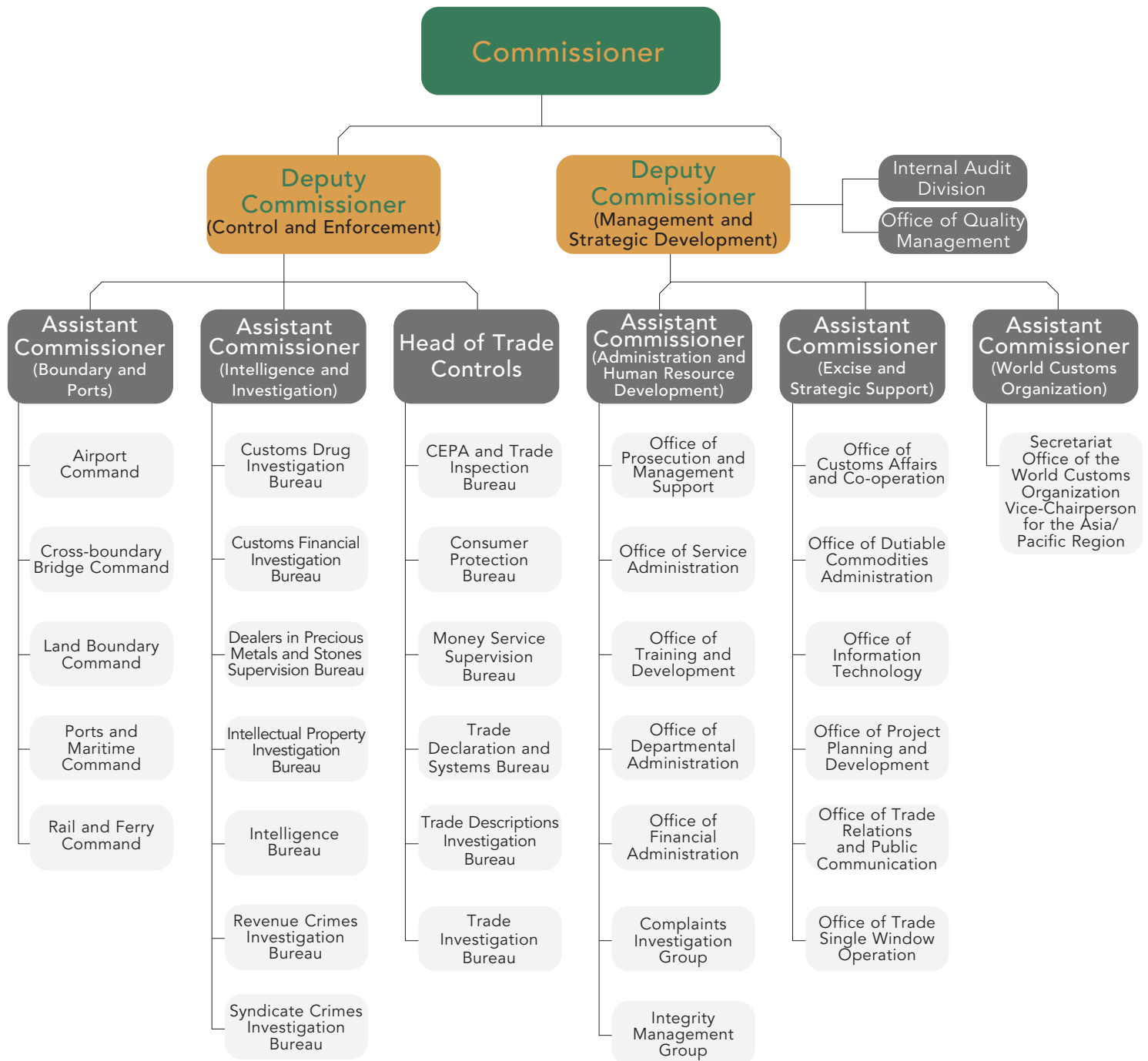
h. Head of Trade Controls  
**Mr. LI Man-kai**

c. Deputy Commissioner of Customs  
and Excise (Management and  
Strategic Development)  
**Mr. HUI Kim**

f. Assistant Commissioner  
(Administration and Human  
Resource Development)  
**Ms. TAM So-ying**  
CDSM

# Organisation Chart of the Customs and Excise Department

as at 1.7.2025





# Organisation of the Department

The Commissioner of Customs and Excise is the head of C&ED. He is assisted by two Deputy Commissioners in handling departmental affairs.

Deputy Commissioner (Management and Strategic Development) heads the Administration and Human Resource Development Branch, the Excise and Strategic Support Branch and two formations under his direct charge, namely the Office of Quality Management and the Internal Audit Division. He is responsible for the overall administration and management of the Department and oversees the planning and development of departmental infrastructure projects.

Deputy Commissioner (Control and Enforcement) heads the Boundary and Ports Branch, the Intelligence and Investigation Branch and the Trade Controls Branch. He is responsible for the overall control and enforcement issues of the Department, and supports the Commissioner of Customs and Excise in handling matters on operations and strategies in relation to safeguarding national security.

The Department comprises five branches, each under a directorate officer.

The Administration and Human Resource Development Branch, headed by Assistant Commissioner (Administration and Human Resource Development), is responsible for departmental administration; financial management; human resource management; central support; training and recruitment; legislation, orders and procedures as well as matters on the systems of the Department; prosecution of Customs and Excise (C&E) Service cases; investigation of public complaints; and integrity management.

The Boundary and Ports Branch, headed by Assistant Commissioner (Boundary and Ports), is responsible for matters regarding Customs control and facilitation functions at all entry and exit points, and implementation of departmental policies in relation to Customs control and facilitation functions at all entry and exit points.

The Excise and Strategic Support Branch, headed by Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support), is responsible for matters regarding revenue protection and excise control, information technology development, planning and development of major departmental projects, supply chain security management, trade relations and public communication, customs liaison and international co-operation, operation of the Trade Single Window, and co-ordination of agency services.

The Intelligence and Investigation Branch, headed by Assistant Commissioner (Intelligence and Investigation), is responsible for matters regarding the suppression of narcotics offences and control of precursor chemicals, protection of intellectual property rights, recovery and confiscation of proceeds arising from drug trafficking and organised crimes, risk management and departmental intelligence activities, suppression of syndicated smuggling activities, enforcement activities relating to revenue protection, supervision of the dealers in precious metals and stones, and suppression of money laundering activities.

The Trade Controls Branch, headed by the Head of Trade Controls, is responsible for matters regarding trade inspection, verification, investigation and prosecution relating to origin fraud / licensing fraud / trade fraud, including cases involving Certificates of Origin under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA); consumer protection; control of strategic commodities and reserved commodities; supervision of money service operators; and import and export trade declaration.

Moreover, in response to C&ED's assumption of the position the World Customs Organization (WCO) Vice- Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific (A/P) Region from July 2024 to June 2026, the Secretariat Office of the WCO Vice- Chairperson for the A/P Region was established. Headed by Assistant Commissioner (World Customs Organization), the Secretariat Office is responsible for driving regional development agendas, coordinating regional affairs, leading members in addressing various challenges and facilitating the formulation and implementation of regional strategic plans.

## 03

# Law Enforcement

**C&ED** shoulders a diverse scope of enforcement duties. Customs officers fight the menaces to our society by way of boundary control, anti-smuggling, counter-money laundering, narcotics interdiction, as well as intellectual property rights and revenue protection. The prompt and effective law enforcement aims not only to protect our society and fight against transnational crime but also to provide a safe business environment.





# Anti-smuggling

C&ED prevents and detects smuggling activities under the Import and Export Ordinance through various measures. Apart from inspecting cargoes imported and exported by sea, land and air, C&ED also examines passengers and their luggage at control points, and searches aircraft, vessels and vehicles entering and leaving Hong Kong to implement licensing systems and exercise controls over prohibited articles.

In 2024, 234 cases of importing or exporting unmanifested cargo under the Import and Export Ordinance were detected. A total of 174 arrests were made with a total seizure value of about \$4.305 billion. Generally speaking, Mainland-Hong Kong cases accounted for around 79% of the total number of smuggling cases and the total value of the goods seized was about \$2.618 billion. Among the seized items, cigarettes and tobacco products were the most commonly seized ones, followed by electrical appliances and electronic products (including mobile phones, computers and accessories).

## Sea Smuggling Activities

Overall, smugglers predominantly utilise sea routes for their smuggling activities so as to transport larger quantities of goods in a single trip. Furthermore, it is found that smuggling syndicates not only use barges, speedboats and fishing vessels for smuggling activities, but also employ river trade vessels (RTVs) to transport containers laden with large quantities of smuggled goods to neighbouring Mainland cities and Macao. Under the stringent enforcement actions taken by C&ED, smuggling syndicates have resorted to employing more expensive ocean-going vessels (OGVs) in an attempt to evade detection by Customs officers regardless of the cost. They have also opted for a longer route over a shorter one by transporting smuggled goods to more distant Mainland destinations, or even taken circuitous routes by shipping the goods overseas before re-exporting them to the Mainland. During the year, C&ED cracked down on 28 OGV cases and 9 RTV cases, resulting in a total seizure value of about \$2.44 billion.

In September 2024, C&ED detected a smuggling case involving the suspected use of an OGV to smuggle goods destined for Tianjin. A large batch of smuggled goods, including electronic products such as central processing units and integrated circuits, was seized, with a total estimated retail value of about \$400 million.



Between April and May 2024, C&ED detected two cases involving the suspected use of OGVs to smuggle goods to Malaysia and Taiwan at the Kwai Chung Container Terminals through intelligence analysis and flexible strategy adjustments.

In the first case, C&ED detected a large quantity of smuggled goods, including integrated circuits, computer servers, routers and a batch of electronic waste in a container to be shipped to Malaysia, with an estimated retail value of about \$100 million.



In another case, C&ED detected a large quantity of smuggled goods, including suspected scheduled shark fins and shark skins, suspected scheduled wooden furniture, electronic components and electronic products in a container to be shipped to Taiwan, with an estimated retail value of about \$170 million.





In addition to OGVs, criminals also use RTVs for smuggling activities. In February and March 2024, C&ED detected two cases in the western waters of Hong Kong, involving the smuggling of goods using RTVs to Macao and Huangpu, Guangzhou respectively. Customs officers found a large batch of smuggled goods in the containers on board both vessels, including over 130 000 computer hardware items, about 200 000 electronic product accessories, about 160 000 sticks of cigarettes, about 13 000 bottles of health supplements, and about 3 000 boxes of pharmaceutical products with an estimated retail value of approximately \$211 million.



While using RTVs and OGVs for smuggling remained a prevalent practice, there were still cases of smuggling involving speedboats. In September 2024, C&ED detected a case involving the use of a high-powered speedboat equipped with six outboard engines. A high-powered speedboat and approximately 10 tonnes of Wagyu beef on board were seized, with an estimated retail value of about \$21 million.





## Endangered Species

As for endangered species, 446 cases were detected during the year. C&ED seized about 37 tonnes of endangered species with a total value of \$99 million, and arrested 304 individuals.



In a case of smuggling endangered species detected by C&ED, about 1 285 kg of suspected scheduled shark fins were seized at the Tuen Mun River Trade Terminal, with a value of approximately \$6.4 million.



In a case of smuggling endangered species detected by C&ED, about 992 kg of suspected scheduled agarwood were seized at the Tuen Mun River Trade Terminal, with a value of approximately \$18 million.



## Alternative Smoking Products

As regards alternative smoking products (ASPs), 2 451 cases were detected during the year. C&ED seized about 12.19 million suspected ASPs with a value of about \$46.5 million, and arrested 2 255 individuals.



A total of 403 980 numbers of suspected alternative smoking products with an estimated retail value of \$1.15 million were seized at the Air Mail Centre of Hong Kong International Airport.

## Firearms and Ammunition/ Strategic Commodities

C&ED has all along maintained stringent controls on firearms and ammunition to prevent illegal import or export of such items into or out of Hong Kong. In 2024, a total of 23 cases involving illegal firearms, firearm component parts and ammunition were detected, representing a decrease of 30% over 2023.

To further enhance enforcement effectiveness and counter-terrorism capabilities, explosive detector dogs and firearm detector dogs have been deployed to various Customs clearance points to assist in combating the smuggling of illegal firearms, firearm component parts, ammunition and explosives into Hong Kong, with a view to protecting the lives and property of the public as well as safeguarding national security.

## Strategies for Suppressing Smuggling

C&ED strives to combat smuggling activities and continues to strengthen liaison and co-operation with the logistics industry. C&ED signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with five major express courier operators in Hong Kong to enhance exchanges and enforcement capabilities in combating smuggling via courier services. Moreover, the Customs Liaison Programme (CLP) was set up under the Intelligence Bureau in August 2020 to establish ties and enhance co-operation with the local logistics industry in combating Customs-related offences more effectively. Through the MOU and CLP, C&ED successfully detected 219 smuggling cases in 2024, involving violations of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, the Import and Export Ordinance, the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance, the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, the Weapons Ordinance and the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance, with a seizure value of over \$21 million.

C&ED has established an intelligence exchange and sharing mechanism with law enforcement agencies (LEAs) in the Mainland. In 2024, C&ED worked closely and effectively with the Anti-Smuggling Bureau (ASB) of the General Administration of Customs (GACC), the ASB of the Guangdong Sub-Administration of GACC (GSAC), the ASB of Shenzhen Customs and the Macao Customs Service in mutual assistance in law enforcement with remarkable results.

To effectively combat sea smuggling activities along the southeast coast, a joint operation codenamed “Yunzhan-jingliu” was mounted by the ASB of GSAC and C&ED in 2024. As a result, a total of 19 sea smuggling cases were detected and a large quantity of smuggled goods including illicit cigarettes, electronic products and scheduled endangered species was seized, with a retail value of about \$950 million.



C&ED is committed to combating smuggling activities.



## Joint Enforcement Operations with the Mainland Counterparts

Starting from February 2024, C&ED and the ASB of GACC launched a joint operation codenamed "Guarding the Harbour 2024-2025" to combat sea smuggling. In April 2024, C&ED provided intelligence to Shanghai Customs, reporting the details of two containers carrying smuggled goods. Upon inspection by Shanghai Customs, a large quantity of smuggled items, including scheduled shark fins, shark skins, red wine and ivory, was discovered inside the containers, with an estimated market value of approximately RMB 30 million. Six individuals were arrested.

In March 2024, C&ED, in collaboration with the ASB of GACC, launched an enhancement operation codenamed "Pet Guardian", targeting animal smuggling activities. During the operation, C&ED detected two cases of illegal animal imports, seized seven illegally imported animals with an estimated total market value of approximately \$210,000, and arrested two individuals.

Between April and September 2024, the ASB of Shenzhen Customs and C&ED carried out two rounds of enforcement operation codenamed "Ice Breaker", targeting food smuggling. During these operations, C&ED detected eight cases of food smuggling, and seized illegally imported frozen meat, hairy crabs and eggs, with an estimated total market value of approximately \$300,000.

With the implementation of the Central Government's policies benefitting Hong Kong starting from July 2024, the duty-free allowance for luggage articles brought into the Mainland from Hong Kong by Mainland residents has been increased from RMB5,000 to RMB12,000. To combat smuggling activities of parallel traders, a joint enforcement operation codenamed "Yunzhan-qingliu 2024" was mounted by C&ED and the Mainland Customs.

# Narcotics Interdiction

In 2024, 1 362 drug cases were detected, similar to the 2023 figures. A total of 365 individuals were arrested and 6 296 kg of drugs were seized, representing a 23% rise in arrests and a 33% drop in drug seizures as compared with 2023.

Major seizures were cannabis (2 863 kg, an annual increase of 22%), ketamine (1 202 kg, an annual decrease of 34%), methamphetamine (ice) (1 110 kg, an annual decrease of 50%), cocaine (711 kg, an annual decrease of 65%) and heroin (130 kg, an annual decrease of 61%).

A total of 3 789 kg of illicit drugs were seized at the airport, representing an annual decrease of 25% and accounting for about 60% of the total drug seizures in the year; 1 427 kg of illicit drugs were seized via seaborne channels, representing an annual decrease of 61% and accounting for about 23% of the total drug seizures in the year; 1 036 kg of illicit drugs were seized locally, representing an annual increase of 91% and accounting for about 16% of the total drug seizures in the year; and 44 kg of illicit drugs were seized at land boundary control points, representing an annual decrease of 72% and accounting for about 1% of the total drug seizures in the year. A total of 39 major cases with a seizure value of over \$10 million were detected in 2024.



C&ED seized 570 kg of cannabis buds with a retail value of about \$115 million.



## Anti-narcotics Strategy

C&ED has adopted a comprehensive enforcement strategy to prevent and detect illicit drug trafficking, including drug source detection, recovery of drug/crime proceeds and control of precursor chemicals used in manufacturing of illicit drugs.

While stringent control is enforced at various control points to prevent the smuggling and transshipment of drugs, officers of the Customs Drug Investigation Bureau also take actions against drug syndicates and street peddlers based on surveillance and intelligence.

C&ED is empowered to trace, restrain and confiscate drug and crime proceeds derived from illicit activities so as to stop drug traffickers from re-investing drug proceeds for further drug trafficking and other criminal activities or using Hong Kong as a base for money laundering.

Through international intelligence exchange and law enforcement collaboration, C&ED maintains close partnerships with overseas and regional LEAs to combat transnational drug trafficking activities. In June 2024, C&ED attended the 7th Three-Country-Five-Party (3C5P) Conference held in Sydney, Australia with other LEAs including the ASB of the GACC, Macao Customs Service, Macao Judiciary Police, Australian Border Force, Australian Federal Police and New Zealand Customs Service. During the conference, members introduced the latest drug trafficking trends and significant cases of enforcement co-operation in their respective jurisdictions. C&ED also analysed and highlighted the latest drug trafficking trends and successful enforcement operations in the past few years.



Representatives of C&ED attended the 7th Three-Country-Five-Party Conference held in Sydney, Australia in June 2024.

## Enforcement Actions

Frontline Customs officers take enforcement actions against illicit drugs based on intelligence and combat drug trafficking activities with the use of hi-tech equipment. Apart from focusing on high-risk commercial cargoes, Customs officers also target the smuggling of drugs by express and mail parcels as well as drug traffickers who smuggle drugs through control points by wrapping drugs around the body, stuffing drugs inside body cavities or concealing drugs in false compartments of luggage.

Since the resumption of normal travel in early 2023, the smuggling of drugs by air passengers has resumed. Meanwhile, the use of large consignments, air express and speed-post parcels for the smuggling of drugs continues. C&ED has adjusted enforcement strategies in a timely manner and strengthened intelligence exchange and collaboration with the Mainland and overseas LEAs to combat drug trafficking activities at source and to trace illicit fund flows of drug syndicates through financial investigation.

In 2024, five cases (three seaborne and two local cases) with a seizure value of \$100 million or above were detected. The total seizure value of these five cases was about \$680 million. Cannabis, ketamine, methamphetamine, cocaine and heroin are the dangerous drugs most commonly smuggled into Hong Kong.

In 2024, C&ED seized 2 863 kg of cannabis and arrested 109 individuals. Among the seizures, 1 393 kg were intercepted at the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA), 794 kg were intercepted via seaborne channels and 676 kg were intercepted locally. In February 2024, Customs officers raided a logistics warehouse in the New Territories and seized approximately 570 kg of cannabis buds in about 145 carton boxes, with a retail value of about \$115 million. In September 2024, Customs officers intercepted a seaborne cargo arriving in Hong Kong from Canada declared as soy beans and seized about 500 kg of cannabis buds, with a retail value of approximately \$130 million, at the Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound.



C&ED seized 500 kg of cannabis buds with a retail value of about \$130 million.

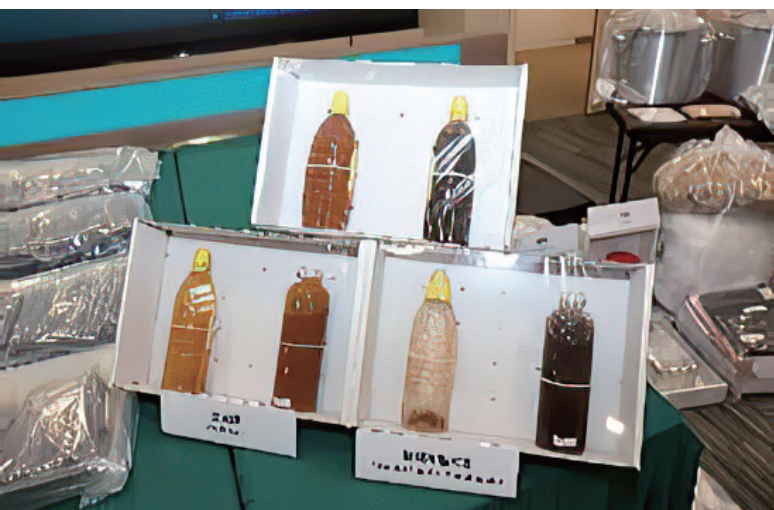


In 2024, C&ED seized a total of 1 202 kg of ketamine and arrested 95 individuals. In April 2024, Customs officers, upon examination, intercepted two consignments arriving in Hong Kong from Germany declared as amber and glitter and seized about 129 kg of ketamine with a retail value of approximately \$71 million at the HKIA.



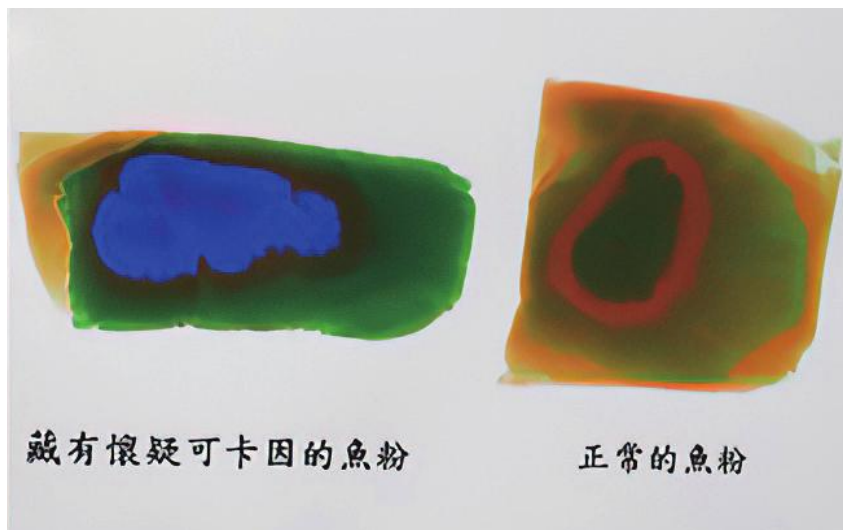
C&ED seized 129 kg of ketamine with a retail value of about \$71 million.

In 2024, C&ED seized a total of 1 110 kg of methamphetamine and arrested 40 individuals. In May 2024, based on risk assessment, Customs officers searched a warehouse in Fanling and seized about 264 kg of liquid methamphetamine in 22 boxes of chili sauce with a retail value of approximately \$140 million.



C&ED seized 264 kg of liquid methamphetamine with a retail value of about \$140 million.

In 2024, C&ED seized 711 kg of cocaine and arrested 108 individuals. In January 2024, C&ED and the Hong Kong Police Force mounted a joint operation and, upon examination, intercepted a seaborne container declared as carrying fish flour, arriving in Hong Kong from South America and seized about 100 kg of cocaine with a retail value of approximately \$100 million at the Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound.



In collaboration with the Police, C&ED seized about 100 kg of cocaine with a retail value of approximately \$100 million.

In 2024, about 130 kg of heroin were seized, mostly from Malaysia and Thailand, and 25 individuals were arrested. Among the seizures, 118 kg were seized at the HKIA, 7 kg were seized via seaborne channels and 5 kg were seized at land boundary control points.



C&ED seized 8.4 kg of heroin with a retail value of about \$5.8 million.



# Co-operation with the Mainland and Overseas Law Enforcement Agencies

As transnational drug cartels are increasingly interconnected and well-organised, with their operations becoming more international and conducted in the form of syndicates, there has been a significant increase in the number of major cases detected via air and sea routes in recent years, and the proceeds from drug trafficking have also grown substantially. This situation is not unique to Hong Kong as the entire Asia-Pacific region is facing the same challenge. Regional law enforcement co-operation is particularly important to effectively combat drug trafficking activities.

C&ED has maintained close ties with LEAs in the Mainland and overseas to fight against transnational drug trafficking. In 2024, through co-operation with other jurisdictions, about 384 kg of drugs were seized outside Hong Kong.

In January 2024, a significant case was detected in collaboration with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) of the Guangdong Provincial Public Security Department during a joint anti-drug operation codenamed "Yunzhan-duanliu 2024". With the assistance provided by C&ED in identifying the suspects, the Mainland counterparts neutralised a ketamine manufacturing centre, seized about 302 kg of ketamine, and arrested 24 individuals.



C&ED, in collaboration with the ASB of the GACC, the ASB of GSAC, the ASB of Shenzhen Customs and the NCB of the Guangdong Provincial Public Security Department, launched a joint anti-drug operation codenamed "Yunzhan-duanliu", targeting drug syndicates that remotely controlled cross-boundary logistics between the Mainland and Hong Kong for large-scale transnational drug smuggling activities, and achieved significant results.

## Control of Cannabidiol

With effect from 1 February 2023, cannabidiol (CBD) is under the control of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance. As such, C&ED has taken proactive enforcement actions against CBD smuggling. In 2024, 31 cases were detected, and about 53 kg of products suspected of containing CBD were seized.



C&ED organised anti-drug talks and workshops in different schools and organisations to remind the public of the harmful effects of drugs.



## Control of Etomidate

With effect from 14 February 2025, etomidate is under the control of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance. In intercepting the supply of etomidate, C&ED has stepped up enforcement efforts and mounted a series of anti-etomidate operations targeting the entire supply chain from import, distribution to retail, through a multi-pronged approach. As for interception at boundary control points, C&ED has also strengthened its intelligence analysis and risk management for precise cargo and passenger selection. In addition, etomidate has been added to the database of the Raman Spectrometers to enhance detection capabilities.

In 2024, 19 cases involving etomidate were detected and about 23.5 kg of suspected etomidate powder and 202 suspected etomidate infused capsules were seized.

On preventive education, C&ED has been working closely with the Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau to strengthen publicity efforts. C&ED also deployed officers to deliver anti-drug talks at schools and organised activities through Customs YES to remind the public of the harmful effects of etomidate and its regulation by legislation.



C&ED seized 16 kg of suspected etomidate powder and 191 suspected etomidate infused capsules with a retail value of about \$17 million.

## Control of Chemicals

C&ED maintains a licensing system under the Control of Chemicals Ordinance to regulate the trade of 36 chemicals commonly used for the illicit manufacturing of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

C&ED has proactively exchanged information and intelligence with overseas LEAs on suspicious shipments of precursor chemicals sourced in the region and shipped through Hong Kong to high-risk destinations.

In 2024, C&ED took part in several international tracking programmes. These initiatives, organized by the United Nations International Narcotics Control Board, are recognised as an effective multilateral mechanism in preventing the illicit diversion of precursor chemicals.

# Intellectual Property Rights Protection

On intellectual property rights protection, 784 infringing cases were detected and 330 individuals were arrested in 2024. About 4 million infringing items were seized with a total seizure value of about \$309 million, representing an increase of 7% over 2023. Major seizures included electrical appliances and electronic products, followed by footwear.

The Copyright (Amendment) Ordinance 2022 came into operation on 1 May 2023 to strengthen copyright protection in the digital environment, which includes introducing an exclusive technology-neutral communication right for copyright owners to communicate their works to the public through any mode of electronic transmission. In June 2024, C&ED mounted a special operation at various districts across the territory to combat infringement activities involving illicit streaming devices by applying the communication right. Between September and November 2024, C&ED detected the first-ever cases of unauthorised communication of live football matches to the public by illicit streaming technologies at domestic premises and restaurants respectively. C&ED will continue to monitor suspected infringing cases involving illicit streaming technologies, maintain close liaison with copyright owners, and take actions in a timely manner.



In November 2024, an enforcement operation was conducted to combat infringement activities involving the communication of live football matches to the public by illicit streaming technologies. A restaurant was raided with the arrest of two persons.



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## Actions against Online Intellectual Property Infringements/Technology Crimes

To cope with the upward trend of online Intellectual Property (IP) infringement crimes, the “Anti-Internet-Piracy Team” of C&ED was established in 2000 and further expanded its scale in 2014 with more than 40 investigators dedicated to fighting against online IP infringements and technology crimes.

### Online Counterfeiting

In view of the growing popularity of online shopping in recent years, C&ED has actively conducted enforcement operations against online counterfeiting. Investigations revealed that counterfeit goods were mostly offered for sale on online market places and social media platforms. Culprits solicited business in the name of online shopping agents and claimed that they had connections with overseas suppliers or shopping agents from whom they could source the goods directly. Some also claimed that the goods were sourced directly from original manufacturers and therefore could be sold at lower prices. Counterfeit goods were promoted as “goods purchased by agents” or “goods from original manufacturers” and were put for sale at different discounted prices to attract customers on online platforms.

In 2024, C&ED detected a total of 88 online counterfeiting cases with 93 individuals arrested. A variety of counterfeit goods including leather goods, clothes, footwear, accessories, perfumes and cosmetics products were seized, with a total seizure value of \$4.08 million.

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## Online Piracy/Technology Crimes

C&ED has spared no effort in combating online piracy and technology crimes, including the unauthorised communication of copyright works to the public. In 2024, C&ED detected a total of 43 cases with 45 individuals arrested and pirated goods valued at \$2.96 million seized. These cases mainly involved the sale of circumvention devices, the offering of illicit streaming devices to customers, and the provision of infringing karaoke songs by party room and restaurant operators in the course of business for attracting more customers to increase profits.



In July 2024, C&ED mounted an enforcement operation codenamed “Magpie” at various districts across the territory. During the operation, the first-ever case of providing infringing karaoke songs to customers in party rooms by using illicit streaming technology in a data centre was detected.



## Online Monitoring Systems

To cope with emerging enforcement challenges arising from advancement in technologies, C&ED set up the Electronic Crime Investigation Centre (ECIC) in 2013. The ECIC aims to strengthen research on the latest modus operandi of cybercrimes, formulate enforcement strategies and evidence collection procedures for frontline enforcement officers, organise training courses on retrieval and preservation of digital evidence for frontline officers and develop online monitoring systems to assist frontline officers in conducting cyber investigation.

In 2017, the ECIC implemented the “Big Data Analytics System” to collect and analyse massive information retrieved from various Internet platforms in order to combat the ever-evolving online IP infringement activities. The system has been running well since its implementation. In 2024, the system detected 59 online infringing cases, accounting for 45% of the total number of online infringing cases for the year. This resulted in a seizure value of \$1.7 million, representing 24% of the total seizure value of online infringing cases.



The Electronic Crime Investigation Centre is equipped with a research laboratory. In recent years, it has focused on studying illicit streaming activities and developing related evidence collection and analysis systems to enhance the cyber investigation capabilities and digital evidence handling skills of Customs officers.

## Actions against Local IP Infringements

Regarding actions against local trademark counterfeiting activities, C&ED detected 164 cases involving forged trademarks with 119 individuals arrested in 2024. The items seized were mainly footwear, clothes and accessories, cosmetics and beauty products, with a total seizure value of \$25 million.



C&ED mounted a special enforcement operation to crack down on the retail shops and storage warehouses of counterfeit liquor in Kwai Chung in August 2024. A batch of counterfeit liquor with an estimated market value of over \$2.9 million was seized, and one person was arrested.



During festivals, C&ED stepped up compliance publicity and education to merchants at tourist spots to remind them not to engage in infringing activities.



## Actions against Cross-boundary IP Infringements

C&ED has strived to combat cross-boundary IP infringement activities. In 2024, a total of 490 cross-boundary infringement cases were detected with a total seizure of 3.88 million items of counterfeit goods, valued at \$277 million, mainly comprising electrical appliances and electronics products, footwear, clothes and accessories, watches and parts, etc.



In the light of a number of international sports events held in June 2024, C&ED conducted a three-week special operation codenamed "Tracer VII" to combat cross-boundary transshipments of counterfeit goods. Through intelligence analysis and in-depth investigations, C&ED mounted strike-and-search actions against a number of logistics companies, detected 27 cases in total, and seized about 67 000 items of suspected counterfeit goods, including watches, handbags, jerseys and sports-related products, with a total estimated market value of over \$51 million. One person was arrested.





C&ED conducted a three-week enforcement operation codenamed "Nunchaku" between October and November 2024 to combat counterfeit goods activities during the Double 11 Festival shopping period and seized about 3.25 million items of counterfeit goods, with an estimated market value of over \$90 million.

The Customs administrations of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao have been working closely to exchange views on and share experience in IP enforcement and strategies. A meeting was held among the three parties in November 2024 to discuss and exchange views on cross-boundary collaboration and strategies in combating IP cases. During the year, three joint operations were conducted by the Customs administrations of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. A total of 73 cases were detected with a seizure of about 117 300 items of counterfeit goods and a total value of approximately \$34 million.



## Restraint and Confiscation of Crime Proceeds of IP Infringing Syndicates

C&ED actively applies the Organized and Serious Crimes Ordinance (OSCO) in the investigation of IP infringement cases in the fight against organised syndicates engaged in piracy and counterfeiting activities. Since the first application of the OSCO to a piracy case in 2004, C&ED has applied this Ordinance to a total of 19 IP cases (11 copyright cases and 8 counterfeit cases), with some \$140 million worth of crime proceeds/assets restrained. This enforcement approach has effectively clamped down on syndicates engaged in copyright piracy and trademark counterfeiting activities.

## Strategic Partnership

C&ED has been working closely with the IP industry to step up efforts to curb piracy and trademark counterfeiting activities. The industry is now providing all sorts of support to C&ED, including the provision of leads on IP infringing activities, examination of seized goods to authenticate IP, provision of testimony in court and training for Customs officers to enhance their skills in identifying fake products. C&ED has also actively maintained close liaison with the industry, local and overseas LEAs, academics, etc. to review the effectiveness of Customs enforcement, re-examine IP protection issues and exchange views from multiple perspectives.

During the year, C&ED co-organised six seminars with industry bodies/organisations, including the Quality Brands Protection Committee of the China Association of Enterprises with Foreign Investment, the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Hong Kong and the Japan External Trade Organization, with the aim of enhancing frontline enforcement officers' capability to discern the authenticity of relevant products and maintain active and close communication with the industry.



In August 2024, trademark owner representatives briefed Customs officers on the brand protection strategy of various trademarks at a seminar on IP protection jointly organised by C&ED and the Quality Brands Protection Committee of the China Association of Enterprises with Foreign Investment.

The ECIC has been deploying resources to conduct insightful research on technology crimes and seeking opportunities to organise training programmes and experience sharing sessions with overseas LEAs, business partners and academic institutions.



In July 2024, officers of the Electronic Crime Investigation Centre delivered a training course on cyber investigation skills and handling of digital evidence to frontline officers of the Macao Customs Service.



In 2024, C&ED achieved good progress in its partnership with the IP sector with on-going collaboration in the following areas -

- The Intellectual Property Rights Protection Alliance (IPRPA) established by C&ED and the industry in March 2004 provides a platform for fostering strategic partnership and strengthening intelligence exchange. As at the end of 2024, 68 organisations of the IP sector have joined the IPRPA. A working committee was established and tasked with organising activities related to IP protection, including the launch of publicity and educational campaigns to raise social awareness of IP protection. In 2024, C&ED organised a visit for the IPRPA members to the customs Marine Base to give them a better understanding of the maritime enforcement work of C&ED.



Members of the Intellectual Property Rights Protection Alliance visited the Customs Marine Base.

- The "Fast Action Scheme" launched jointly with the Hong Kong Brands Protection Alliance in July 2006 aims to protect the interests of IP owners participating in major exhibitions and trade fairs staged in Hong Kong. Under the scheme, C&ED will take prompt enforcement actions when reports on IP infringing activities from exhibitors are received. Publicity leaflets are distributed to exhibitors at the opening of exhibitions to highlight the penalties for IP infringement offences and to encourage exhibitors to report IP infringing acts. Since the implementation of the scheme, C&ED has activated the "Fast Action Scheme" at 152 major exhibitions and trade fairs, leading to the detection of 190 infringement cases and the arrest of 227 persons.

## Reward Schemes

The IP industry and C&ED are joining forces to step up intelligence collection with a view to reinforcing actions against IP infringement offences. The industry is now sponsoring reward schemes which pay cash rewards to informers who provide C&ED with information that leads to the seizure of infringing goods. The three existing reward schemes are:

- Anti-piracy (except retail level) Reward Scheme – sponsored by the copyright industry;
  - Reward Scheme to Combat Illegal Photocopying of Books and Periodicals – sponsored by the Hong Kong Reprographic Rights Licensing Society; and
  - Reward Scheme to Combat Illegal Photocopying of Newspapers and Magazines – sponsored by the Hong Kong Copyright Licensing Association.
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# Combating Unfair Trade Practices

In 2024, C&ED received 12 436 complaints related to unfair trade practices (6 024 on goods and 6 412 on services), including 2 809 complaints against a chain fitness and beauty group engaging in wrongly accepting payment. The remaining complaints mainly involved foodstuffs, ginseng and dried seafood/ pharmacy and Chinese medicines, beauty services, electronic products, education services, and toys and games, representing a decrease of 34% over 2023. C&ED has processed 11 601 complaints, of which 7 492 were combined into a total of 143 detailed investigation cases, mainly involving allegations of false trade descriptions, wrongly accepting payment and misleading omissions, while the remaining 4 109 were concluded or referred to other relevant LEAs or authorities for follow-up actions as they were not in contravention of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.

## Operations and Significant Cases

In 2024, C&ED continued to rigorously combat traders suspected of misleading visitors into making purchases by unfair trade practices. In addition to prioritising the handling of urgent complaints lodged by short-term visitors through the deployment of the Quick Response Team, C&ED also proactively conducted test-buy operations and detected six cases targeting Mainland visitors with the arrest of seven persons. All arrested persons were involved in misleading customers by omitting material information such as the genuine unit price and the total price of the goods, or by falsely claiming the prices of the goods. Furthermore, during the pandemic, a mask supplier supplied face masks with a false claim of origin to the Government Logistics Department. The supplier was convicted by the court and fined \$360,000 in January 2024.

The fine imposed in that case was the highest among the cases involving the supply of goods of false trade descriptions. Other significant cases included merchants making false claims on the weight or species of food products.

During the year, C&ED successfully prosecuted two cases involving medicine stores using unfair trade practices to sell Chinese herbal medicines or passing-off items. In one of the cases, a salesperson was sentenced to immediate imprisonment for four weeks and ordered to make a compensation of \$16,800 to the victim.



Customs officers arrested staff members of an unscrupulous medicine shop and seized the items involved during an enforcement operation.

In February 2024, a renovation company and its male director were convicted of applying a false trade description to renovation services, and were sentenced to imprisonment for eight months and fined \$3,000 respectively. The imprisonment sentence laid down by the court on the director was the highest penalty imposed on unfair trade practices cases relating to renovation services since the Trade Descriptions Ordinance was amended in July 2013.



A Customs officer briefed the media on the sentencing of a renovation company and its male director for violating the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.

In August 2024, a food retailer was convicted of having in possession of octopus sashimi for sale with a false trade description, and was fined \$24,000, and 42 items of goods involved in the case that valued at \$7,840 were confiscated.



Octopus sashimi seized in a false trade descriptions case.





● An interdepartmental dedicated investigation team briefed the media on the investigation into the sudden suspension of operation of a chain fitness and beauty group.

In September 2024, a chain fitness and beauty group suddenly announced the suspension of operation of all its branches, affecting a large number of consumers. C&ED received over 2 800 complaints involving a total contract value of approximately \$140 million. The HKSAR Government was highly concerned about the incident and promptly set up an interdepartmental dedicated investigation team to handle the related cases. C&ED also quickly launched investigations, arrested a male director and a female director suspected of wrongly accepting payment when selling fitness and beauty services, in contravention of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.

In October 2024, a food retailer was convicted of supplying and having in possession of a kind of duck liver for sale with a false trade description and was fined \$30,000. In November 2024, a meat and poultry products wholesaler of another similar case was also convicted of supplying a kind of duck liver with a false trade description, and was fined \$45,000. A seizure of 328 packs of duck liver involved in the case that valued at \$42,039 were confiscated.



Duck livers seized in a case of false trade descriptions. ●

In December 2024, a female director of a chain education centre was convicted of engaging in wrongly accepting payment when selling tutorial programmes and sentenced to 240 hours of community service order. The female director was also ordered by the court to make a compensation of about \$70,000 to the victims of the case.

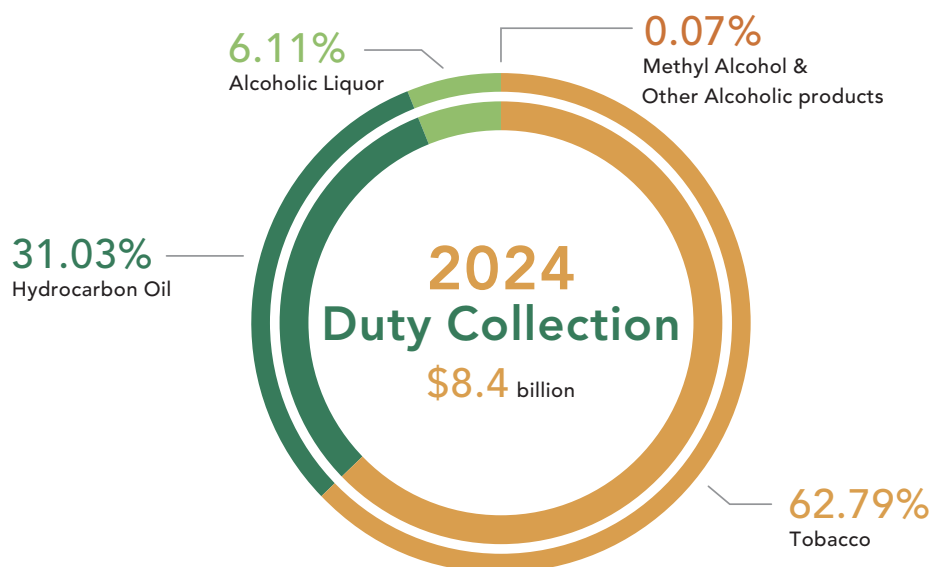
# Revenue Collection and Protection

## Dutiable Commodities

C&ED is responsible for the collection and protection of revenue on four types of dutiable goods, namely liquor, tobacco, hydrocarbon oil and methyl alcohol. Apart from duty assessment and collection, C&ED also administers a licensing and permit system to control the manufacture, import, export, storage and movement of dutiable commodities for the purpose of revenue protection.

## Revenue

In 2024, excise duties collected amounted to \$8.4 billion, representing a decrease of 21.01% when compared with 2023







Customs officers conducted compliance check at a public bonded warehouse.



A Customs officer inspected the cigarette manufacturing process of a cigarette manufacturer.

## Introduction of Duty Stamp System

C&ED proposed the introduction of a Duty Stamp System during the public consultation on tobacco control strategies by the Health Bureau in 2023, with a view to differentiating duty-paid cigarettes from duty-not-paid cigarettes. The Consultancy Study on Implementing a Duty Stamp System in Hong Kong was completed at the end of 2024 and recommended affixing a duty-paid label to every package of cigarettes. C&ED will conduct a pilot scheme to assess the feasibility and relevant technical issues of the Duty Stamp System.



## Reduction of Duty on Liquor

As announced in the Policy Address on 16 October 2024, a two-tier system for duty on liquor will be introduced to foster liquor trade. The duty rate for liquor with an import price of over \$200 will be reduced from 100% to 10% for the portion above \$200, while the duty rate for the portion of \$200 and below as well as liquor with an import price of \$200 or below will remain unchanged. After the revision of duty rate until the end of 2024, C&ED issued 881 liquor duty-paid permits, with almost half of the permits issued benefiting from the revised duty on liquor, involving the import of approximately 380 000 litres of liquor, saving a tax amount of \$127 million.

## Vehicle Valuation

Through a vehicle importer/distributor registration system, market research on vehicle prices, on-site vehicle inspections, robust enforcement and various compliance promotion activities, C&ED has continued to achieve results in safeguarding collection of first registration tax and protecting the rights of buyers. In 2024, the number of vehicles first registered was 55 662, and the first registration tax collected was \$5.2 billion, representing a decrease of 10.3% when compared with 2023.

In 2024, C&ED prosecuted eight vehicle dealers/persons for contravening the Motor Vehicles (First Registration Tax) Ordinance, involving 42 vehicles. In general, under the supervision of C&ED, illegal sales continued to be kept under control, and the number of illegal cases remained at a low level.

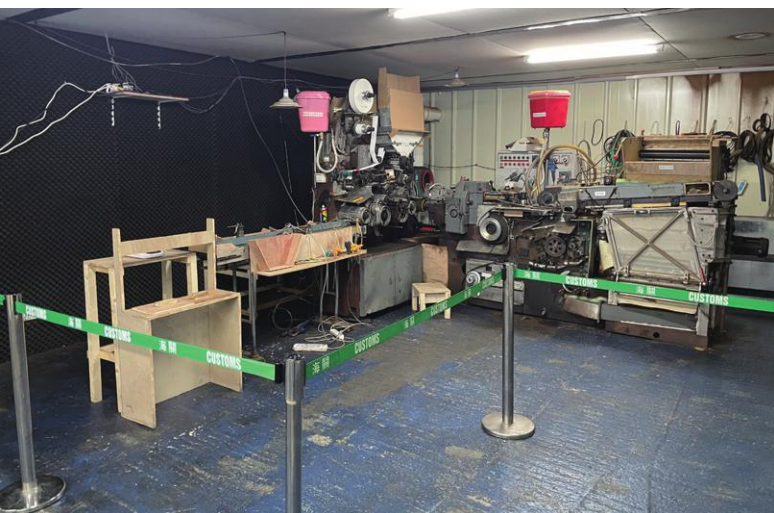
## Illicit Cigarettes

The illicit cigarette trade is a common concern of Customs administrations worldwide, and combating illicit cigarette activities remains a high-priority task for C&ED. Through an intelligence-based approach and risk assessment, the enforcement strategy of tackling at source adopted by C&ED has proven to be effective in successfully intercepting the inflow of illicit cigarettes into Hong Kong. It is observed that, while illicit cigarette syndicates have maintained their mode of large-scale smuggling via sea routes, they have also switched to the mode of “ant-moving-home” by using cross-boundary passengers, air parcels, fishing vessels, etc. to smuggle relatively small quantities of illicit cigarettes into Hong Kong in batches in an attempt to evade Customs detection. In addition to conducting risk-based inspections on arrival and departure passengers, luggage and transportation vehicles at various control points, C&ED also enhanced intelligence exchange and parallel operations with the Mainland and overseas Customs counterparts. This proves to be effective in suppressing illicit cigarette smuggling. In 2024, a total of 405 million sticks of illicit cigarettes were seized, the majority of which were found in seaborne containers.



Illicit cigarette syndicates used fishing vessels and seaborne containers to smuggle cigarettes.

In July 2024, C&ED detected the first-ever underground illicit cigarette factory case. A total of about 20.5 million sticks of illicit cigarettes were seized with a market value of around \$92.3 million and a duty potential of about \$67.8 million from a container yard in Man Kam To and a cigarette factory in Lau Fau Shan. A total of four men were arrested. C&ED discovered an illegal production line for manufacturing cigarettes there, including production and packaging machinery and substantial raw materials for manufacturing illicit cigarettes.



An underground illicit cigarette factory case.



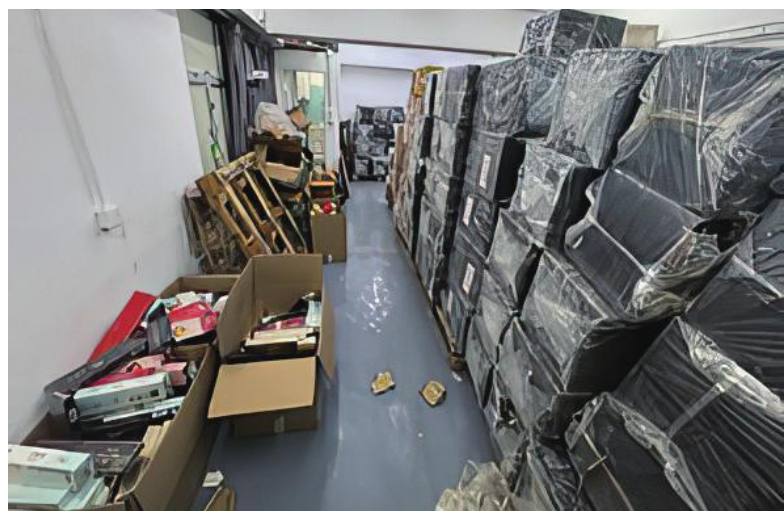


C&ED detected 21 283 illicit cigarette cases with seizures of 614 million sticks of cigarettes and the arrest of 20 587 persons in 2024. The total value of the seized illicit cigarettes amounted to \$2.723 billion and the duty potential was \$1.996 billion. As compared with the preceding year, the number of cases and arrests increased by 80% and 87% respectively. Among the seizures, about 555 million sticks were related to local illicit cigarette activities, representing a decrease of about 6% as compared with 2023. C&ED will continue to adopt a holistic enforcement strategy by intercepting smuggling in the upper stream, smashing storehouses in the middle, and tackling selling activities in the lower end, and flexibly deploy resources to combat illicit cigarette activities.

Illicit cigarettes seized in a residential flat and a subdivided unit in the urban area.







Illicit cigarettes seized in a metal hut in a remote area (left) and an industrial building unit (right).

Telephone ordering has taken over street peddling to become the predominant mode of retailing of illicit cigarettes. Dedicated task units were established to collect and analyse intelligence, and mount special operations to suppress these activities. In 2024, the dedicated task units successfully cracked down on 689 cases, involving a total seizure of 8.58 million sticks of illicit cigarettes and the arrest of 694 persons in 2024, demonstrating remarkable law enforcement result.



Vehicles for delivering illicit cigarettes ordered by telephone were intercepted.



## Illicit Fuel

Rigorous enforcement through increased checks on incoming vehicles and vessels has contained the problem of illicit fuel smuggling from the Mainland. In 2024, a total of five importation cases by sea were detected with 3 420 litres of illicit fuel seized.

Illicit fuel activities continue to diminish. For diesel oil, there have been fading trends of smuggling duty-not-paid light diesel oil from the Mainland for sale in the local black market and illegal use of marked/detreated oil as vehicular fuel, following the reduction of the duty rate of Euro V diesel to zero since 14 July 2008. For illicit motor spirit, the continuous and active enforcement actions over the years have achieved the deterrent effect, resulting in a noticeable decline of such activities. Currently, only small-scale illicit motor spirit stations are being operated in a sporadic manner in remote areas of the New Territories. In 2024, 15 cases were detected with 22 400 litres of illicit motor spirit seized



Illicit motor spirit and a private car seized from an illicit fuel station.

# Anti-Money Laundering



Customs officers briefed the media on the detection of a transnational trade-based money laundering case.



# (1) Organized and Serious Crimes

In 2024, C&ED detected eight money laundering cases and arrested 30 individuals under the OSCO, involving \$19 billion and representing an increase of 54% as compared with 2023. The cases involved various modus operandi including trade-based money laundering, money laundering through remittance agents or bank staff, etc.

## Operation “Daybreak”

In January 2024, C&ED detected the largest money laundering case on record, with a laundered amount of approximately \$14 billion, and successfully dismantled a large-scale money laundering syndicate. Investigation revealed that the syndicate had set up various shell companies purportedly exporting jewellery, diamonds and electronic products to overseas countries, including India, and received ill-gotten gains under the pretence of payments of goods. It was found that most of the funds came from the proceeds of mobile application scams in India. A total of eight individuals were arrested during the operation.



C&ED detected the largest money laundering case on record, involving \$14 billion, and seized a large quantity of suspected synthetic gemstones.

## Arrest of Endangered Species Smuggler for Money Laundering

In January 2024, C&ED detected a money laundering case stemming from the follow-up investigation of a sea smuggling case involving the seizure of over 230 kg of endangered coral. Suspicious transactions amounting to \$7.4 million were uncovered in the arrested smuggler's bank accounts without legitimate source of funds between 2021 and 2023. Subsequently, C&ED arrested the smuggler again for money laundering. This was the first money laundering case detected by C&ED, which involved the smuggling of endangered species after the inclusion of certain offences under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance in Schedule 1 to the OSCO as amended in August 2021.



C&ED arrested a person engaged in the smuggling of endangered species for money laundering.



## Operation “Spark II”

In October 2024, C&ED detected a money laundering case involving a money service operator (MSO) and a bank staff member. Investigation revealed that the compliance officer of a MSO had manipulated shell companies and opened a number of bank accounts to launder funds from unknown sources amounting to about \$1.6 billion. A bank staff member was also suspected of assisting the MSO personnel to evade the bank’s monitoring of customers’ transactions. Five local men were arrested for conspiracy to or aiding in money laundering during the operation.



C&ED detected a money laundering case involving a money service operator and a bank staff member with a laundered amount of \$1.6 billion.

## (2) Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing

To align Hong Kong's anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism regime with the prevailing international standards, the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Ordinance (AMLO) (Cap. 615) and its preceding ordinance came into operation on 1 April 2012.

### Dealers in Precious Metals and Stones Regulatory Regime

Under the AMLO (Cap. 615), the regulatory regime for dealers in precious metals and stones (DPMS) was administered by C&ED for supervision of their ongoing compliance with the anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing (AML/CTF) obligations as appropriate. As at 31 December 2024, there were 7 599 Category A and 724 Category B registrants. After the end of the transitional period for registration, C&ED stepped up law enforcement efforts. In 2024, C&ED detected a total of 12 cases involving dealers carrying out transactions with a total value of \$120,000 or above in Hong Kong without the necessary registration. C&ED also detected a total of 44 cases involving local or non-local dealers who violated other provisions of the AMLO during the year.

On the other hand, C&ED commenced compliance inspections on Category B registrants to ensure that they properly implement the customer due diligence, record keeping and other responsibilities stipulated in Schedule 2 to the AMLO and take reasonable measures to mitigate the risks of money laundering and terrorist financing.

### Liaison with the Industry, Training and Facilitation Measures

C&ED has proactively engaged with industry representatives to gain a comprehensive understanding of the overall industry landscape and to share the latest measures and responsibilities in combating AML/CTF with the industry. In 2024, while continuing to exchange views with the "DPMS Sector Advisory Group" on issues of common concern, C&ED also organised 11 public seminars and 19 workshops for Category B registrants.



DPMS Sector Advisory Group



To deepen the registrants' understanding of the regulatory regime, C&ED released a 33-minute animated video in mid-2024, which provides a detailed introduction to the statutory responsibilities of registrants and the related AML/CTF measures to further enhance their compliance awareness.



Animated video on statutory responsibilities of registrants

To facilitate face-to-face transactions for registrants at large-scale jewellery and watch exhibitions, C&ED proactively issued 2 868 temporary branch certificates for registrants' display in 2024 after checking the records provided by the organisers. C&ED also set up booths at seven international exhibitions for reaching out to over 4 000 local and 5 000 non-local dealers to promote the regulatory regime, and provide on-site counter services to assist non-Hong Kong dealers in submitting cash transaction reports during the exhibitions.



C&ED set up booths at large-scale international jewellery and watch exhibitions.

## Supervision of Money Service Operators

Under the AMLO, the Commissioner of Customs and Excise is responsible for supervising MSOs. Through a licensing system and compliance enforcement, C&ED conducts ongoing monitoring of their compliance with customer due diligence and record-keeping requirements. Any non-compliance with statutory requirements may result in criminal and/or administrative sanctions. To enhance the alignment of Hong Kong's AML/CFT regime with prevailing international standards, C&ED is committed to combating unlicensed money service operations (UMSO) and other licence-related offences.

As at 31 December 2024, there were 599 licensees on the Register of MSOs. In 2024, 93 licensees were selected for compliance inspections through a risk-based approach. While over half of them achieved full compliance, C&ED took corresponding measures on those who failed to meet the requirements. On the other hand, the number of cases of UMSO decreased significantly compared with 2023, indicating that our enforcement efforts have become more effective. In 2024, C&ED prosecuted 13 cases of UMSO with a total fine of over \$144,000. In one of the cases, the owner and shop assistant were fined \$24,000 and \$12,000 respectively by the court. Apart from criminal prosecution, the Commissioner also imposed administrative actions on licensees who failed to comply with regulatory requirements. These included public reprimand, pecuniary penalty and remedial action orders. There were eight disciplinary sanction cases in 2024.



## Capacity Building and Public Education

Capacity building and outreach activities were regularly held for MSOs to give them a better understanding of the latest measures in AML/CFT/proliferation financing (PF) and to enhance their ability to comply with regulatory requirements. In 2024, 11 sessions of seminars and workshops were organised. Thematic studies were also incorporated into the territory-wide outreach programme for grasping the industry's landscape while carrying out risk assessment of individual MSOs and the industry as a whole.

To safeguard the rights of imported workers, C&ED participated in 66 briefing sessions on employees' rights and benefits. Through these briefings and various public education lectures, C&ED provided imported workers with information about safe and legitimate remittance channels and raised their awareness of AML.



Briefing on employees' rights and benefits was organised for imported workers of the construction industry.



Seminars were organised for enhancing MSOs' capabilities.



Promotional poster for the Cross-boundary Movement of Physical Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments Ordinance

### (3) Cross-boundary Movement of Physical Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments Ordinance

The Ordinance came into operation on 16 July 2018. A declaration and disclosure system was established to detect the cross-boundary movement of a large quantity of physical currency and bearer negotiable instruments (CBNIs) into or out of Hong Kong. C&ED monitors the cross-boundary transportation of CBNIs through the system to combat money laundering and terrorist financing activities.

A total of 21 362 declarations involving \$1,456.1 billion of CBNIs were received in 2024. As regards the traveller channel, 108 cases of violations of declaration or disclosure requirements were detected. Among these cases, 107 travellers made a fixed penalty payment of \$2,000 to discharge their legal liability while the remaining one was prosecuted and fined \$5,000 by the court. No case was detected in the cargo channel.

## No. of CBNIs Declarations and Total Declared Value

### Traveller Channel



No. of Declarations

12 179

Total Declared Value of CBNIs

\$211.6 billion

### Cargo Channel



No. of Declarations

9 183

Total Declared Value of CBNIs

\$1,244.5 billion



## First Successful Conviction of Money Laundering Case through Cash Smuggling in Air Parcels

In July 2024, two non-local men were convicted of laundering \$18 million of illicit funds by repeatedly importing a large quantity of undeclared cash through air parcels into Hong Kong since December 2022. The duo were sentenced to 28 and 30 months' imprisonment respectively at the District Court. This marked the first successful conviction of money laundering case through cash smuggling, resulting in custodial sentence since the implementation of the Cross-boundary Movement of Physical Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments Ordinance in 2018.



A Customs officer briefed the media on the conviction of a money laundering case by cash smuggling through air parcels.



C&ED intercepted an air parcel concealed with a large quantity of undeclared cash.

# Criminal Prosecution

C&ED takes criminal prosecution seriously with the aim of bringing offenders to justice. Successful prosecution is not only an encouraging finale to frontline operations and investigations, but also a strong deterrent to criminal activities. In 2024, the number of prosecution cases was 2 068, of which 224 (10.8%) were related to the Import and Export Ordinance, 1 332 (64.4%) related to the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance, 228 (11.0%) related to the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, 231 (11.2%) related to the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance and 32 (1.5%) related to the Copyright Ordinance. A total of 2 131 persons and 147 companies were prosecuted, resulting in a total fine of \$11.4 million and the imposition of imprisonment in 358 cases.

## Prosecution Summary

In 2024, a total of 1 913 persons and 147 companies were convicted in prosecution cases brought by C&ED. Details of the prosecution figures are set out in Appendices 13 to 15.



**1 913** persons  
were convicted



**147** companies  
were convicted

## Significant Sentences

In February 2024, a person was convicted after a trial in the District Court of the offences of “conspiracy to import specimens of Appendix I endangered species” and “conspiracy to possess or control of specimens of Appendix I endangered species” (i.e. 320 kg and 120 kg of pangolin scales respectively), in contravention of the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, Chapter 586, Laws of Hong Kong. The person was sentenced to imprisonment of 42 months and 36 months respectively, with 30 months to be run concurrently, resulting in a total of four years’ imprisonment.

This is the heaviest sentence imposed among endangered species cases detected by C&ED since the ordinance was revised in May 2018 to increase the maximum penalties.

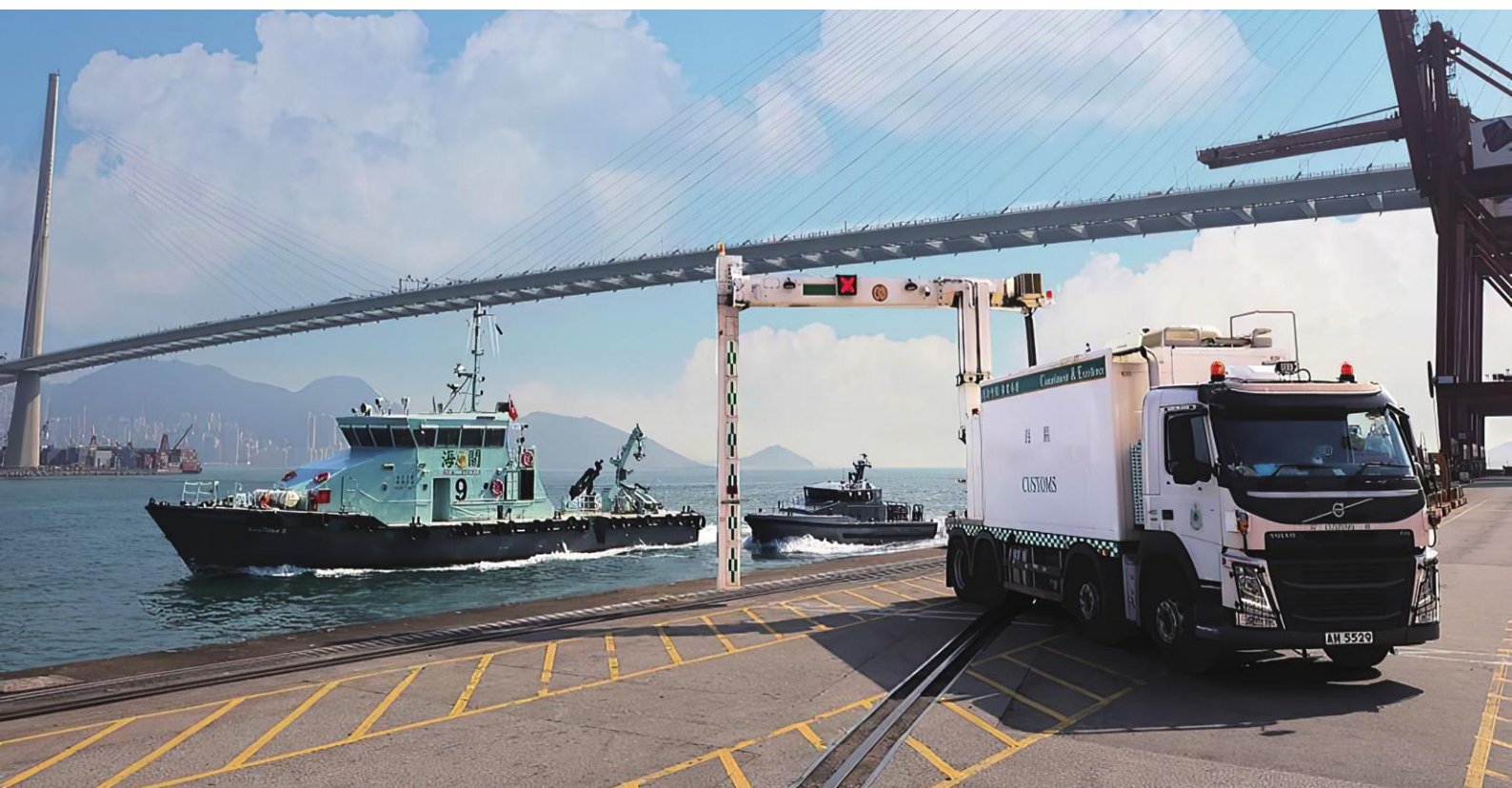
In October 2024, a person was convicted after a trial in the High Court of “trafficking a dangerous drug” (i.e. 8.9 kg of methamphetamine hydrochloride) in contravention of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, Chapter 134, Laws of Hong Kong. The person was sentenced to 28 years and 9 months’ imprisonment. This is the heaviest sentence imposed among Customs cases concluded in court during the year.



## 04

# Effective Clearance

**C&ED** has been playing the role of “gatekeeper” to safeguard national security and protect the overall interests of Hong Kong. The Department is committed to implementing effective import and export control at various sea, land and air control points to intercept contraband and controlled items illegally entering or exiting Hong Kong and combat various cross-boundary illegal activities. The core functions performed by C&ED include narcotics interdiction, anti-smuggling, revenue protection, strategic trade controls and protection of intellectual property rights, with law enforcement efforts yielding significant results. C&ED is also dedicated to fulfilling its international obligations and ensuring the smooth movement of import and export goods while protecting Hong Kong from the threat of illegal activities, thereby contributing to Hong Kong’s security and prosperity.





Customs officers provide round the clock service in every part of Hong Kong to prevent illegal items from entering or exiting Hong Kong.



## Upholding Mission with Effective Customs Control

While formulating Customs clearance procedures based on the principles of simplicity, clarity and efficiency, C&ED continues to timely adjust its enforcement strategies to provide fast and reliable passenger and cargo clearance services. In 2024, the numbers of inbound and outbound passengers and vehicle trips at various control points were about 300 million and 14.9 million respectively. Customs officers strive to intercept contraband and controlled items illegally entering or exiting Hong Kong at boundary control points, and shoulder the important responsibility of being “the facilitator of economic development” of the country and Hong Kong, promoting the smooth flow of goods and benefiting the public and businesses.



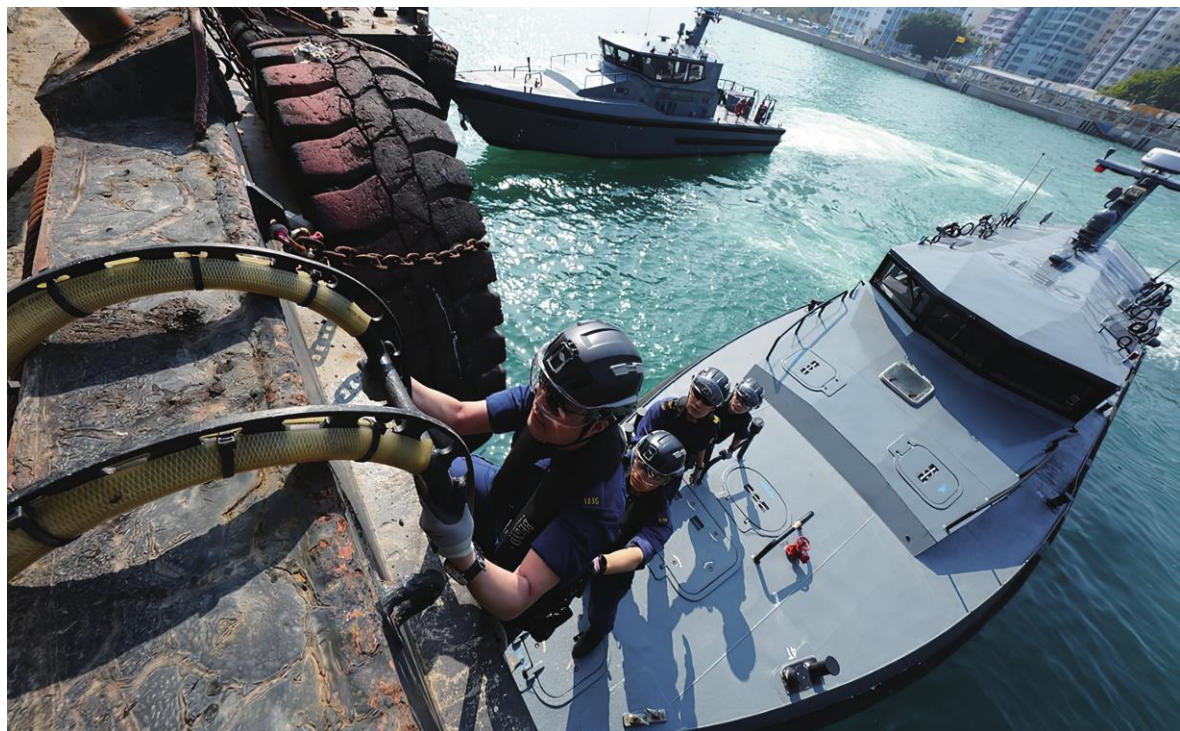
Customs officers performed their duties at the Hong Kong International Airport.



Customs officers conducted aircraft and luggage inspection at the Hong Kong International Airport to combat smuggling and illegal activities.



Officers of the Marine Enforcement Group conducted maritime patrol to combat smuggling activities within Hong Kong Waters.



Customs officers boarded a cargo vessel to perform Customs clearance duties.





Customs officers conducted passenger clearance at the Arrival Hall of Lo Wu Control Point.

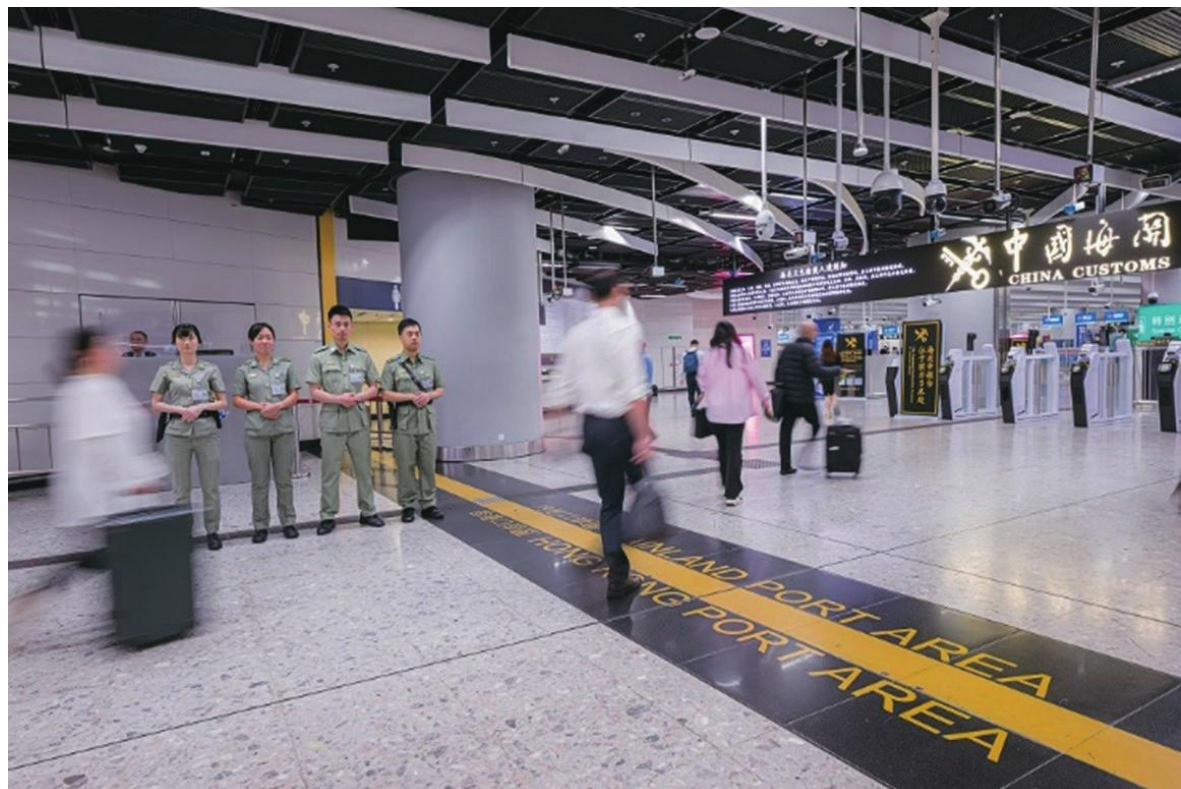


Customs officers conducted passenger clearance and inspected the luggage of a passenger.





Customs officers performed duty assessment on the dutiable commodities brought by an incoming passenger.



Customs clearance service has been performed at the West Kowloon Station under the co-location arrangement, which operates smoothly and facilitates more passengers.





To meet the logistics demand of cross-boundary e-commerce, Customs officers conducted Customs clearance at a cargo terminal of the Hong Kong International Airport through proactive and innovative Customs clearance models. This aligns with the National 14th Five-Year Plan and upholds Hong Kong's position as an international trade and logistics centre.



Customs officers conducted Customs clearance at a cargo terminal of the Hong Kong International Airport to inspect suspicious goods and deter smuggling activities.



## Optimising Customs Clearance Service for Greater Convenience



In the light of the New Year's Eve countdown fireworks display, the passenger clearance service at Lo Wu Control Point was extended to 2 am on New Year's Day. The Secretary for Security, Mr. TANG Ping-keung, and the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr. CHAN Tsz-tat, inspected the operation of Lo Wu Control Point in the early hours of 1 January.

The "Northbound Travel for Hong Kong Vehicles" Scheme facilitates the self-driving of Hong Kong residents to Guangdong via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) for business, visiting families or sightseeing on a short-term basis, which makes more effective use of the HZMB.





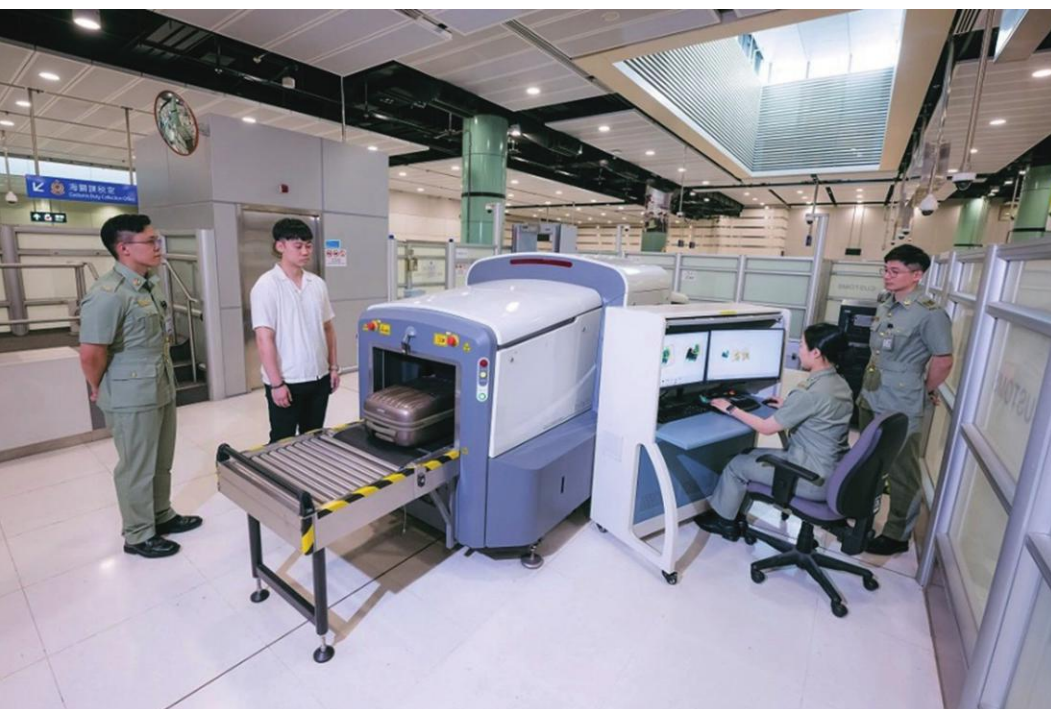


The reprovision of Chung Ying Street Checkpoint in Sha Tau Kok was completed on 23 December 2024, providing better clearance facilities for people living or working on Chung Ying Street.

## Navigating the Way through Smart and Innovative Technologies

Based on the Smart Customs Blueprint, C&ED has fully leveraged artificial intelligence and innovative technologies to detect contraband with the aim of enhancing frontline Customs clearance efficiency and law enforcement capabilities, and strengthening the capabilities to detect and crack down on smuggling activities and other crimes.

Customs officers used the first dual-mode (transmission and backscatter) Mobile X-ray Vehicle Scanning System of C&ED to scan the containerised cargo at the Kwai Tsing Container Terminals.

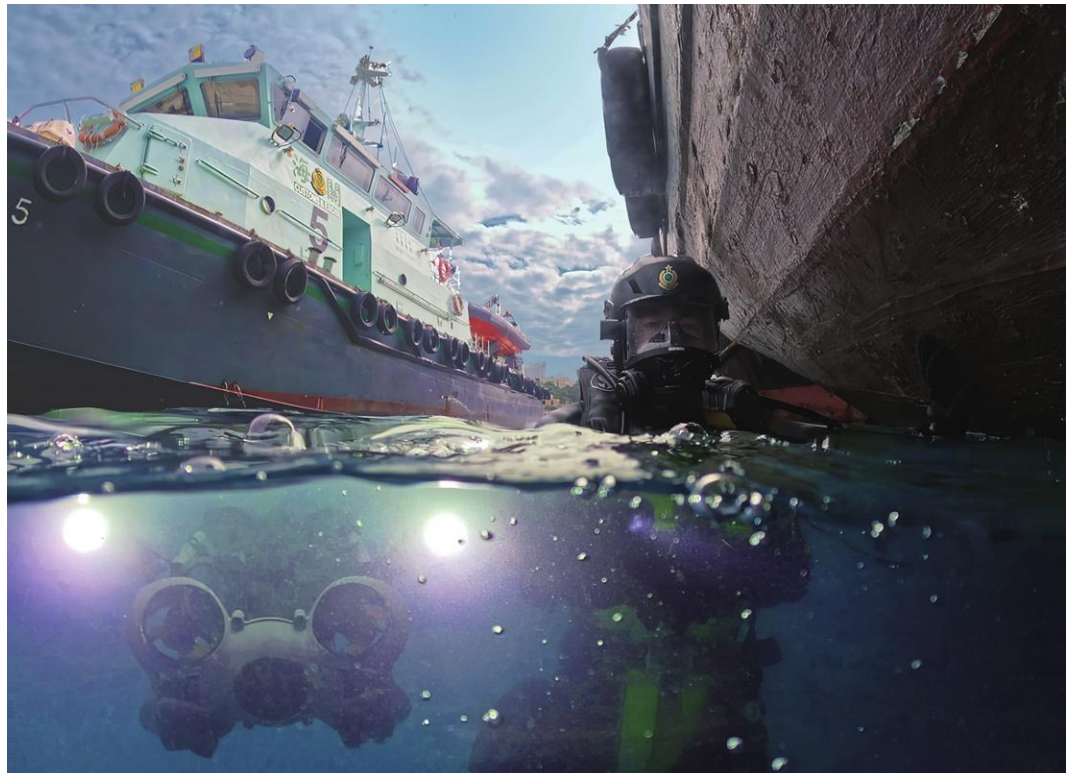


To enhance inspection efficiency, Customs officers utilised the Computed Tomography Scanner to detect contraband in a comprehensive manner.





Customs officers utilised a “Smart Under Vehicle Robot” equipped with artificial intelligence for high-definition image comparisons to detect contraband concealed beneath the vehicle.



A Customs diver conducted underwater search with an underwater robot to detect smuggled goods.



A Customs officer effectively identified a closed area permit holder at Chung Ying Street Checkpoint with the facial recognition technology.



To prevent the relevant contraband from entering Hong Kong, a Customs officer utilised the Handheld Raman Spectrometer to effectively and quickly detect etomidate infused capsules and etomidate powder that can be used to produce etomidate infused capsules.



## Inter-departmental Collaboration on Cross-boundary Security

C&ED has maintained close liaison with other law enforcement agencies to enhance collaborative efforts in ensuring the smooth implementation of various policies.



During the Spring Festival, a Customs officer, together with an officer of the Centre for Food Safety, distributed promotional leaflets at the control point to remind members of the public not to illegally import regulated food items into Hong Kong.



In collaboration with the Environmental Protection Department, Customs officers cracked down on the illegal import and transhipment of electronic waste.

## Diversified Sniffing Capabilities of Customs Detector Dogs

With their diversified sniffing capabilities, Customs Detector Dogs are able to detect five kinds of controlled items, namely drugs, explosives, cash, firearms and tobacco. Customs Detector Dog Teams are deployed to the airport, container terminals, various land boundary control points, rail stations and ferry terminals, providing support to frontline Customs officers by performing their sniffing duties to interdict contraband.



Customs Detector Dog Teams are deployed to various boundary control points to support the operations of frontline officers by performing their sniffing duties to interdict contraband.



There are five types of Customs Detector Dogs, namely Drug Detector Dogs, Explosive Detector Dogs, Cash Detector Dogs, Firearm Detector Dogs and Tobacco Detector Dogs.



## 05

# Consumer Protection

**C&ED** protects consumer interests through the enforcement of the Weights and Measures Ordinance, the Toys and Children's Products Safety Ordinance, the Consumer Goods Safety Ordinance, and the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.



## (1) Weights and Measures Ordinance

To eradicate the sale of short-weighted items to consumers in a dishonest way, C&ED conducted 1 700 spot checks and 364 investigations in 2024 to detect and deter the use of inaccurate weighing and measuring equipment in trade and the supply of goods which were short of the purported weights. Retailers which involve relatively more complaints about short weight of goods continued to be the targets of C&ED's enforcement actions. In 2024, warning letters were issued in 39 cases for contravention of the Weights and Measures Ordinance.

## (2&3) Toys and Children's Products Safety Ordinance and Consumer Goods Safety Ordinance

C&ED conducts spot checks and investigations of toys, children's products and consumer goods available in the market to ensure that they are reasonably safe and affixed with bilingual warning labels. In 2024, 3 670 spot checks and 257 investigations were conducted and 7 prosecution cases were concluded. Besides, C&ED issued 23 prohibition notices prohibiting the supply of unsafe products, such as babywear, children's loft beds, power banks, whitening cream, bubble blowers, Christmas squeeze toys, light clay toys, racket projectile toys, soother holders and board book toys.

In order to step up enforcement actions, C&ED also conducted 12 blitz checks against the import of unsafe toys, children's products and consumer goods at boundary control points in 2024.



A Customs officer distributed informational leaflets in a retail shop to enhance traders' awareness of toys and children's products safety.



## (4) Trade Descriptions Ordinance

The Trade Descriptions (Unfair Trade Practices) (Amendment) Ordinance 2012 (the Amendment Ordinance) came into operation on 19 July 2013. To protect the interests of consumers and honest traders, C&ED has taken stringent enforcement actions against unscrupulous traders employing unfair practices.

### Special Patrol Operations

C&ED proactively carried out 4 055 spot checks on retail stores and stalls at trade fairs/exhibitions. C&ED has established Quick Response Teams to handle urgent complaints lodged by short-term visitors and local consumers. During the year, Quick Response Teams were summoned on 208 occasions to handle urgent complaints.



Customs officers conducted patrols against gold and jewelry shops at major tourist spots during the Golden Week holiday to remind traders to comply with the requirements of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.



Promotional and educational booklet on the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.

Customs officers conducted patrols at premises such as restaurants and market stalls selling hairy crabs to remind traders to comply with the requirements of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.



## 香港海關

消費有保障

買得更放心

《商品說明條例》禁止不良營商手法，包括虛假商品說明及誤導性遺漏的營業行為。

時令嘗鮮大閘蟹

貨比三家先好買



重量單位對照

	十進制	中國制	英制
1公斤 =	1,000克	1斤10兩	2磅3安士
1斤 =	600克	16兩	1磅5安士
1磅 =	450克	12兩	16安士



舉報違反《商品說明條例》罪行  
請致電海關 24 小時舉報熱線 2545 6182  
或電郵 [crimereport@customs.gov.hk](mailto:crimereport@customs.gov.hk)

Promotional and educational leaflet on the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.



## Publicity and Education

Apart from taking necessary and timely enforcement actions, C&ED has strived to carry out promotion and education programmes to enhance consumers' understanding of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TDO). In 2024, C&ED hosted a number of public education sessions in Tai Po, Ma On Shan, Tsuen Wan and Kennedy Town to raise public understanding of consumer interests and the TDO, and alert people to consumer pitfalls.

In 2024, C&ED held a total of 37 outreach talks, seminars and meetings for various industries with the aim of enhancing practitioners' understanding of the TDO, reminding them of the importance of complying with the TDO, and urging the management to adopt appropriate measures to avoid unscrupulous trade practices. Besides, C&ED has also proactively carried out publicity and education programmes for the elderly in various districts, enabling them to understand the common unfair trade practices against senior citizens and share with them tips on smart consumption.



C&ED held seminars at elderly centres to let senior citizens understand the common unfair trade practices against them and share with them tips on smart consumption.



To further enhance visitors' understanding of the TDO, C&ED posted smart shopping tips and publicity videos on social media, such as the Department's official Xiaohongshu, Douyin, WeChat and Facebook accounts, to unveil the common unfair trade practices.

During the Labour Day Golden Week and the National Day Golden Week, C&ED utilised mobile promotion vehicles and booths to disseminate smart shopping tips to visitors and local residents. Relevant publicity videos were broadcast on cross-boundary buses and at bus stops, while relevant leaflets were uploaded to the social media platforms of travel agencies, which helped visitors deepen the understanding of their consumer rights in advance. In addition, C&ED collaborated with the Travel Industry Authority to promote compliance among traders at popular tourist spots during peak seasons, reminding them to comply with the requirements of the TDO.



Promotional and educational booklets on the Trade Descriptions Ordinance were distributed to inbound visitors at various control points during the Golden Week holiday.



C&ED deployed a mobile promotion vehicle to distribute leaflets at popular shopping spots in various districts and set up a mobile promotion booth to remind local residents and inbound visitors of the common unfair trade practices.



Customs officers conducted high-profile patrols at popular shopping spots in various districts across the territory to remind traders to comply with the requirements of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.





Customs officers conducted compliance promotion to traders in various districts with the Travel Industry Authority, reminding them to comply with the requirements of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.

● **精明消费小锦囊** ●

斤两钱单位  
问清才付帐

心动勿衝动  
不买要坚持

零容忍者

单凭口说  
不足为据

冒险买平货  
谨慎不出错

**遇上不良营商 立即举报**

香港海关 快速行动队

**182 8080**

消费权益

举报途径



Promotional leaflets on the Trade Descriptions Ordinance.



## 06

## Trade Controls

• **C&ED** actively implements the certification and licensing systems to safeguard Hong Kong's trading integrity. The effective enforcement of various trade controls systems and regimes by C&ED not only secures compliance with international obligations and multilateral trade agreements, but also facilitates trade and economic development.





# Upholding Hong Kong's Trading Integrity

Given the importance of trade and industry to the economy of Hong Kong, C&ED enforces various trade controls systems, including the Certification of Origin System, the Strategic Trade Controls System, the Import and Export Declaration System and the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, to discharge its international obligations and comply with multilateral trade agreements. While protecting the legitimate interests of traders and manufacturers through enforcement actions, C&ED also helps mediate disputes between overseas traders and local suppliers to uphold Hong Kong's trading integrity.

## Certification of Origin System

Hong Kong maintains a comprehensive Certification of Origin System to establish the origin of goods produced in Hong Kong. In 2024, C&ED conducted 902 factory inspections to uphold the credibility and integrity of the system.



conducted

**902** factory inspections



Made in Hong Kong

## Strategic Trade Controls System

C&ED is the sole enforcement agency for strategic trade controls. The comprehensive and stringent control over the import and export of strategic commodities prevents Hong Kong from being used as a conduit for the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, while ensuring the free flow of advanced technology for legitimate commercial, industrial and research use.



Customs officers inspected shipments of strategic commodities at an air express hub.



In 2024, C&ED conducted 1 615 import licence checks, 2 317 export licence checks and 605 disposal checks on strategic commodities. C&ED also mounted several rounds of special operations and stepped up enforcement by conducting blitz checks against unlicensed shipments of strategic commodities destined for sanctioned countries and other areas. As a result, three cases were detected with a total of 12 pieces of strategic commodities intercepted. During the year, C&ED investigated 363 cases and prosecuted 37 persons/companies, leading to a total fine of \$230,000 and the forfeiture of goods with an aggregate value of \$400,000. The total value of the goods involved in the prosecution cases was \$14.1 million.



Customs officers inspected shipments of strategic commodities at an entry and exit point.

**1 615**  
import

Number of checks conducted on import and export licences concerning strategic commodities

**2 317**  
export



Number of investigations on strategic commodities

**363**



Amount of fine imposed by courts

**\$230,000**



Value of goods forfeited

**\$400,000**



Value of goods involved in the prosecution cases

**\$14.1 million**

# Import and Export Declarations and Cargo Manifests

C&ED administers the Import and Export Declaration and Cargo Manifests System. C&ED conducts checks to ensure that accurate, full and complete cargo manifests, and import and export/re-export declarations are submitted within the statutory time frame. Late lodgment of cargo manifests/declarations or lodgment of inaccurate cargo manifests/declarations is liable to prosecution and penalties.

C&ED received 19.14 million declarations and collected \$402 million import and export declaration charges/clothing industry training levies/late penalties in 2024. The total amount of late/administrative penalties imposed and short-paid declaration charges/clothing industry training levies recovered was \$6.6 million. In addition, C&ED received approximately 5.41 million cargo manifests in respect of different modes of transport, including air, ocean and road.



Number of import and export/re-export declarations submitted

**19.14 million**



Total amount of import and export declaration charges/clothing industry training levies/late penalties collected

**\$402 million**



## Educational Seminars

In order to reduce the number of late and non-lodgment cases, C&ED regularly conducts educational seminars to remind traders and carriers/forwarders of their obligations and to enhance their knowledge of timely lodgment of accurate trade declarations and cargo manifests. C&ED organised eight educational seminars for 129 traders and carriers/forwarders in 2024. Furthermore, C&ED will continue to collaborate closely with the Census and Statistics Department with a view to raising the awareness of timely lodgment of cargo manifests and import/export declarations.



A Customs officer delivered an educational seminar to traders and carriers/forwarders.

# Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement – Trade in Goods

Since the implementation of the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) on 1 January 2004, all products of Hong Kong that fulfil the mutually agreed CEPA Rules of Origin enjoy zero tariff treatment upon importation into the Mainland if they are covered by a Certificate of Hong Kong Origin (CEPA) (CO(CEPA)). In 2024, a total of 10 366 applications for CO(CEPA) were received. Of these applications, 10 225 CO(CEPA)s with a total value of \$8.3 billion were issued. These applications covered a wide range of products, with food and beverage, plastics and plastic articles, textiles and clothing, pharmaceutical products, and chemical products comprising the top five in terms of value. Charged with the enforcement duties of the CEPA Certification System, C&ED conducted consignment checks against 801 applications for CO(CEPA) and examined 35 CEPA consignments at various cargo exit points in 2024.



**Production of Cookies  
– Cutting and Forming**

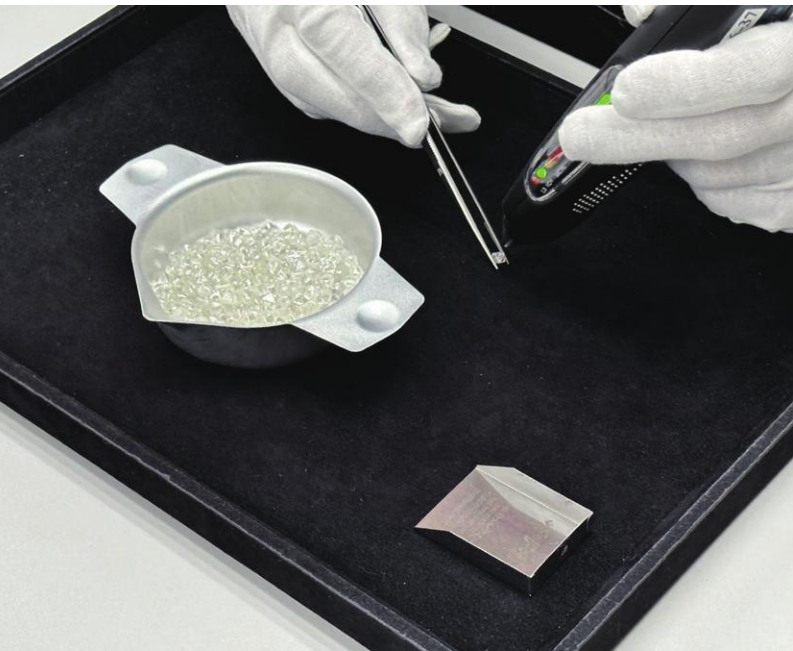
A Customs officer observed the cookie production processes (cutting and forming) for ascertaining the compliance of registration conditions and CEPA origin rules.

**Production of Coffee Capsules  
– Filling and Sealing**



A Customs officer observed the coffee capsule production processes (filling and sealing) for ascertaining the compliance of registration conditions and CEPA origin rules.





A Customs officer used a tester to authenticate the rough diamonds.

## Kimberley Process Certification Scheme

The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for rough diamonds requires registration of rough diamond traders and comprises a certification system for the import and export of rough diamonds. C&ED conducted 212 consignment inspections and two investigations on rough diamonds in 2024.

## Reserved Commodities Control

Through the enforcement of the Reserved Commodities Ordinance, C&ED monitors the import and export of rice to ensure a stable supply of rice in Hong Kong. C&ED conducted 4 117 inspections, investigated 20 cases, and prosecuted three persons/companies for importing rice without a valid import licence/taking or giving delivery of reserved commodities without the written authority of the Commissioner, resulting in a total fine of \$13,000 in 2024. The total value of the rice involved in these cases was approximately \$669,479.



A Customs officer conducted a rice retail price survey at a local retail shop.

## Mainland Cereals and Grain Flours Control

Since 2008, the Mainland has implemented export administrative measures for cereals and grain flours, requiring that their exports are for consumption in Hong Kong only. To complement the measures, C&ED conducted 144 inspections/verifications in 2024.



## Trade Mediation

To protect Hong Kong's trading reputation, C&ED provides free mediation service to settle trade disputes between overseas trading firms and local companies. In 2024, C&ED successfully settled six of the ten cases it mediated.



## 07

# Trade Facilitation



**C&ED** is committed to securing a favourable environment for doing business in Hong Kong and has kept a close view of new opportunities arising from regional and global developments. In particular, it plays an important role in facilitating trade and putting in place various clearance facilitation measures, with a view to further strengthening Hong Kong's status as an international trade centre and a major logistics hub in the Asia-Pacific region, which is conducive to the long-term economic development of Hong Kong.

# Intermodal Transshipment Facilitation Scheme and Single E-lock Scheme

C&ED launched the Intermodal Transshipment Facilitation Scheme (ITFS) in November 2010. Under the scheme, transshipment cargoes will normally be examined only once at either the point of entry or exit.

To further facilitate the transshipment of cargoes to and from the Mainland, C&ED and the Mainland Customs joined hands to launch the Single E-lock Scheme (SELS) in March 2016 by connecting ITFS with the Mainland Customs' Speedy Customs Clearance with one single e-lock. The two Customs administrations monitor the cargoes based on the principle of "across the boundary with one single e-lock under separate monitoring". The green light on the e-lock is used to indicate the inspection result for the other party's reference. It thus reduces any duplicate inspection of the same shipment by both Customs administrations, saving time and cost for the industry.

Following its extension to Hunan Province in June 2023, SELS was further extended to Macao and Fujian Province in March and July 2024 respectively, covering 93 clearance points and providing the industry with over 1 000 cross-boundary route options. To further promote SELS, C&ED has actively reached out to the logistics industry and trade associations through briefing sessions and seminars which introduced the latest development of SELS to the industry.



The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Three-Places-One-Lock Scheme was officially launched on 8 March 2024, with the first transshipment truck departing from Hong Kong to the Macao clearance point.



# Free Trade Agreement Transhipment Facilitation Scheme

C&ED launched the Free Trade Agreement Transhipment Facilitation Scheme (FTA Scheme) on 20 December 2015. Through the provision of Customs supervision service and issuance of Certificates of Non-manipulation, the FTA Scheme facilitates the application for preferential tariff treatment under trade agreements signed between the Mainland and its trading partners for cargoes passing through Hong Kong.

In 2024, the FTA Scheme was further extended to cover transhipment cargoes from the Mainland to Singapore, Vietnam, Nicaragua and Myanmar via Hong Kong, as well as transhipment cargoes from Ecuador, Serbia and Honduras to the Mainland via Hong Kong.

As at the end of December 2024, the FTA Scheme covered 22 trade agreements and involved 70 countries/regions, of which 63 are Belt and Road economies.



Customs officers promoted the FTA Scheme at the Belt and Road Summit jointly hosted by the HKSAR Government and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.





A Customs officer promoted the FTA Scheme at a lighting fair hosted by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.



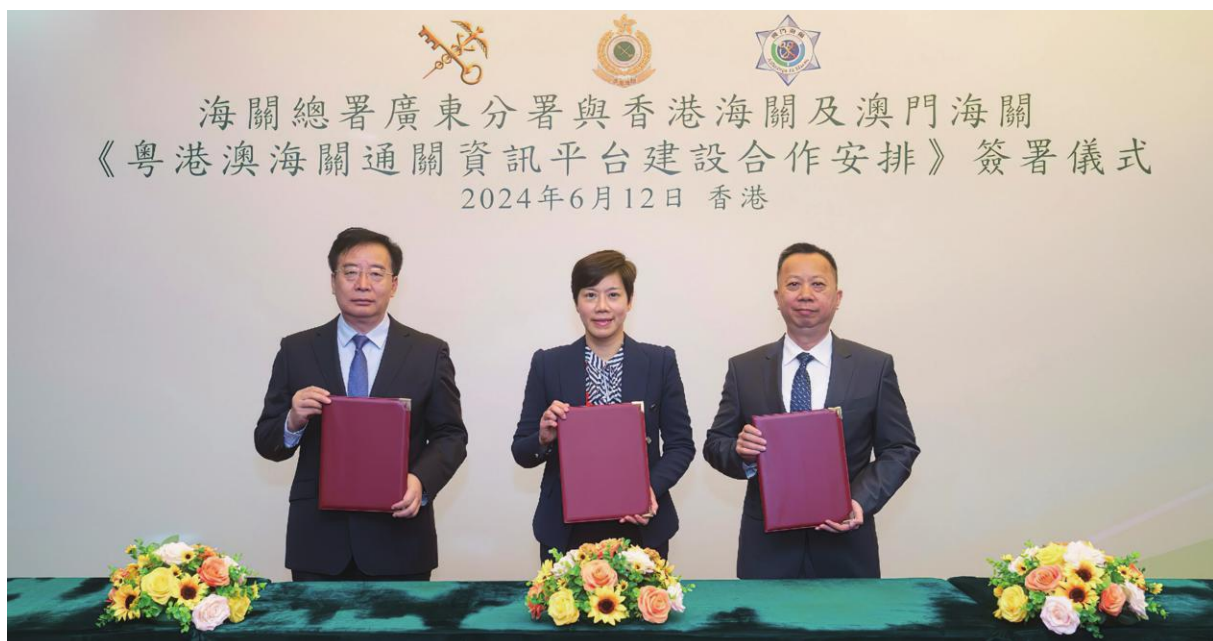
A Customs officer promoted the FTA Scheme at an electronics fair hosted by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.



## Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Customs Clearance Information Platform

On 12 June 2024, the three Customs administrations of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao jointly signed the “Co-operative Arrangement on the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Customs Clearance Information Platform” in Hong Kong, officially commencing the work of setting up the information platform. The information platform provides a one-stop enquiry service for passengers and the transport industry in the three places through an Internet site and a mobile application, allowing them to obtain real-time clearance information of the three Customs administrations.

The first phase of the information platform, which was rolled out for trial upon completion of its setting up at the end of 2024, covers ports information, clearance guidelines, administrative regulations and trade facilitation measures. Other functions like mobile application, real-time clearance situations at selected ports and AI chatbot will be available in the second phase tentatively scheduled for 2025. Upon official launch of the information platform, the three Customs administrations will continue to optimise its functions and expand its scope of services to promote the interconnectivity within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA).



The three Customs administrations of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao jointly signed the “Co-operative Arrangement on the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Customs Clearance Information Platform”

## Alternative Smoking Product Transhipment Control Scheme

The Import and Export (Amendment) Ordinance 2023 (“the Ordinance”) which provides exemption for specified intermodal transhipment of alternative smoking products (ASPs) was gazetted and came into effect on 30 June 2023. C&ED launched the Alternative Smoking Product Transhipment Control Scheme (ATCS). As at 31 December 2024, 33 operators including one for sea-to-air and 32 for land-to-air transhipment were registered as eligible operators under ATCS. A total of 5 070 ASP consignments (12 257 tonnes), involving 3 721 (8 494 tonnes) by sea-to-air and 1 349 (3 763 tonnes) by land-to-air mode, have been transhipped under ATCS, destined for overseas markets through the Hong Kong International Airport during the year.

# Hong Kong Authorized Economic Operator Programme

To safeguard the international supply chain and facilitate global trade, C&ED launched the Hong Kong Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Programme in 2012. The Programme allows local companies satisfying prescribed security requirements to be accredited as trusted partners, whose cargoes are eligible for reduced inspections and priority clearance at entry and exit points. Up to 2024, a total of 89 local companies were accredited as AEOs.

C&ED held the Hong Kong Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Certificate Presentation Ceremony on 29 November 2024 with the participation of around 150 guests. Apart from presenting accreditation certificates to accredited AEOs, C&ED also presented the Hong Kong AEO Partnership Awards in recognition of the outstanding performance of the awardees in promoting the programme.



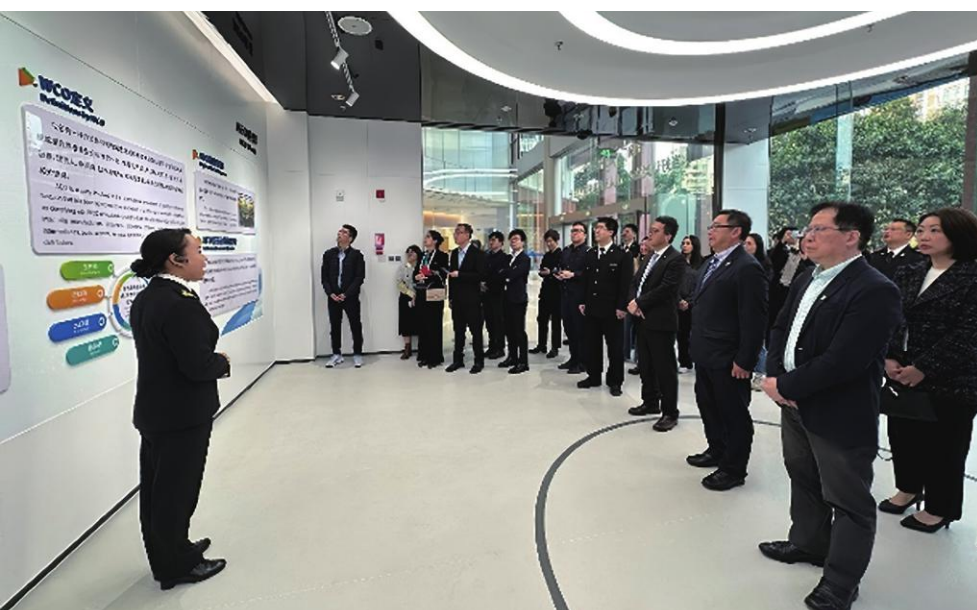
In addition, C&ED signed the AEO Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Action Plan with Lao Customs during the ceremony, marking a significant step towards the conclusion of the MRA between the two places.





# C&ED led the Hong Kong AEO Delegation to Shenzhen for Exchange Visit

With the support of the Mainland Customs, C&ED led a delegation of Customs officers and Hong Kong AEOs to visit the “China Customs AEO Training Base (Shenzhen)” on 18 December 2024. With the signing of the “Memorandum of Understanding on Enhancing AEO Co-operation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area” earlier between the two Customs administrations, the AEO co-operation within the GBA can be deepened. The activity allowed the Hong Kong AEO delegation to discuss and exchange with the officials of the Mainland Customs, thereby enhancing their direct understanding of the latest development and application requirement of the Mainland AEO Programme.



An official of the Mainland Customs introduced the accreditation standards of their AEO Programme to Hong Kong Customs officers and the Hong Kong AEO delegation at the “China Customs AEO Training Base (Shenzhen)”.

# Development of Trade Single Window

Trade Single Window (TSW) provides a one-stop electronic platform for trade members to lodge business-to-government import and export trade documents for trade declaration and cargo clearance. Implementation of TSW will improve document submission workflows, enhance the efficiency of cargo clearance in Hong Kong, and maintain Hong Kong's status as a prominent international trade centre and logistics hub. C&ED, being the TSW operator, established the Office of Trade Single Window Operation (OSWO) in 2018 to oversee the system operation and provide registration, training as well as helpdesk and hotline services to TSW users.

**1**

**Phase 1** Rolled out in 2018 with good response from the trade  
Covers the applications for 14 types of import/export licences and permits

**2**

**Phase 2** Rolled out in 2023 and is now in full service  
Covers the applications for another 28 types of import/export licences and permits

**3**

**Phase 3** Targets for roll-out in batches from 2026 onwards  
Covers Import and Export Declaration, submissions of cargo information, and applications for the Certificate of Origin and Permit for Dutiable Commodities

TSW is implemented in three phases

## Phase 1 - Achieving Notable Results

TSW is implemented in three phases. Phase 1 services, covering 14 types of trade documents, were implemented in 2018 and well received by the trade. The average monthly usage rate reached 91% as at the end of December 2024. For some licences/permits, the usage rate has even reached 100%.

## Phase 2 - Increasing Steadily

Phase 2 services, covering another 28 types of trade documents, have been in full service since 2023. In addition to significantly expanding the coverage, Phase 2 services have also enhanced system functions to create a better user experience. The usage rate of Phase 2 has been increasing steadily since its implementation.

## Phase 3 - Developing Full Steam Ahead

C&ED is working closely with the Single Window Project Management Office of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and relevant participating government agencies on the development of the Phase 3 system, which is targeted to roll out in batches from 2026 onwards. Phase 3 is the final and most complex phase, which will cover Import and Export Declaration, Advance Cargo Information, Cargo Manifests and Cargo Reports in respect of different transport modes, and applications for Certificates of Origin and Permits for Dutiable Commodities. In addition, a new and highly automated cargo risk assessment engine will be built to assist C&ED to perform risk assessment of cargo data and conduct cargo selection and examination.



## Promotion and Publicity

To further promote and enhance the use of TSW services, OSWO has actively adopted multi-pronged promotional strategies on various fronts. OSWO has set up a dedicated outreach team for conducting company visits and providing on-site system registration services, exclusive technical support and system training for various trades to further enhance user experience. Additionally, OSWO has actively collaborated with different trade organisations and participating government agencies by co-organising thematic seminars and proactively participating in large-scale exhibitions of relevant trades, so as to reach out to a wider spectrum of trade members. Through a range of publicity and training activities, trade members can better understand the workflows and advantages of TSW, which facilitates their early registration and adoption of the system.



C&ED promoted TSW at a large-scale exhibition.



C&ED paid a company visit to the trade.

## Mainland-Hong Kong "Single Submission for Dual Declaration" Scheme on Cargo

To keep pace with the rapid development of the e-commerce industry, C&ED has been enhancing its electronic platforms to handle the ever-increasing Customs clearance work. The successful launch of the Guangdong-Hong Kong "Single Submission for Dual Declaration" Scheme on cargo allowed traders to enjoy the benefits of data sharing between the Mainland and Hong Kong. In order to further extend the scheme to cover all land boundary control points connecting the Mainland and Hong Kong, the two Customs administrations officially launched the Mainland-Hong Kong "Single Submission for Dual Declaration" Scheme on cargo on 29 November 2024. It enables more enterprises to benefit from the completion of Customs declarations for both the Mainland and Hong Kong sides by making a single submission of road cargo information. Currently, the scheme applies to cargo imported from the Mainland to Hong Kong through all land boundary control points. C&ED will continue to work closely with the General Administration of Customs to extend the coverage of the scheme to cargo exported from Hong Kong to the Mainland, thereby providing comprehensive coverage of road cargo clearance between the two places.





# 08

## Co-operation with Mainland/ International Counterparts



## Mainland Customs

C&ED has all along been forging stronger ties with the Mainland Customs and achieved fruitful outcomes in various aspects of co-operation. Regular review meetings and liaison meetings are convened with the General Administration of Customs (GACC) and the Guangdong Sub-Administration of the General Administration of Customs (GSAC) to review and explore ways to further enhance co-operation. In 2000, C&ED entered into a Customs Co-operative Arrangement (CCA) with the GACC to actively expand and deepen collaboration, with a view to further strengthening mutual co-operation in the areas of passenger, cargo and vehicle processing, anti-smuggling, anti-narcotics, protection of intellectual property (IP) rights and provision of administrative assistance.

In 2024, various meetings and exchange activities with the Mainland Customs took place. The year also saw the official launch of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Three-Places-One-Lock Scheme in March, the signing of the Co-operative Arrangement on the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Customs Clearance Information Platform with the GSAC and the Macao Customs Service (MCS) in June, as well as a co-operative arrangement on drug detector dogs with the GACC in November.



Officiated by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr. Algernon YAU (second right); the then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (second left); the then Director-General of the Macao Customs Service, Mr. VONG Man-chong (first right); and the Deputy Director General of the Guangdong Sub-Administration of the General Administration of Customs, Mr. FENG Guoqing (first left), the launch ceremony of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Three-Places-One-Lock Scheme was held in Hong Kong in March 2024.





The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (centre); the Director General of the Guangdong Sub-Administration of the General Administration of Customs, Mr. LI Kuiwen (left); and the then Director-General of the Macao Customs Service, Mr. VONG Man-chong (right), signed the Co-operative Arrangement on the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Customs Clearance Information Platform in Hong Kong in June 2024.



The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (front row, third right), met with the Director General in Shanghai Customs District, Mr. WANG Wei (front row, third left), in Hong Kong in October 2024 to exchange views on expediting the development of Smart Customs and deepening co-operation in risk management.



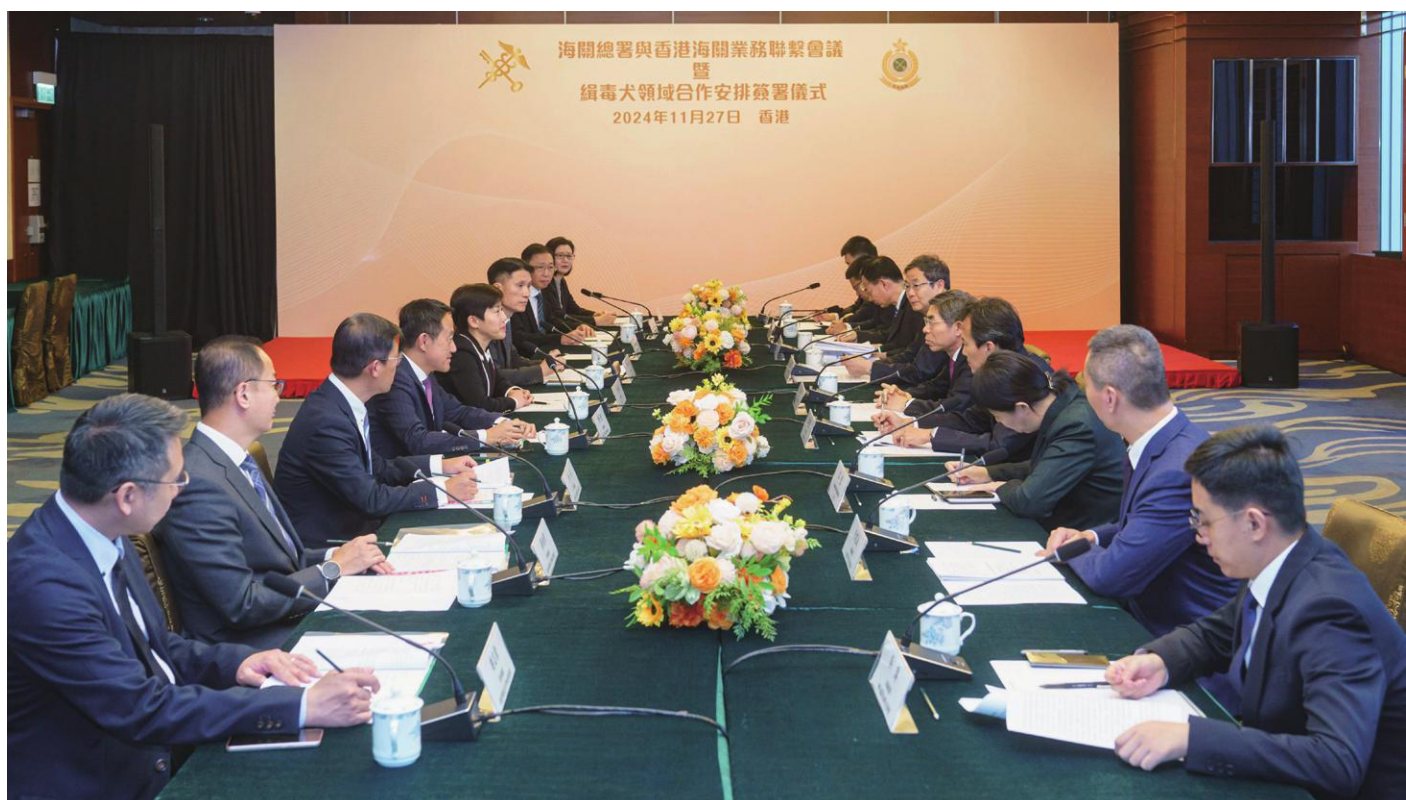


The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (right), met with the Director General in Shenzhen Customs District, Mr. ZHENG Jugang (left), in Hong Kong in October 2024.



Delegation of the Shenzhen Customs District visited the West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link.





C&ED and the General Administration of Customs (GACC) attended the 2024 Review Meeting in Hong Kong in November 2024.



C&ED and the General Administration of Customs (GACC) signed a co-operative arrangement on drug detector dogs in Hong Kong. The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (back row, right), and the Vice-Minister of the GACC, Mr. WANG Lingjun (back row, left), witnessed the signing of the arrangement at the scene.





The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (right), met with the Director General in Guangzhou Customs District, Mr. LI Quan (left), in Hong Kong in December 2024.



Delegation of the Guangzhou Customs District visited the Customs Marine Base on Stonecutters Island.



## Macao Customs Service

C&ED has been working closely with the MCS over the years in the areas of revenue protection, anti-narcotics, anti-smuggling, IP protection as well as training and intelligence exchanges. Both administrations also endeavour to seize our country's development opportunities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Regular annual meetings and liaison meetings are convened with a view to strengthening co-operation between the two Customs administrations. In 2024, various meetings and exchange activities with the MCS took place, including the 38th Annual Meeting between C&ED and the MCS/Macao Economic and Technological Development Bureau in May and the Annual Sports Meet between C&ED and the MCS in November.



The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (second right), and the then Director-General of the Macao Customs Service, Mr. VONG Man-chong (second left), co-chaired the 38th Annual Meeting between C&ED and the Macao Customs Service/Macao Economic and Technological Development Bureau in Hong Kong in May 2024.





The then Director-General of the Macao Customs Service, Mr. VONG Man-chong (front row, fourth right in the upper picture), led a delegation to attend the Annual Sports Meet between C&ED and the Macao Customs Service in Hong Kong in November 2024. About 100 athletes from each side participated in the event.



# World Customs Organization

## Assuming the Position of WCO Vice-Chairperson for the A/P Region (2024-26)

C&ED, in the name of "Hong Kong, China", was elected as the WCO Vice-Chairperson for the A/P Region at the Customs Co-operation Council Sessions of the WCO in Brussels for a term of two years from July 2024 to June 2026. As the WCO Vice-Chairperson for the A/P Region, C&ED has played a leading role in organising events to drive WCO's agendas and in co-ordinating international co-operation. These efforts will benefit the collaboration between C&ED and other Customs administrations in areas of law enforcement, trade barrier reduction, and logistics, economic and trade development within the A/P region in the long run.



The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (left), and Assistant Commissioner (World Customs Organization), Mr. Li Kin-kei (right), attended the 143rd/144th Sessions of the Customs Co-operation Council of the WCO in Brussels.



The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO, delivered her remarks during the handover ceremony of the WCO Vice-Chairpersonship for the A/P Region.

## 35th Administrative Meeting for National Contact Points of Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific

C&ED, in its capacity as the WCO Vice-Chairperson for the A/P Region, co-hosted the 35th Administrative Meeting for National Contact Points of Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific (RILO A/P) with the RILO A/P from 18 to 19 November 2024. The meeting gathered 42 representatives from A/P Customs administrations and the WCO's regional entities, providing an important platform for participating Members to discuss and formulate policies and strategies for enforcement and intelligence exchange. Members could also share ideas and experiences, propose customs initiatives, and map out enforcement strategies to address the latest modus operandi of criminal activities.



Assistant Commissioner (World Customs Organization), Mr LI Kin-kei (second right), delivered a welcome speech at the meeting.



Assistant Commissioner (World Customs Organization), Mr LI Kin-kei (front row, eighth right), with other attending Customs officers and representatives of A/P members and regional entities.



## Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures

Established in 1989, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is an important forum which aims to foster trade, investment and economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region. The APEC Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures (SCCP), which seeks to harmonise and simplify Customs procedures to ensure that goods and services move efficiently, effectively and safely across the region, is the main APEC forum in which C&ED actively participates. C&ED attended the APEC SCCP meetings held in February and August 2024 in Peru to foster close collaboration with other member economies, thereby co-ordinating Customs control measures in enhancing global supply chain security.



The then Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr. Rudy HUI, exchanged views with members at the meeting of the APEC Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures.

## Officials Visiting C&ED

### Consulate-General of the Republic of Indonesia in Hong Kong

On 29 February 2024, the then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO, had a courtesy meeting with the Consul-General of the Republic of Indonesia to Hong Kong, Mr. Yul Edison (third left in below picture), to forge closer ties and promote co-operation between the two sides in trade and law enforcement.



### Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Hong Kong

On 6 May 2024, the then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO, had a courtesy meeting with the Consul-General of the Russian Federation to Hong Kong, Mr. Anatoly Kargaplov (second left in below picture), to forge closer ties and promote co-operation between the two sides in trade and law enforcement.





## Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries of Uruguay

On 9 July 2024, the then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO, had a courtesy meeting with the Minister of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries of Uruguay, Mr. Fernando Mattos (front row, second left in below picture), to forge closer ties and promote co-operation between the two sides in trade and law enforcement.



## Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Iceland in Hong Kong

On 22 July 2024, the then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO, had a courtesy meeting with the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Iceland to Hong Kong, Mr. Henry CHAN, MH, JP (third left in below picture), to forge closer ties and promote co-operation between the two sides in trade and law enforcement.



## Office of the European Union to Hong Kong

On 17 September 2024, the then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO, had a courtesy meeting with the Head of the Office of the European Union to Hong Kong, Mr. Harvey ROUSE (fourth left in below picture), to discuss and exchange views on issues of mutual concern, such as combating cross-boundary drug trafficking, protecting of IP rights, and implementing the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA).

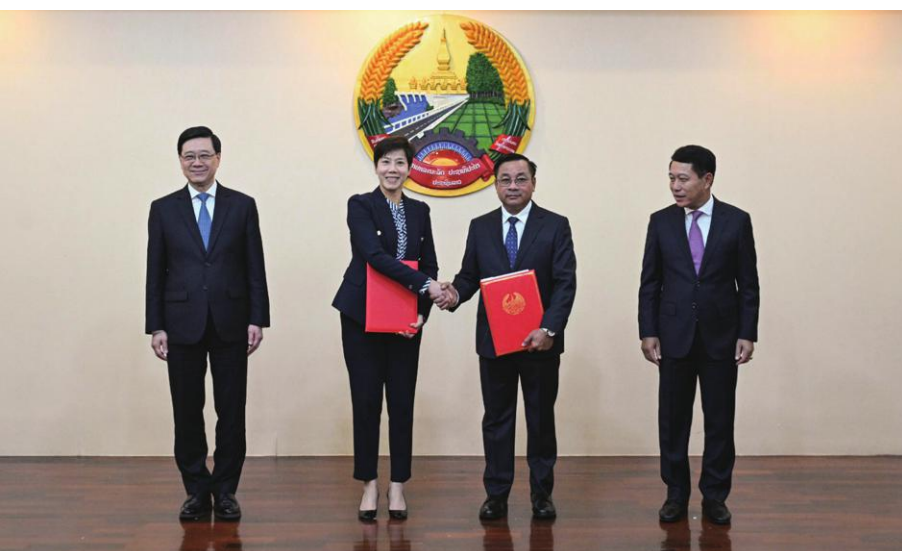




## Customs Co-operative Arrangements

In an effort to enhance co-operation in intelligence exchange and enforcement against transnational crimes, C&ED is keen to establish collaboration with overseas Customs administrations by signing bilateral co-operative instruments. C&ED has so far concluded 33 CCAs with Customs counterparts. Besides, the HKSAR Government concluded a legally binding Customs Cooperation Agreement with the European Community (now renamed as European Union (EU)) in 1999 to enhance co-operation between C&ED and the Customs administrations of the EU member states.

### Lao Customs Department



Witnessed by the Chief Executive, Mr. John LEE (first left), and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith (first right), the then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO, (second left) exchanged the Customs Co-operative Arrangement with the Director-General of Lao Customs Department, Mr. Phoukhaokham Vannavongxay (second right) on 29 July 2024.

### Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (left), led a delegation of C&ED to visit the Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation and Mutual Administrative Assistance with the Governor of the Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority, Mr. Suhail bin Muhammed Abanmi (right) on 6 December 2024.



## Personnel Exchange

C&ED has been maintaining close ties with the global Customs community and seconding Customs officers to various WCO offices, including the Compliance and Facilitation Directorate in Belgium, the Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific in Japan as well as the Asia/Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building in Thailand.



Customs officers seconded to the WCO Compliance and Facilitation Directorate (top), the Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific (middle) and the Asia/Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (bottom) attended international conferences.



To support INTERPOL in assisting its 196 members to curb international trafficking of illicit goods and dismantle organised syndicates, and to expand C&ED's co-operation network with overseas law enforcement agencies in combating smuggling activities and transnational IP crimes, C&ED has seconded an Assistant Superintendent to INTERPOL's General Secretariat at Lyon, France from 9 November 2022 to 31 July 2024.

During the year, Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau (IPIB) officers actively engaged in multiple international meetings to enhance collaboration with overseas IP stakeholders and exchange views on enforcement strategies and measures to combat IP infringement activities. These key events included the 44th Session of the WCO Enforcement Committee in Brussels, Belgium in March; the INTERPOL Global Meeting on Digital Piracy in Lyon, France in May; the 17th International Law Enforcement Intellectual Property Crime Conference in Willemstad, Curaçao in September; and the 21st Meeting of the WCO Counterfeiting and Piracy Group in Brussels, Belgium in October.



A delegation of the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau attended the 21st Meeting of the WCO Counterfeiting and Piracy Group in Brussels, Belgium in October 2024.



A delegation of the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau attended the 17th International Law Enforcement Intellectual Property Crime Conference in Willemstad, Curaçao in September 2024.

## 09

# Information Technology

**C&ED** has been adopting information technology (IT) in different work domains to enhance operational efficiency and service quality. To advance with the rapid IT development in recent years, more innovation and technology have been deployed by C&ED to meet its existing and future operational needs.





## Information Systems Strategy Study

C&ED conducted the Information Systems Strategy Study (ISSS) between 2019 and 2020, aiming to formulate a holistic and up-to-date IT strategic plan for the coming decade and beyond. Pursuant to the findings of the ISSS, C&ED shall optimise the use of innovation and technology, such as cloud computing, big data analytics and artificial intelligence (AI), to achieve digital transformation and ultimately evolve into a data-driven organisation.

Based on the recommendations of the ISSS, C&ED is actively developing the “Smart Customs Information Technology Infrastructure” which comprises the cloud infrastructure, “Customs Big Data Application System” and IT security enhancement. The project echoes the national strategy to drive technological advancement by leveraging innovative and disruptive technologies, such as cloud computing, big data analytics, machine learning, natural language processing and video analytics, to address our operational needs and embrace developments in the rapidly evolving landscape of innovation.

## Application of Innovation and Technology

The “Smart Customs Interactive Response System” combines the application of AI technology, natural language processing and machine learning. “Virtual Customs Ambassador – XiaoHui” is able to handle public enquiries in relation to Customs work and provide information of control points to members of the public in real time. XiaoHui is now providing service on the Customs Homepage as well as at the Hong Kong International Airport and other passenger control points. In addition, the service will be extended to various social media platforms of C&ED by the first quarter of 2025 in order to facilitate more travellers from the Mainland and around the world.



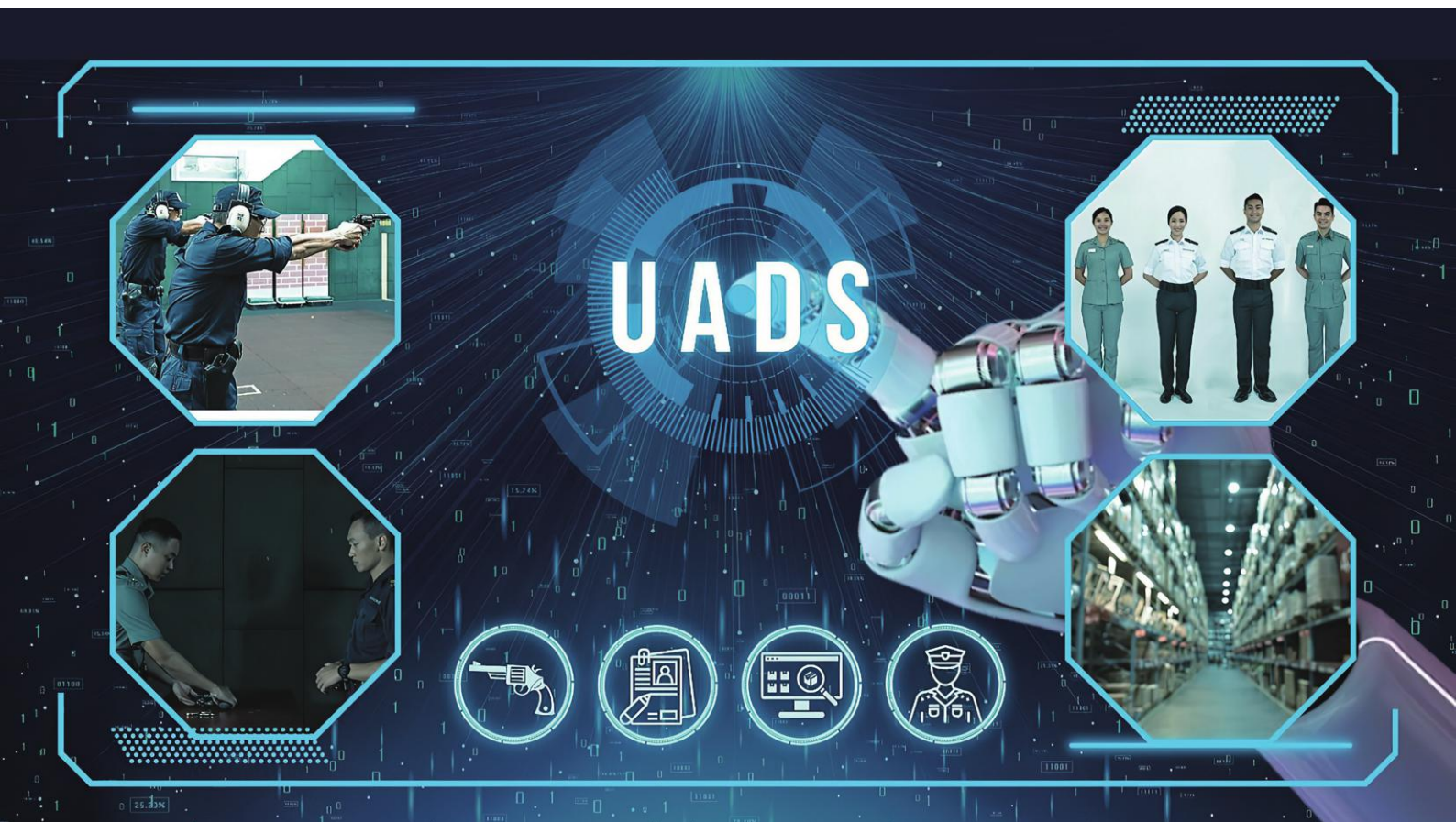
XiaoHui can handle enquiries from travellers around the world with her biliterate and trilingual capability and provide information of control points.



XiaoHui will soon meet members of the public on various Customs social media platforms.

## Uniform and Arms Cage Equipment Deployment System

To enhance the efficiency of deployment, record-keeping, and management of uniforms and firearms equipment, C&ED is currently developing the "Uniform and Arms Cage Equipment Deployment System". In addition to digitising the processes of application for, issue and return of uniforms and firearms equipment, the new system will also assist in the daily management tasks, thereby allocating resources more effectively. The new system is expected to roll out in phases starting from the third quarter of 2025 with full implementation in the first quarter of 2026.



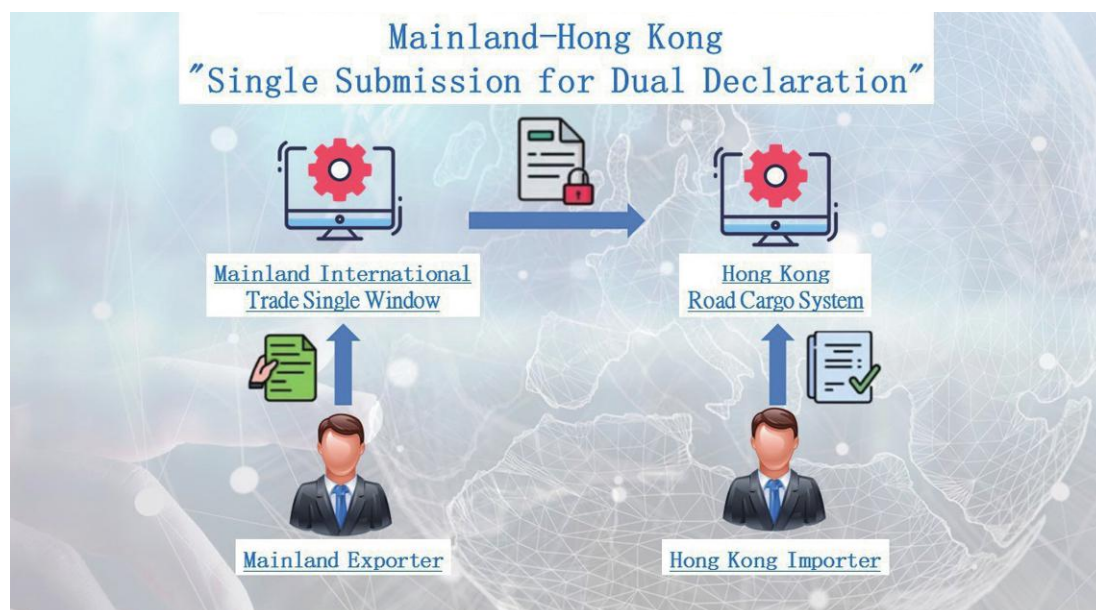
The new system will assist not only in the management of application for and return of uniforms and firearms equipment from Customs officers, but also in enhancing the stock management for more effective resource allocation.



## Information Systems in Trade Facilitation and Customs Enforcement

C&ED is committed to promoting e-commerce via the construction of electronic platforms that facilitate submission of trade information and application for specific licences. In this regard, the "Trade Single Window", the "Road Cargo System" (ROCARS), the "Air Cargo Clearance System" (ACCS), the "Motor Vehicles First Registration Tax System", the "Money Service Operators Licensing System", the "Dutiable Commodities System", the "Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments Declaration System" and the "Dealers in Precious Metals and Stones Registration System" have been built to provide service to the public. Newly developed IT systems of C&ED have also been linked up to the "iAM Smart" platform, enabling users to log into online services with a single digital identity and enjoy a brand new experience.

To cope with the rapid development of the e-commerce industry, C&ED has continuously improved its electronic platforms to handle the increasing Customs clearance work. On 1 February 2024, C&ED officially launched the Guangdong-Hong Kong "Single Submission for Dual Declaration" Scheme for southbound cargo transported through the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) from Guangdong to Hong Kong. This scheme, which is built on the China International Trade Single Window Cargo Declaration System (Mainland Platform) and the ROCARS (Hong Kong Platform), is a trade facilitation measure that facilitates the completion of Customs declarations for both the Mainland and Hong Kong sides by making a single submission of cargo information. Export cargo information declared by Mainland enterprises through the Mainland Platform would be encrypted and sent to the Hong Kong Platform, where Hong Kong importers could retrieve the relevant cargo information directly for completion of the local Customs declaration. On 30 October 2024, the scheme was extended to cover northbound cargo from Hong Kong to Guangdong via the HZMB. On 29 November 2024, the Mainland-Hong Kong "Single Submission for Dual Declaration" Scheme was launched, which covers southbound cargo from the Mainland to Hong Kong across all land boundary control points, marking a significant milestone for the scheme.



The Mainland-Hong Kong "Single Submission for Dual Declaration" Scheme

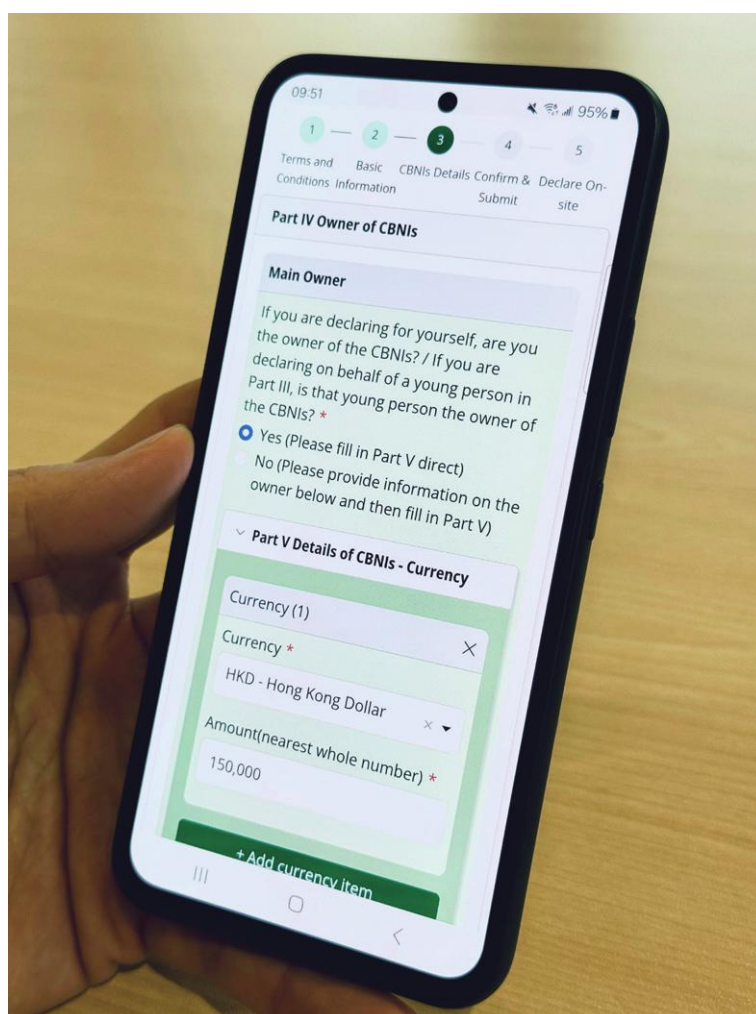
Being the major information systems in facilitating the clearance of intermodal transshipment cargoes, the functions of ACCS and ROCARS have been enhanced to effectively regulate alternative smoking products (ASPs) imported under the Alternative Smoking Product Transshipment Control Scheme (ATCS). New functions such as ATCS registration process and connecting flight information have been built in the information systems to facilitate registered operators under the scheme and enhance monitoring of ASP transshipment in order to uphold Hong Kong's position as an international trade centre.

Furthermore, C&ED launched the Cross-boundary Express Cargo Clearance Facilitation Arrangement (CEFA) on 3 December 2024. ROCARS was enhanced to facilitate advance cargo information submission by the participating express cargo operators for risk assessment. Under the scheme, qualified express cargo operators will be provided with on-site Customs clearance service at designated locations in the city, thus reducing the time required for unloading, searching the express cargo for Customs action and loading the goods vehicles at land boundary control points.

## Provision of New Information Technology Facilities

To support C&ED's operation, new IT facilities will be provisioned at the newly developed Transit Mail Centre, Three-Runway System, Air Mail Centre and new Huanggang Port, which are scheduled for commissioning between 2025 and 2028.

To facilitate traveller's declaration and disclosure of the possession of a large quantity of currency and bearer negotiable instruments (CBNIs), C&ED will introduce a new electronic form for advance provision of CBNIs information in 2025. Travellers can submit CBNIs information through the electronic form prior to their arrival in/departure from Hong Kong and present the QR code or unique reference number generated by the system to Customs officers at control points, saving time from paper form filling on the spot. The electronic form will also support "iAM Smart" to facilitate the provision of identity information and digital signing by travellers. With the introduction of this new technology and practice, the processing time of CBNIs declaration will be shortened and travellers can enjoy a better experience of Customs clearance.



New electronic form for advance provision of CBNIs information



## Computer Forensic Laboratory

The Computer Forensic Laboratory (CFL) continues to contribute to the Department's fight against technology crimes and assist frontline officers in enhancing their digital evidence collection skills, thereby strengthening their law enforcement capabilities.

Among the local law enforcement agencies, CFL of C&ED was the first to obtain dual international certifications in information security and quality management as early as 2006. CFL has undergone a series of information management updates during the year, and successfully obtained the latest version of the information security management certification, demonstrating that CFL has attained the most up-to-date international standards in preserving the integrity and security of digital evidence.

CFL has adopted AI technology to assist frontline officers in processing a colossal amount of data. Preliminary results show that it not only helps frontline officers search for fragmented text content within the voluminous data in an efficient and effective manner, but also rapidly identifies key images and videos, allowing computer forensic examiners to promptly filter digital evidence with prosecution value.

CFL has also enhanced the Department's information security training. Through assisting eligible officers to obtain the Certified Information Security Professional (CISP) Certificates issued by the China Information Technology Security Evaluation Center (CNITSEC) for the first time in Hong Kong, the Department's capabilities in maintaining information security have been further strengthened.

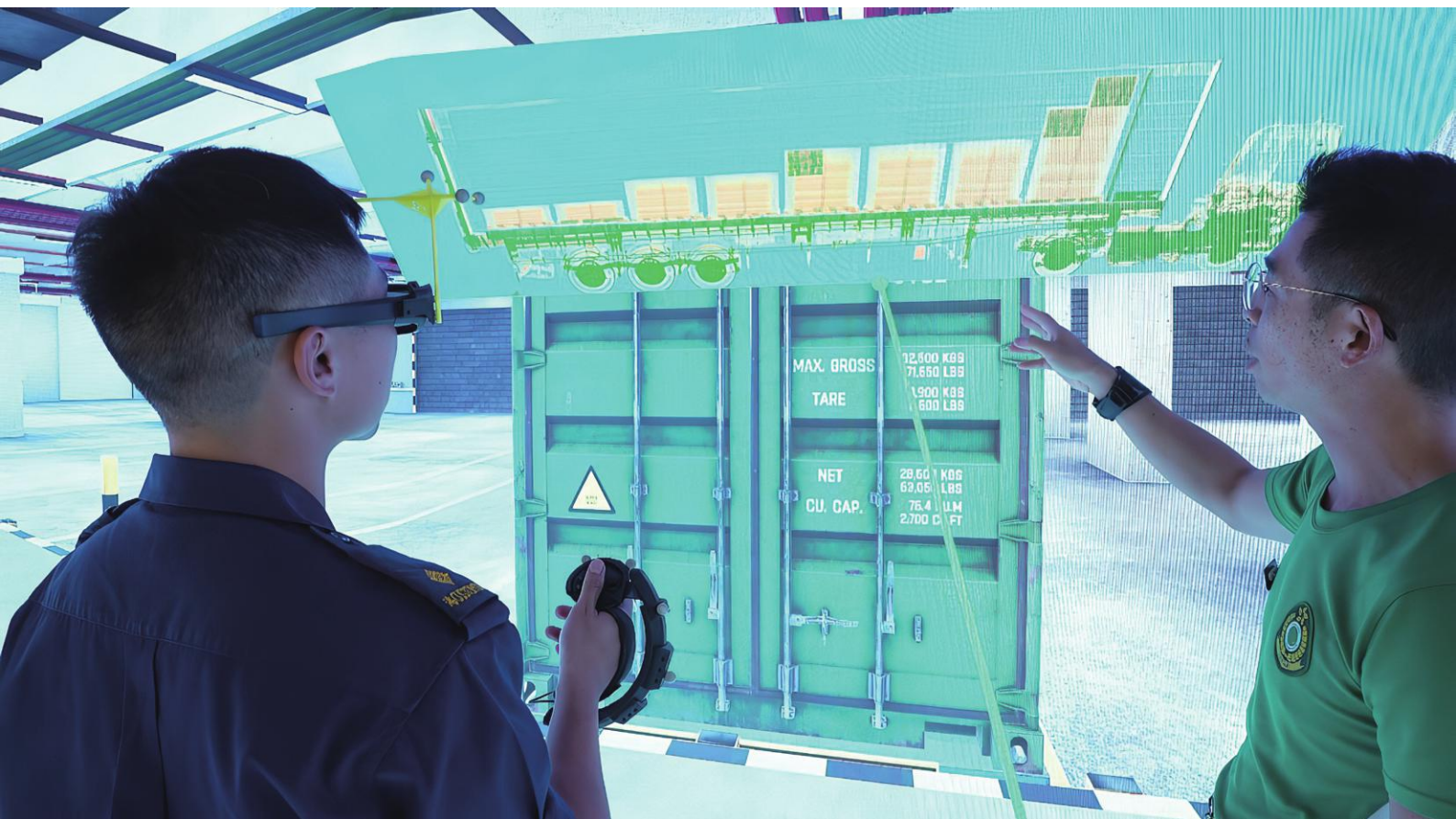
Since its establishment, CFL has processed 1 617 cases involving infringement of intellectual property rights, internet piracy, money laundering, drug trafficking, smuggling, false trade descriptions and revenue frauds.



The Computer Forensic Laboratory has successfully passed the re-evaluation of two international certifications, namely ISO 9001:2015 "Quality Management Systems" and ISO/IEC 27001:2022 "Information Security Management Systems".

## The Immersive Cave Automatic Virtual Environment System

The Office of Training and Development implemented the innovative learning tool “Cave Automatic Virtual Environment” (CAVE) in the first quarter of 2023. By leveraging the latest technologies, such as Virtual Reality (VR), CAVE helps trainees learn abstract ideas and practical skills from veterans in performing frontline duties, hence deepening their impression. It also enables them to experience investigation work at complex crime scenes, and understand various concealment methods and smuggling scenarios in a controlled and virtual environment before performing actual duties. CAVE training module received a silver award in Brandon Hall Group Technology Excellence Awards under the category “Best Advance in Augmented and Virtual Reality” at the end of 2024. The accolade highlights the international recognition of C&ED’s commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology to enhance the efficiency of staff training.



Trainees learned how to perform frontline duties through CAVE.



## 10

## Projects

## 智慧海關藍圖

海關角色

監管者及服務提供者 + 貿易促成者 + 經濟發展推廣者

服務領域

邊界及市內執法 + 本地經濟體系 + 全球經濟體系

四大支柱

智慧  
邊界管理智慧調查  
及案件管理智慧  
便商利貿智慧  
營商發展

Since 2019, along the path of Hong Kong's "Smart City" development, C&ED has promulgated the "Smart Customs Blueprint" by constructing four key pillars, namely the "Smart Boundary Management", "Smart Investigation and Case Management", "Smart Trade Facilitation" and "Smart Business Development" so as to tie in with the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) and the Belt and Road Initiative.

## Smart Customs Blueprint

Under the Blueprint, C&ED focused on the development of advanced equipment for Customs clearance, big data and artificial intelligence (AI) analysis and reinforcement of interconnection to strengthen its role as “law enforcer and service provider” and “trade facilitator”. C&ED also shouldered a diversified role by becoming an “economic development promoter” and maintaining Hong Kong’s status as a “safe city”, “business city” and “investment city”. To date, C&ED has implemented and been actively developing a series of smart initiatives.

Moreover, since the General Administration of Customs (GACC) has launched the Smart Customs Initiative, with smart construction as the core of the initiative, C&ED has shown full support and brought the Smart Customs Blueprint in line with the GACC’s Initiative. The Department has invested substantially in developing technologies such as AI, block chain, cloud computing and big data analytics to achieve integrated smart customs through innovation and technology.

To lay a solid foundation for mutual co-operation with smart construction as the core, C&ED signed the Co-operative Arrangement on Smart Customs Development with the GACC. The integration of Smart Customs not only helps expand the scope of cross-boundary collaboration between both Customs administrations, but also facilitates the enhancement of governance systems and the governance of C&ED, and serves as a major key for C&ED in fostering the development of the GBA. C&ED will continue to deepen the exchanges and co-operation with the GACC.

### (1) Advanced Equipment for Customs Clearance

C&ED kept introducing advanced inspection equipment, for instance, Computed Tomography (CT) Scanner with AI function to provide 360-degree scanned images with no blind spots and automatic recognition of dangerous drugs and other contraband; Auto-detection Device for existing X-ray checker with AI function embedded to assist in screening for suspicious objects and automatic detection of various contraband, such as firearms and ammunition, gun parts and weapons. Besides, C&ED also used the Smart Under Vehicle Robot, which applies AI to conduct contraband detection by comparison of under-vehicle images, to enhance the capability in combating smuggling activities of cross-boundary vehicles. These advanced inspection equipment could greatly facilitate the clearance efficiency and enhance the ability in combating smuggling and other customs-related offences.



Smart Under Vehicle Robot



Meanwhile, smart initiatives to enhance the services provided to travellers and the trades at and beyond control points will be rolled out in phases. In respect of cargoes, C&ED introduced the Air Cargo Clearance Queuing System, which enables cargo agents of the logistics sector to queue up for collection of cargoes by using mobile devices to reduce the waiting time. C&ED also completed a feasibility study on the Single E-lock Scheme 2.0 and kick-started the procurement of the relevant system for enhancement of the security and compatibility of the E-lock with a view to accelerating the flow of transshipment cargoes within the GBA. As regards passengers, an interactive response system, which includes the introduction of Virtual Customs Ambassadors at control points and an online chatbot on the Customs website, has been developed to provide instant, accurate and consistent responses to public enquiries.



C&ED launched the Virtual Customs Ambassador to handle public enquiries.

## (2) Big Data and Artificial Intelligence Analysis

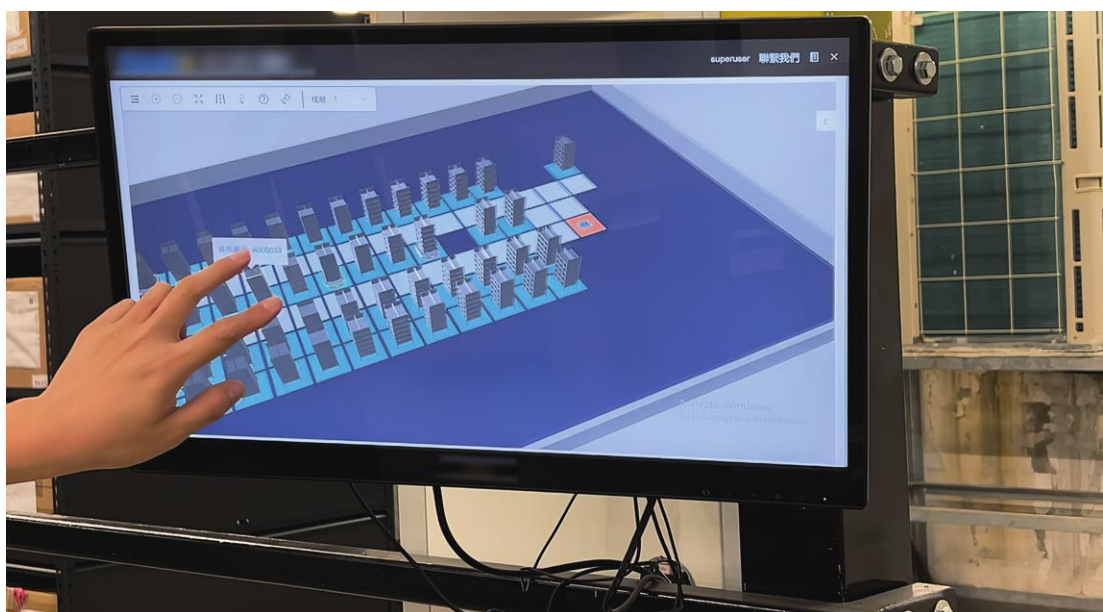
Starting from 2020, C&ED has introduced sophisticated analytics systems in phases, including the Platform for X-ray Image Evaluation, Vehicle Inspection and Strategic Analysis System, Cargo Big Data System and Smart Liquor Duty Assessment to aid risk profiling on passenger, cargo and vehicle clearance at control points for enhancing clearance efficiency as well as strengthening detection of cross-boundary contraband. Moreover, to ensure consumer safety and public health, C&ED has introduced a portable Non-contact Healthcare Multimeter which can quickly test the types and concentrations of alcohol content of alcoholic disinfection products and determine whether they contain methanol.



● Vehicle Inspection and Strategic Analysis System



Building on the success of the Intellectual Property Rights Big Data Analytics System for combating intellectual property crimes, C&ED continues to expand the system to cover other offences enforced by the Department. C&ED is currently developing the Customs Big Data Application System (CBDAS). By building an all-in-one database and incorporating various big data analytics systems/tools, C&ED's capability to detect and combat Customs-related offences will be strengthened. C&ED has also introduced the Smart Seizure Management System, which aims to better rationalise the control and security of seizures during the deposit, storage and retrieval stages, with the application of modern technologies.



Smart Seizure  
Management System

### (3) Consolidation and Reinforcement of Interconnection

C&ED has introduced an online self-assessment tool, namely the Authorized Economic Operation (AEO) iPASS to facilitate self-understanding of C&ED's certifying standards and initial self-assessment by companies that are interested in joining the Hong Kong AEO Programme. To further enhance supply chain security and user friendliness of Customs clearance, connection with the Customs administrations of other economic entities through an AEO data exchange platform (APEX) was established. Automated exchange of AEO data with the Mainland Customs through this platform was implemented in order to allow AEOs to enjoy faster clearance service by more efficient, secure and timely transmission of AEO data between the two places. Besides, C&ED has collaborated with the Hong Kong Export Credit Insurance Corporation to provide Hong Kong AEOs with 10 free buyers' credit checks, which will assist them in coping with market risks while expanding their business.

## New Control Points and Infrastructural Projects

Infrastructural projects are in the pipeline to support Hong Kong's continued economic development and to cope with the increasing cross-boundary traffic.

### (1) Three-Runway System

The Three-runway System (3RS) at the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) was commissioned on 28 November 2024, providing the expanded capacity for the HKIA to further strengthen Hong Kong's position as a major international aviation hub. The Airport Authority Hong Kong will open relevant passenger facilities in phases in the light of passenger traffic demand from the end of 2025 onwards.

Commenced in August 2016, the construction of 3RS comprises different components, including construction of the Third Runway, taxiways and aprons; expansion of Terminal 2 and construction of Terminal 2 Concourse to accommodate more arriving and departing passengers; and installation of a new automated people mover system and a high-speed baggage handling system connecting Terminal 2 with Terminal 2 Concourse. The HKIA is expected to be able to meet the target of handling 120 million passengers and 10 million tonnes of cargo annually from 2035 onwards.



Three-Runway System  
Source: Hong Kong  
Airport Authority



## (2) Huanggang Port Redevelopment Project

The building at the Huanggang Port, situated in Shenzhen, is undergoing in-situ redevelopment with the target of completing the new Huanggang Port Building by late 2025. The new port building will be a multi-storey building in which customs, immigration and quarantine clearance facilities and public transport interchanges for the Mainland and Hong Kong will be set up on different floors, laying the foundation for implementing co-location arrangement at the new port to facilitate passenger clearance and enhance clearance efficiency.



New Huanggang Port under construction

Source: Security Bureau



## 11

# Human Resources Development

The Administration and Human Resource Development Branch is responsible for organising and co-ordinating training and development programmes for members of the Customs and Excise Service and of the Trade Controls Officer Grade to enhance their awareness of national security and integrity, and promote welfare and occupational safety and health related issues. To equip Customs officers with advanced professional knowledge and skills for continuous career development, C&ED makes significant efforts in staff training and development by adopting a competency-based strategy, supplemented by personal development programmes for individual staff.





# Foundation Learning and Development

Human resources are the most valuable assets in an organisation. To allow new recruits and serving members a firm grasp of practical work knowledge and skills, the Hong Kong Customs College (HKCC) has been providing high quality foundation training by proactively upgrading instructors' qualifications, teaching facilities and materials, and course syllabuses.

HKCC passed the professional assessment of the Inspector Induction Course at Qualifications Framework (QF) Level 5 (the same QF level as a local Bachelor's Degree) and the Customs Officer Induction Course at QF level 4. In 2024, 70 Probationary Inspectors and 197 Probationary Customs Officers joined the Inspector Induction Course and the Customs Officer Induction Course respectively, and were awarded the "Professional Diploma in Customs Management for Inspectors" and the "Professional Diploma in Customs Operations for Customs Officers" respectively.

In addition to the Constitution, the Basic Law, the Hong Kong National Security Law, the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance, Laws of Hong Kong, Chinese-style foot drill, discipline and integrity, a diverse mix of knowledge (e.g. Chinese history, national education, import and export trade practices, use of force and Putonghua) has been incorporated into the induction training for both newly recruited Inspectors and Customs Officers. To familiarise trainees with their working environment, practical training with simulated and interactive exercises has been introduced. Since 2023, study visits to the Shanghai Customs University (SCU) (formerly known as the Shanghai Customs College) have been arranged for Inspector inductees to foster their connection with the Motherland and deepen their understanding of the development of the Mainland. Since 2024, HKCC has also arranged visits to the National Security Exhibition Gallery for newly recruited Inspectors and Customs Officers to enhance their awareness of and commitment to safeguarding national security.



Physical Fitness Training





Firearms Training

Besides, HKCC has obtained accreditation from the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications for its Passenger Processing Course and Cargo Processing Course at QF Level 4 (the same QF level as a local Associate Degree or a Higher Diploma). In 2024, 81 probationers were awarded the "Professional Certificate in Customs Control and Enforcement (Passenger Clearance)" and 108 probationers were awarded the "Professional Certificate in Customs Control and Enforcement (Cargo Clearance)".

HKCC has been collaborating with the Hong Kong Metropolitan University (HKMU) (formerly known as the Open University of Hong Kong) to strengthen enforcement training of the Inspector Induction Course and the Customs Officer Induction Course, and provide articulation pathways for graduates. Apart from concepts of criminology, sociology and psychology delivered by university lecturers, the enhanced training also covers knowledge in conflict management, media relations, etc. Graduates will be awarded the "Certificate in Law Enforcement and Customs Management" by the HKMU, and are entitled to credit exemptions when pursuing relevant programmes offered by the HKMU in the future.

C&ED attaches great importance to professionalism of all grades of law enforcement staff and strives to provide them with quality training. The Assistant Trade Controls Officer Induction Course (ATCOIC) aims at imparting the required fundamental knowledge of a newly recruited Assistant Trade Controls Officer (ATCO), the essential practical knowledge of an officer of the Trade Controls Branch to discharge duties, and the knowledge about conduct, discipline and personal development. In October 2020, the ATCOIC has been accredited as a QF Level 5 programme. It is the first ever civilian law enforcement induction course accredited at QF Level 5. In 2024, 39 Probationary ATCOs joined the ATCOIC and were awarded the "Professional Diploma in Trade Controls for Assistant Trade Controls Officer" at QF Level 5.





The Customs and Excise Guards of Honour performed an exhibition drill in the Passing-out Parade on 17 December 2024.



In the Passing-out Parade on 17 December 2024, the Customs and Excise Guards of Honour and passing-out officers adopted the Chinese-style foot drill to form a giant panda pattern, representing the giant pandas gifted by the Central Government.

# HKCC Professional Development Training Block

The Professional Development Training Block (PDTB) provides a venue for conducting practical and simulated exercises in induction training and in-service training. Major facilities in the PDTB include vehicle search cum cargo examination area, passenger clearance channels, mock bilge, simulated shooting range, video interview room, identification parade room, mock court and mock residential unit. To facilitate learning, an innovative learning tool “Cave Automatic Virtual Environment”, which leverages the latest Virtual Reality technology, has been adopted since April 2023.



Professional Development Training Block



## Personal Development of Staff

C&ED provides structured training for senior and middle managers. In 2024, four senior officers were sent to a leadership development programme organised by the Civil Service College (CSC). To enhance leadership and management competence of managers, and to foster exchange and co-operation with the Mainland and Macao law enforcement agencies, three officers from the Mainland Customs, Macao Customs and Macao Judiciary Police were invited to take part in a Customs Management Development Course organised by the Department with 12 C&ED senior officers. Besides, the Office of Training and Development (OTD) organised a Customs Command Course to enhance officers' skills and knowledge in work planning and modern management. A total of 17 officers participated in the course.

C&ED, in continuous collaboration with the SCU, arranged 15 Customs officers to attend the Mainland Customs (General Administration of Customs) Development Course organised by the SCU in March 2024 to further deepen their understanding of the Mainland Customs administration and operation, as well as to foster exchanges between Customs officers of the two places.

To strengthen middle managers' national identity awareness and professional knowledge of politics, economics, public administration and public policies, C&ED arranged three middle managers to attend a 2.5-year part-time Executive Master of Public Administration Programme organised by the Tsinghua University and two middle managers to attend a two-year Master Degree in Public Policy Programme organised by the Peking University in 2024.

In April 2024, C&ED signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Vocational Training Council (VTC) to establish co-operation in enhancing Customs officers' training in professional areas, promoting Customs work to VTC students who aspire to join the disciplined services, and encouraging their participation in "Customs YES" with the aim of broadening their horizon and motivating them to serve the community.

C&ED has also collaborated with the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) and arranged officers to attend the Standard Criminal Investigation Course and the Criminal Intelligence Analysis Training organised by the HKPF. The courses aim to equip participants with the knowledge and skills required for criminal investigation and criminal intelligence analysis. In 2024, a total of four officers took the courses.



Participants of the Customs Management Development Course visited the Chamber of the Legislative Council.

## Continuous Learning and Development

C&ED adopts a multi-pronged approach in promoting continuous learning and development. In addition to conventional classroom training, individual officers may study e-learning programmes at their own pace through the Customs Portal for self-learning.

C&ED also collaborates with the CSC to deliver 45 e-learning programmes through the Cyber Learning Centre Plus, encompassing topics on operational skills, legal knowledge, integrity, the Constitution, national affairs and national security.

To encourage continuous learning, C&ED subsidises officers to pursue part-time Master's degree programmes in criminology, public administration and big data analytics. As a driving force for continuous development, C&ED holds annual Promotion Qualifying Examinations for Inspectors and Customs Officers to maintain their professionalism.

## Specialised Training

Customs officers are often faced with risks and challenges in law enforcement. OTD provides frontline officers with a range of specialised training courses, including those on detection and operational planning strategies, to enhance their safety awareness, strengthen their ability to cope with various threats, and improve their search and apprehension techniques.



Customs officers were receiving training in raiding techniques and tactics.



## Criminal Prosecution Training

The Service Prosecution Group organises a number of training courses and sharing sessions on prosecution-related issues for frontline officers, including court procedures and trial preparation, court attendance and case handling, prosecution and forfeiture procedures, mock trials, etc. in an effort to keep frontline officers abreast of the latest legal knowledge and court requirements.

## National Affairs and National Security

C&ED is committed to nurturing talents with a strong sense of national identity and international perspectives. In September 2023, HKCC and the SCU signed a Co-operative Arrangement on Exchange and Co-operation to further enhance training in national affairs and national security. In September 2024, C&ED arranged Inspector inductees to attend the third National Studies and Mainland Customs Operations Course in the SCU, thereby deepening their understanding of national security, national affairs, Mainland Customs operation and its latest developments.

Meanwhile, C&ED strives to enhance national affairs education through different initiatives. In 2024, 78 officers attended various national studies courses organised by the Police Liaison Department of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR and the CSC respectively, with a view to strengthening their sense of patriotism.

C&ED also launched a series of thematic departmental seminars on national security and national affairs and invited guest speakers such as Dr. Rita FAN HSU Lai-tai, GBM, GBS, JP, Dr. Hon CHOW Man-kong, JP and experts from the SCU to give officers a deeper understanding of national security concepts, national security laws and C&ED's role in safeguarding national security. On the other hand, C&ED co-operated with the National Academy of Governance to hold an online seminar on the Third Plenary Session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, allowing officers to gain an in-depth understanding of the spirit of the Plenary Session.

HKCC and the National Academy of Governance signed a MoU in Beijing in October 2024 to establish a more consistent and close co-operative relationship, thereby further enhancing training in national studies among Customs officers, who will then play a more active role in supporting the overall national development.



The then Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Ms. Louise HO (second left), and the Director-General of the International, Hong Kong and Macau Training Center of the National Academy of Governance, Mr. XIE Yutong (second right) signed the Memorandum of Understanding in Beijing.

Through diversified training and learning resources such as exchanges with the Mainland counterparts, departmental seminars, online learning pages and the National Security Education Section, C&ED reinforces all officers' understanding of the Constitution, the Basic Law, the Hong Kong National Security Law, the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance, the National Flag and National Emblem Ordinance, the National Anthem Ordinance, national affairs and a holistic approach to national security in a comprehensive manner.



Dr. Rita FAN HSU Lai-tai (top) and Dr. Hon CHOW Man-kong (bottom) shared information about national security.





Experts from the Shanghai Customs University explained the Customs Law and China's free trade zones during a seminar in September 2024.



Inspector inductees were arranged to attend the National Studies and Mainland Customs Operations Course organised by the Shanghai Customs University in Shanghai.



C&ED, together with the National Security Department of the HKPF, set up an “NSmart Quiz” kiosk at the Customs Headquarters Building on 26 September 2024 to enhance staff member’s understanding of national security, the Constitution, the Basic Law and the Hong Kong National Security Law.



# Strengthening Preventive Regulations and Integrity Training Efforts

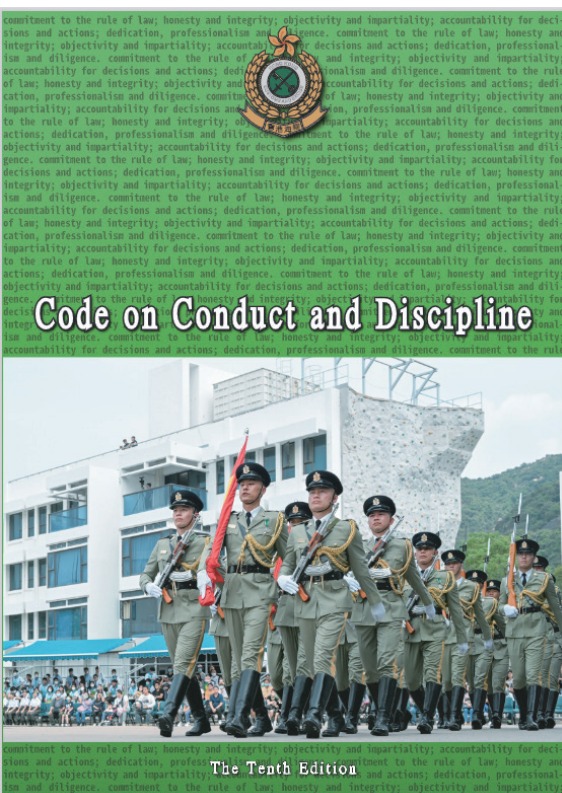
C&ED is dedicated to maintaining a responsible and reliable workforce. Over the years, we have collaborated closely with the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) and the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC). By strengthening preventive guidance, training and education, we have continuously enhanced the professional ethics of our staff while fostering a culture of integrity and probity.

Subsequent to CSB's promulgation of an updated Civil Service Code in June 2024, a new edition of the "Code on Conduct and Discipline" (the Code) was released in October the same year. All Customs officers are required to thoroughly understand the constitutional order of the HKSAR under the principle of "One Country, Two Systems", and fully familiarise themselves with the national security concept and their responsibility of safeguarding national security. Officers are required to uphold the core values and standards of conduct expected of civil servants. The Code includes more concrete examples of misconduct in the hope of reminding officers to adhere strictly to laws and regulations, maintain personal conduct, and act with integrity and responsibility in discharging their duties.

C&ED attaches great importance to integrity training. In 2024, the integrity training of induction courses was reviewed and revamped into a single module to systematically include staff integrity regulations and guidelines in different areas, supplemented by examples of breach of discipline from the past in different situations, which help instil core values in new recruits and enhance their law-abiding awareness in the execution of their duties from the outset. As for serving staff, apart from providing quarterly integrity training sessions, guest speakers from the Investor and Financial Education Council and the ICAC were invited to deliver talks on "Prudent Financial Management" and "Managing Conflicts of Interest" in departmental seminars in April and November 2024 respectively.

To further promote healthy lifestyle and foster a culture of integrity at work, C&ED has allocated additional resources to Formation Integrity Management Committees for organising staff activities, such as photography competitions, mobile sticker design contests, poster design competitions, slogan design competitions and online quizzes to promote a culture of integrity among staff.

On the publicity front, the departmental newsletter "Customs News" continues to instil the concept of a healthy lifestyle in staff members and provide updates on C&ED's integrity management, including relevant training resources and promotional activities.



The 10th edition of the "Code on Conduct and Discipline"



Representative of the Independent Commission Against Corruption presented a talk on "Managing Conflicts of Interest" in November 2024.

# Promotion of Healthy Lifestyle



The poster of Ports and Maritime Command Occupational Safety and Health Quiz Competition 2024

## (1) Promotion of Occupational Safety and Health

C&ED has been making strenuous efforts to ensure workplace safety and raise staff awareness of occupational safety and health (OSH). The Occupational Safety and Health Steering Committee, chaired by Assistant Commissioner (Administration and Human Resource Development), formulates policies in respect of OSH in the Department. In addition, an Occupational Safety Working Group and a Health and Welfare Working Group have been set up under the auspices of the Steering Committee to co-ordinate the promotion of occupational safety and the implementation of work safety measures, and to promote occupational health and strengthen the provision of welfare assistance. In 2024, the Occupational Safety Working Group of C&ED continued to take actions on multiple fronts to meet the said objectives, in particular by paying visits to workplaces of the Department periodically for occupational safety inspection and assisting various formations in reviewing and formulating in-house safety guidelines.

The efforts made by the Ports and Maritime Command (PMC) Safety and Health Committee in strengthening co-operation between the management and frontline staff, and in promoting, developing and carrying out measures to ensure OSH of all officers are particularly noteworthy. The Committee organised the "Ports and Maritime Command Occupational Safety and Health Quiz Competition 2024" in March 2024 to enhance OSH awareness of the formation staff.



## (2) Welfare, Sports and Recreation

The C&ED Sports and Recreation Club organised various kinds of sports and recreation activities for all staff of the Department. Besides, to give closer attention to staff welfare needs and to promote a caring culture among colleagues, C&ED has established a health and welfare management system. In 2024, nearly 110 officers were appointed as Health and Welfare Managers in various offices. The appointed officers were provided with job-related training and access to the welfare-related information system to effectively perform their duties. In addition to conducting periodic welfare visits, they also acted as contact points for officers seeking assistance in matters related to welfare, health and work.

Apart from in-house assistance, C&ED has commissioned the Christian Family Service Centre (CFSC) to provide counselling services for individual officers and their family members, including setting up a 24-hour counselling and consultation hotline and offering face-to-face counselling by professional social workers. The CFSC and other non-governmental social welfare organisations also provided training sessions to Health and Welfare Managers as well as colleagues in different formations on topics such as mental health, first aid, handling of pathological gamblers, counselling skills and knowledge, etc. In addition, the Integrity Management Group collaborated with the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Healthy Budgeting Family Debt Counselling Centre and the Caritas Family Crisis Line and Education Centre in providing 24-hour "Indebtedness Counselling Service" to support staff members facing financial stress.

**香港海關**  
Customs and Excise Department

**24小時熱線及諮詢服務**  
24-hour counselling and consultation hotline

專為海關關員及其直系親屬提供  
Exclusively for Customs and Excise Department staff and their immediate members

服務範圍 Service Coverage	服務形式 Form of Service
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>工作 Work-related</li> <li>家庭 Family</li> <li>人際 Interpersonal</li> <li>個人 Personal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>輔導及諮詢熱線 Helpline Service</li> <li>面談輔導 Face-to-face Interview</li> <li>臨床心理服務 Clinical Psychological Service</li> </ul>

**服務時間 Service Hours\***

星期一至五 (星期例假除外)	星期六、日及公眾假期	註冊假期除外*
Monday to Friday (Public Holiday excepted): 00:00 am – 12:00 am	Saturday, Sunday & Public Holiday: 00:00 am – 12:00 am	Except public holidays*

\* 如欲查詢詳情，請致電 2548 0803  
\* For more details, please call 2548 0803

C&ED regularly organises welfare visits and provides 24-hour counselling and consultation hotline service for staff members.

**陷財困 有出路**

**及早求助**

如需協助，請即致電  
If you need help, please call immediately

**東華三院**  
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals  
健康理財及家庭債務中心  
Healthy Budgeting Family Debt Counselling Centre

2548 0803

**香港明愛家庭服務**  
Caritas Family Service  
財困壓力輔導專線  
Financial Stress Helpline

**3161 0102**

尚需熱線  
24小時熱線及諮詢服務  
24-hour counselling and consultation hotline

**18288**

沉迷賭博  
過度投資  
負債累累

In collaboration with the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Healthy Budgeting Family Debt Counselling Centre and the Caritas Family Crisis Line and Education Centre, the Department provides 24-hour "Indebtedness Counselling Service" for officers facing financial stress.



# Integrated Health and Exercise Programme

C&ED has implemented the Integrated Health and Exercise Programme since June 2023. The programme encompasses multiple initiatives to foster a culture of physical fitness and encourage Customs officers to incorporate exercise in their daily routines.



To encourage participation in sports, the Department organised the Customs Health Biweekly Campaign to offer colleagues an opportunity to join different introductory classes co-ordinated by the affiliated clubs of the C&ED Sports and Recreation Club.





The Department organised the Fitness Monitoring Equipment Experience Day to motivate staff members to monitor their personal health regularly.

## 12

## Administration and Finance

**The** Office of Departmental Administration of the Administration and Human Resource Development Branch is responsible for general administration, personnel management, establishment control and provision of translation service whilst the Office of Financial Administration performs the functions of finance management, supplies, stores as well as seizure management.





# Administration

C&ED had the following major establishment changes in 2024 -

## Setting up of the Secretariat Office of the World Customs Organization Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific Region

The Secretariat Office of the World Customs Organization Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific Region was established on 1 July 2024 to support the work and fulfilment of relevant duties for the 2024-2026 term. It has an establishment of 11 posts.



# Finance

## Revenue

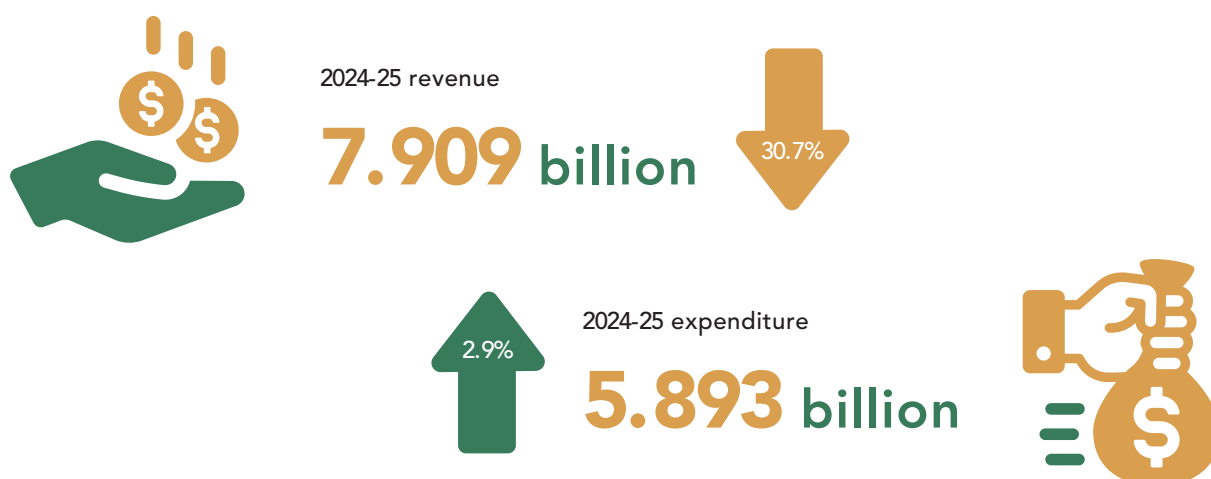
C&ED collected \$7.909 billion of revenue in 2024-25, representing a decrease of 30.7% over that in 2023-24. This is mainly due to the decrease in revenue collection from hydrocarbon oils and tobacco.

A summary of the total revenue collected in 2023-24 and 2024-25 is at Appendix 7.

## Expenditure

The total expenditure of C&ED in 2024-25 was \$5.893 billion, representing an increase of 2.9% over that in 2023-24. This is mainly due to the increase of personal emoluments arising from civil service pay adjustment.

A summary of the total expenditure in 2023-24 and 2024-25 is at Appendix 8.



## Seizure Management

The provision of service for the storage and disposal of seized goods is one of the major tasks of C&ED. In 2024-25, the total average space available for storage of seized goods and vehicles in government storehouses was 57 084 square metres while that in private godowns was 11 148 cubic metres.

Upon completion of all legal proceedings concerning the confiscated goods, C&ED will dispose of the goods in accordance with the Stores and Procurement Regulations. The disposal means, which include destruction and public auction, will depend on the types and nature of the confiscated goods. About 56 906 items of confiscated goods, which included cigarettes, optical discs, drugs, fuel oil, computer equipment, precious metals, vessels and vehicles were disposed of in 2024-25. The income arising from the Government's disposal of confiscated goods will go to the Treasury as revenue.



## 13

Community  
and Youth

## Customs

officers are more than dedicated and committed to their work. They are also keen to contribute to society by engaging in all kinds of charitable services in their spare time. Besides, C&ED has implemented the youth programme "Customs YES" to foster young people's positive values, law-abiding spirit as well as sense of belonging to our society and our country through an array of diversified education-oriented activities.





## Customs and Excise Volunteer Team

Customs officers care for the community by engaging in volunteer services in their leisure time. The Customs and Excise Volunteer Team, established by staff members, actively organises, co-ordinates and participates in volunteer services for the elderly, teenagers and children. The volunteer team also collaborates with different government departments, social welfare organisations and community leaders to host a variety of activities, uniting all sectors of society in building a caring community.

The Customs and Excise Volunteer Team was awarded the "Meritorious Volunteer Service Award" by the Secretary for the Civil Service at the "Civil Service Volunteer Commendation Award Presentation Ceremony 2024", and individual team members were honored with the "Outstanding Volunteer Leader Award", "Excellent Volunteer Award (Gold)" and "Evergreen Volunteer Award (Gold)" in recognition of their dedication to serving the community through volunteer work. In addition, the volunteer team was awarded the "Outstanding Non-Commercial Organisation Award – Merit Award" at the "Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2024" co-organised by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau and the Agency for Volunteer Service.





Over the years, the volunteer team has collaborated with social welfare organisations in organising different activities, such as tours for students from local grassroots families, putting love and care into action. The volunteer team has also actively participated in various large-scale sports events to help promote economic development.



The Customs and Excise Volunteer Team has collaborated with the Sowers Action for many years in organising different activities, such as tours for students from local grassroots families, putting love and care into action.

In 2024, team members signed up as volunteers for the 2025 National Games (Hong Kong) through the "Hong Kong Volunteer Programme of the 15th National Games" to participate in the voluntary work for the National Games and give full support to this national sporting event.







## Customs and Excise Band

The Customs and Excise Band is formed by colleagues from different grades who are passionate about music. It aims to promote the fun of music among its members and provide professional band service for the Department's official and social functions.

The band staged a total of five performances in 2024, including joint disciplined services events, departmental functions and community social events.



The Customs and Excise Band performed several Chinese military style tunes at the Department's passing-out parade held in July 2024. The band lined up to form the alphabets "APVC" during their performance in celebration of C&ED's assumption of the post of WCO Vice-Chairperson for the Asia/Pacific Region in the name of Hong Kong, China.





The Customs and Excise Band performed “March of the Volunteers” solemnly according to the standard music score during the flag-raising ceremony held at the Hong Kong Customs College on Constitution Day in December 2024 to promote the spirit of the Constitution.

## Customs and Excise Pop Band

The Customs and Excise Pop Band is formed by Customs colleagues who have passions for popular music and band culture, with the aim of promoting music exchange and band culture. In addition to pop music, the pop band also explores different music genres such as jazz and rock.

The pop band hopes to create a platform that brings together colleagues who are interested in singing or playing musical instruments. Through organising various music activities, band members showcase their diverse musical talents while fostering friendship, enhancing unity and promoting the Department's image.



The Customs and Excise Pop Band performed at a fundraising concert to support the Little Life Warriors.



## Customs YES

C&ED has implemented the youth programme “Customs YES” since January 2021 with a view to fostering young people’s positive values, law-abiding awareness as well as sense of belonging to society and the country through an array of educational activities with Customs nexus. As at the end of December 2024, Customs YES had recruited over 7 900 individual members aged between 12 and 24 and 58 organisation members (including schools and non-governmental organisations).

The activities of Customs YES embrace four “Cs”, namely “Calibre”, “Customs”, “Community” and “Country”. The programme aims at helping young people enhance their self-understanding, develop multi-talents, build up positive thinking, enhance understanding of C&ED’s work, and develop their sense of social belonging, national awareness and patriotism through a variety of activities covering personal development, Customs work, career planning, community services and national education. During the year, Customs YES organised over 150 activities with a total attendance of over 4 000.

To strengthen Customs YES members’ understanding of the latest developments of the country, C&ED organised three exchange and learning activities in the Mainland in 2024. These activities included the “Guangdong Innovation and Technology Exploration Trip”, the “Chengdu Summer Cultural Study Tour” and the “Customs YES Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Macao Exchange Tour for Hundred Youths”. These activities not only offered participants valuable opportunities to broaden their horizons and gain a better understanding of Customs operations across the three regions, but also helped foster patriotism.



Guangdong Innovation and Technology Exploration Trip





Chengdu Summer Cultural Study Tour



Customs YES Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Macao Exchange Tour for Hundred Youths



C&ED has organised the Summer Internship Programme for four consecutive years. In 2024, the programme received overwhelming support from 43 enterprises and 11 formations of the Department, offering a total of 133 summer internship placements, including those in the Greater Bay Area, attracting over 900 applications from young people. For the first time, internships as assistants to Legislative Council members were included in the programme. The pool of eligible applicants was also expanded to include not only tertiary students but also secondary school students. The programme enriched participants' learning experience and allowed them to equip themselves at an early stage through diversified vocational training.



● A member (left) participated in the Greater Bay Area internship said that the programme offered her valuable work experience and broadened her horizons.



A member (right) who served as an assistant to a Legislative Council member said that the programme laid a solid foundation for his future involvement in public service. ●

Customs YES organised the workshop on “Learn About Blood Tour” with the Hong Kong Red Cross in August 2024 to provide members with the opportunity to visit the latter’s laboratories and donor centre. Members also took the chance to give blood and experience Red Cross’ humanitarian aid work.



Members visited the Hong Kong Red Cross to learn about the operation of the blood bank and its humanitarian aid work.



A member gave blood for the first time during the visit.



C&ED set up a youth uniformed group named “Customs Youth Leader Corps (CYLC)” under the framework of Customs YES, which aims to build members’ confidence, team spirit and leadership through Chinese-style foot drill training, disciplinary training, regular assemblies and various activities, thereby nurturing them into distinguished youth leaders in society. CYLC had over 800 members as at the end of 2024. In 2024, a “Foot Drill and Flag Party” under CYLC was also established to deepen members’ understanding of national security, enhance their law-abiding awareness and foster patriotism.

CYLC held summer and winter training camps in July and December 2024 respectively. Apart from Chinese-style foot drill training and a taste of Customs work, members were also offered the opportunities to ride on helicopters of the Government Flying Service to understand more about its work on aviation patrol and emergency air ambulance service.



Grand Parade by Disciplined Services and Youth Groups cum Fun Day for Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People’s Republic of China.



The Foot Drill and Flag Party of the Customs Youth Leader Corps performed the flag-raising ceremony at the graduation parade for the Customs Youth Leader Corps Winter Training Camp.



Members of the Customs Youth Leader Corps cheered for national team athletes competing in the Paris Olympic Games.



Members of the Customs Youth Leader Corps interacted with the public at the National Security Education Day cum Hong Kong Customs College Open Day.



As a symbol of C&ED's participation in the national space mission, Customs YES teddy bear, an event photo album and a CYLC flag were carried by Shijian-19 satellite during its mission, showcasing our country's remarkable achievements in aerospace development.



Members participated in the satellite payload items unboxing ceremony held at the Central Government Offices.

# National Security Education Day cum Hong Kong Customs College Open Day

C&ED plays an indispensable role in safeguarding national security and gives its full support to the National Security Education Day organised by the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The department held the Hong Kong Customs College Open Day on 14 April 2024 to promote national security education among members of the public through a series of interactive activities, which allowed them to learn about C&ED's work in safeguarding national security from multiple perspectives.

The open day featured a wide range of activities, including an exhibition on national security education to enhance public understanding of national security and C&ED's work in safeguarding national security. Specially made sweet buns and milk tea carrying the message of safeguarding national security were distributed to visitors.

In addition, game booths were set up to introduce C&ED's responsibility to perform its gatekeeping role in an interactive manner. Visitors could enjoy not only the performances by members of the Customs and Excise Band, Guards of Honour, Dragon and Lion Dance Team, Detector Dog Team as well as schools and youth groups from various districts, but also the National Security Cup 3x3 Basketball Tournament.



C&ED's Guards of Honour performed Chinese-style flag-raising ceremony to commence the Open Day.





Guests and primary school students wearing costumes of different ethnic groups formed a picture of the Holistic Approach to National Security.



The National Security Food Court offered sweet buns and milk tea that carried the message of safeguarding national security.



# The Community Chest Sports for Millions 23/24

In March 2024, C&ED sent a team of athletes to participate in the Community Chest Sports for Millions held at the Disciplined Services Sports and Recreation Club. Through a series of sports competitions and group games, the event promoted a diverse and healthy lifestyle to the public while raising funds for youth services supported by the Community Chest.





## Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Hong Kong

C&ED fully supported the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics (Torch Run), an annual event organised by the Special Olympics Hong Kong to raise funds for athletes with intellectual disabilities to take part in the Special Olympics Games worldwide. The event held at Sha Tin Sports Ground on 22 September 2024 was attended by over 500 staff members of C&ED, who could choose to complete a 3.5 km route either on the event day or in their leisure time of their choice. A donation of over HKD\$730,000 was raised by C&ED for the Torch Run.



**2024香港特奧執法人員火炬跑啟動禮**  
2024 Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics Hong Kong Kick-off Ceremony









# Oxfam Trailwalker 2024

The Oxfam Trailwalker 2024 took place from 15 to 17 November 2024. C&ED co-ordinated a total of 12 teams to participate in the traditional 100 km route and a special 40 km trail, and was honoured to have Mr. Chaturont CHAIYAKAM, Consul General of the Royal Thai Consulate General in Hong Kong, and Mr. Jarupatra RATTANASERI, Consul (Customs) of the Consulate General, to team up with Mr. LI Kin-kei, Assistant Commissioner (World Customs Organization), to join the 40 km trail walk. C&ED will continue to support Oxfam's fundraising efforts for poverty alleviation by means of active participation.





# Lifeline Express Charity Run/Walk 2024

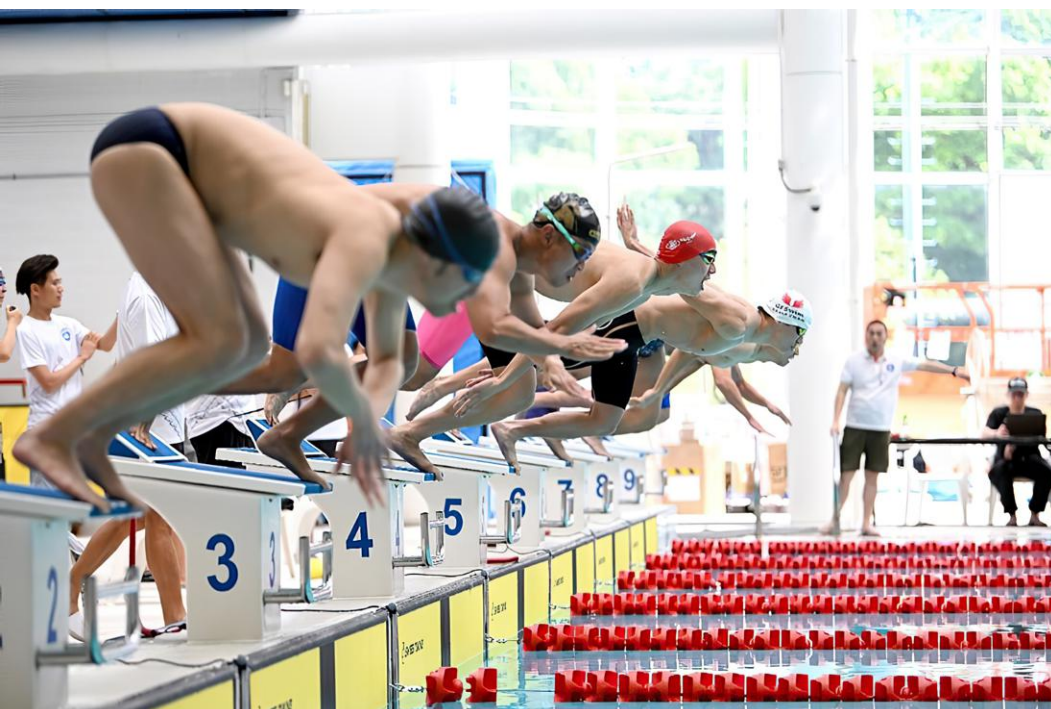
In November 2024, runners of the Customs and Excise Athletic Club and members of Customs YES participated in the Lifeline Express Charity Run/Walk 2024 held at the Clearwater Bay Golf & Country Club. Directorates of C&ED, together with the heads of the disciplined services, kicked off the fundraising event. Colleagues actively participated in and completed a 10 km charity run or a 3.5 km charity walk under the theme of "Hope in Every Step", contributing to the prevention and treatment of blindness in the Mainland and continuing to fulfil the sight saving mission of Lifeline Express.





# Customs and Excise Swimming Gala

The Customs and Excise Swimming Gala 2024 was held at Kowloon Park Swimming Pool on 21 June 2024, with a total of 347 participants. The event was spectacular and excitement-filled, especially the “Disciplinary Forces Invitation Relay” and the newly introduced “Youth Uniformed Groups Invitation Relay”. Swimmers were giving of their best, fully demonstrating team spirit and sportsmanship.





## C&ED Fully Supports Blood Donation

To facilitate and encourage colleagues to give blood, C&ED invited the Hong Kong Red Cross to hold blood donation events at the Customs Headquarters Building in April and November 2024. Over 100 colleagues donated blood in each event. The directorate officers also donated blood on the spot for rallying support from colleagues.





To facilitate and encourage trainees to give blood, the Hong Kong Customs College (HKCC) invited the Hong Kong Red Cross to hold blood donation events at HKCC in May and September 2024. Over 100 trainees and colleagues donated blood in the events.





## Launch of Departmental Xiaohongshu Account

Following the setting up of its YouTube channel, Facebook page, Instagram account, Douyin and WeChat official accounts, C&ED launched its Xiaohongshu official account on 30 May 2024 as the sixth official social media platform to further expand the reach of the latest information disseminated by C&ED, and share it with people from all walks of life on more online platforms in a faster and more direct way.

Through the Xiaohongshu platform, C&ED aims to share its multifaceted work and latest information with Hong Kong and Mainland residents in the form of creative short videos, photos and text illustrations to strengthen its communication and liaison with people in Hong Kong, Mainland and other regions, and in particular to enhance the interaction with the younger generation.



C&ED launched its Xiaohongshu official account on 30 May 2024.

C&ED launched its Xiaohongshu official account on 30 May 2024. This is the sixth official social media platform of C&ED following the launch of its YouTube channel, Facebook page, Instagram account, Douyin official account and WeChat official account.





## 14

# Appendices

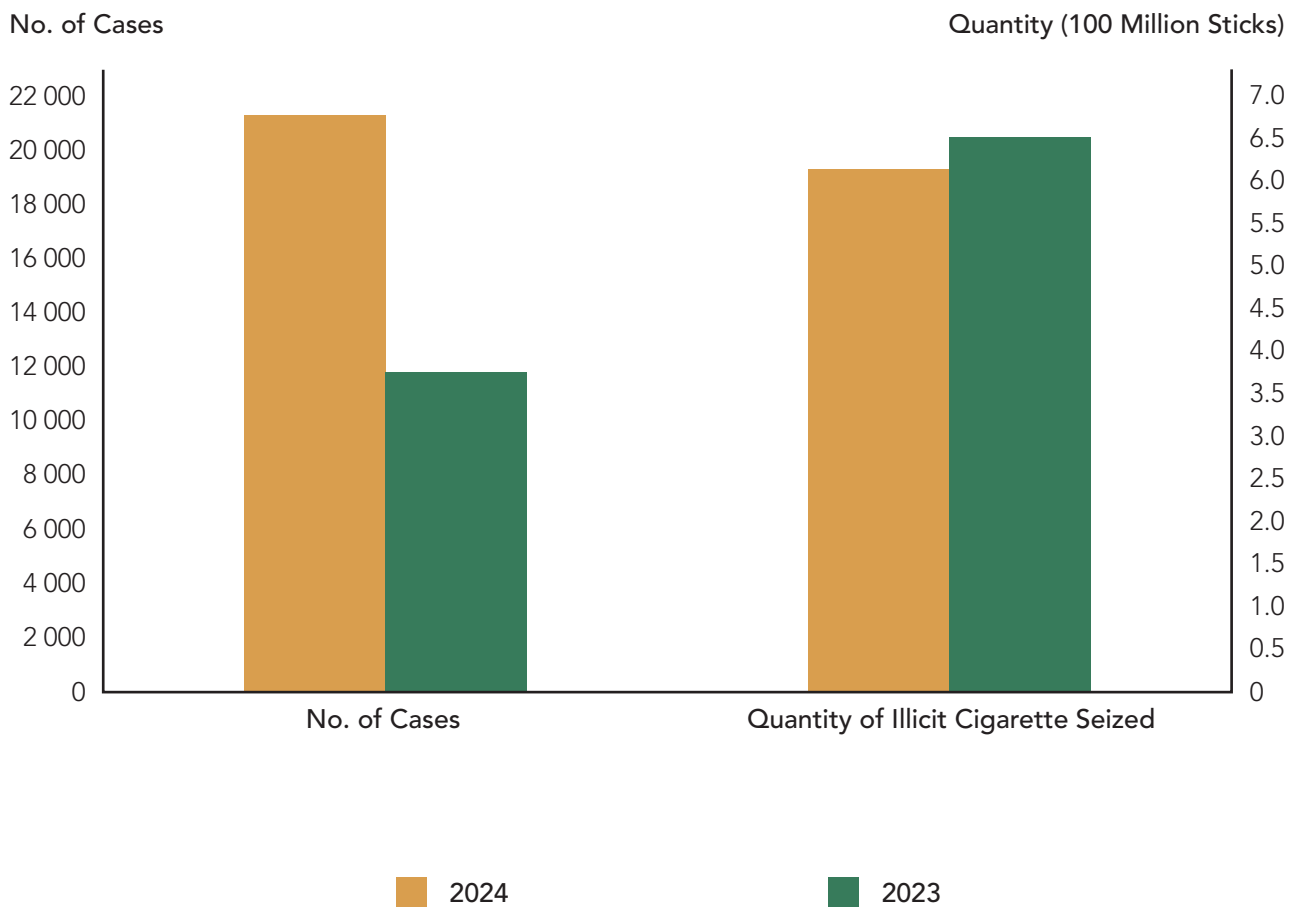
# 01 Establishment and Strength Position

Category/Grade	2023 (as at 31 December 2023)		2024 (as at 31 December 2024)	
	Establishment (No.)	Strength (No.)	Establishment (No.)	Strength (No.)
Directorate Posts	10	9	11	8
Sub-total	10	9	11	8
<b>Departmental Grades</b>				
Superintendent/Inspector of Customs and Excise Grades	1 200	1 114	1 198	1 152
Customs Officer Grade	5 142	4 620	5 103	4 733
Trade Controls Officer Grade	550	456	551	456
Sub-total	6 892	6 190	6 852	6 341
<b>General and Common Grades</b>				
Executive Officer/Training Officer Grades	32	32	33	31
Treasury Accountant/Accounting Officer Grades	19	20	19	19
Official Languages Officer/Calligraphist Grades	19	16	19	19
Statistician/Statistical Officer Grades	5	5	5	6
Secretarial Grades	39	35	39	36
Clerical Grades	289	266	288	266
Supplies Grades	60	60	61	61
Others	214	205	213	202
Sub-total	677	639	677	640
<b>Total</b>	<b>7 579</b>	<b>6 838</b>	<b>7 540</b>	<b>6 989</b>



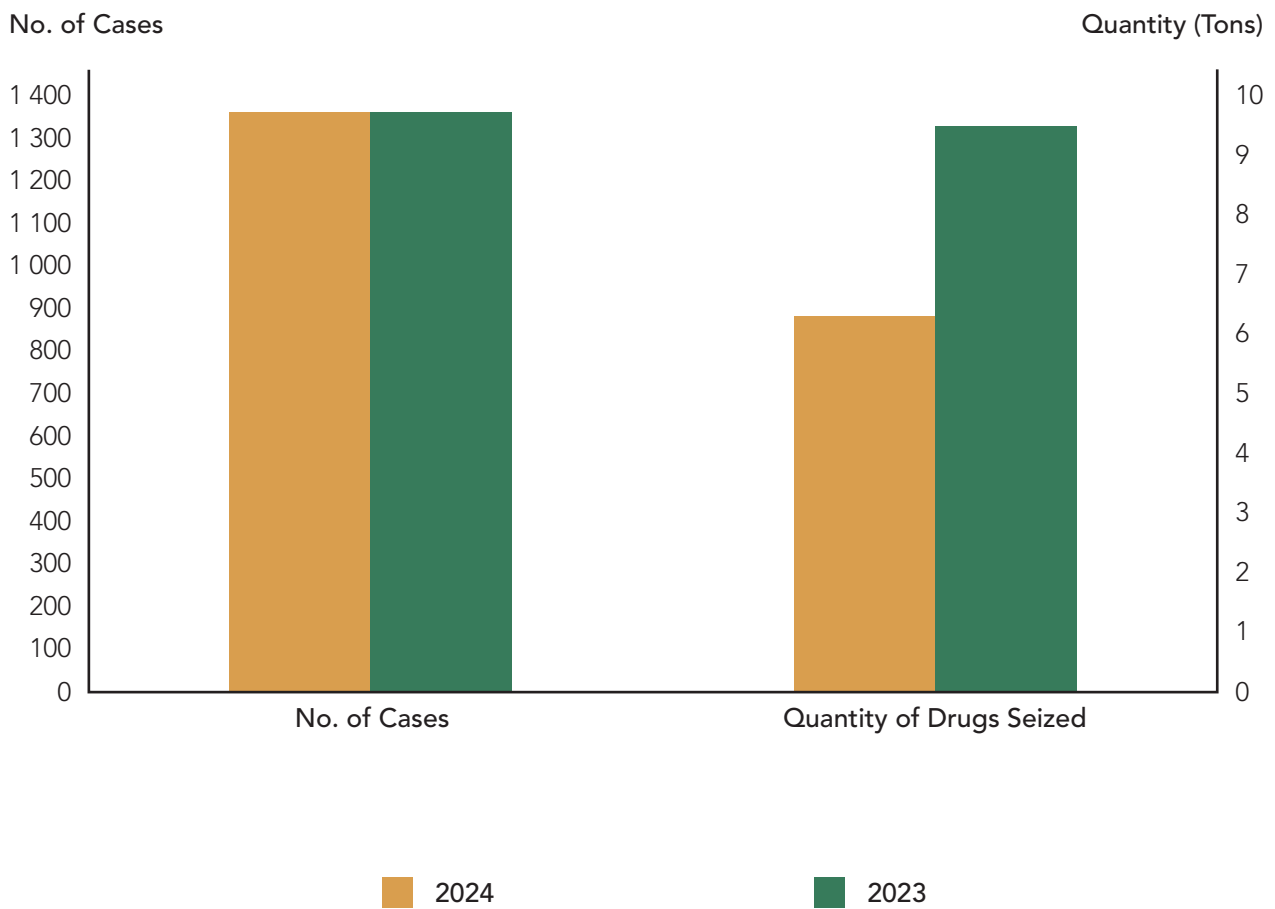
## 02 Statistics on Illicit Cigarette Cases

### Illicit Cigarette



## 03 Statistics on Drugs Cases

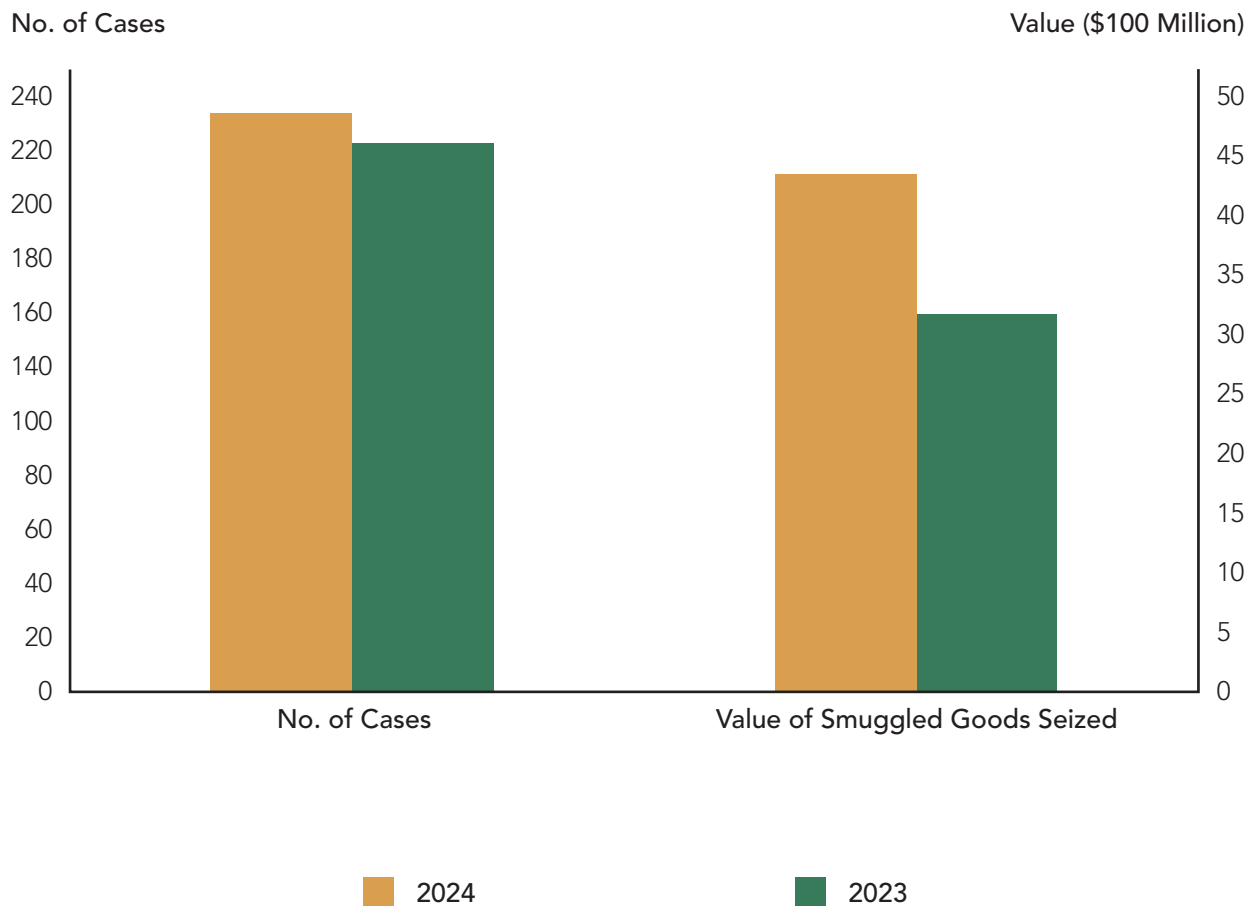
### Drugs





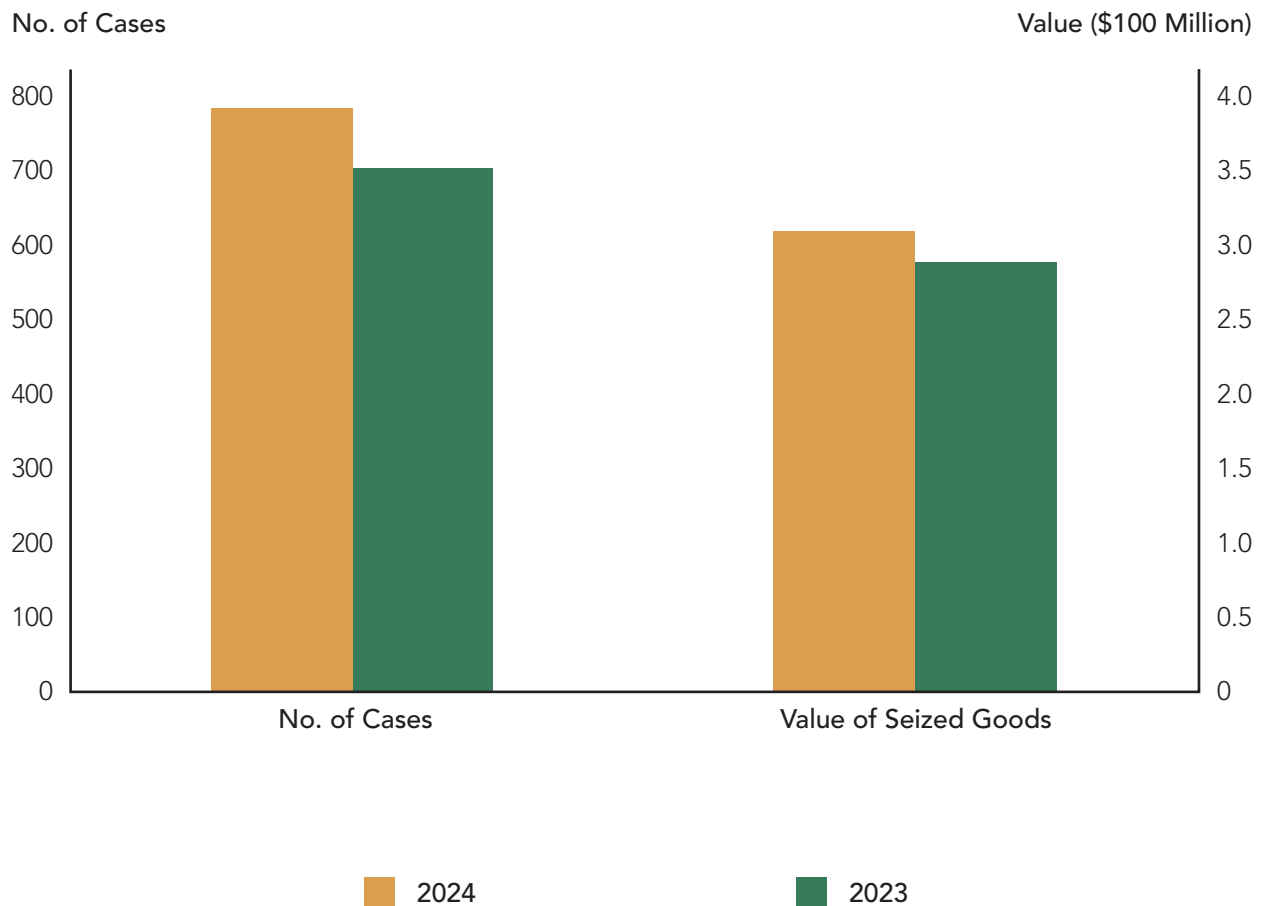
## 04 Statistics on Smuggling Cases

### Smuggling Cases (Excluding Illicit Cigarettes)



## 05 Statistics on Copyright Infringement Cases

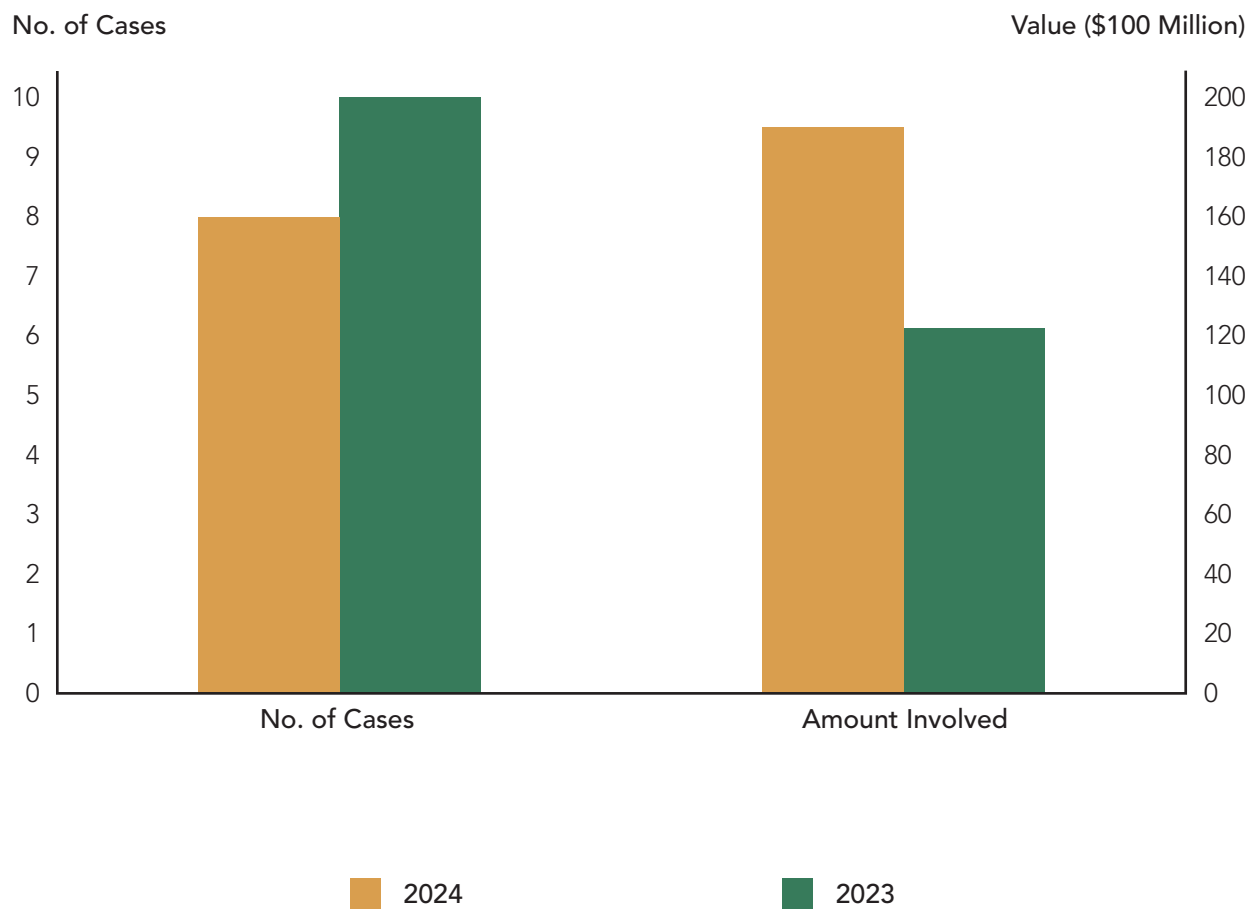
### Copyright Infringement





## 06 Statistics on Money Laundering Cases

### Money Laundering



## 07 Legislation under which Customs staff can act

1	Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance	Cap. 1
2	Import and Export Ordinance	Cap. 60
3	Weights and Measures Ordinance	Cap. 68
4	Post Office Ordinance	Cap. 98
5	Telecommunications Ordinance	Cap. 106
6	Dutiable Commodities Ordinance	Cap. 109
7	Immigration Ordinance	Cap. 115
8	Public Revenue Protection Ordinance	Cap. 120
9	Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance	Cap. 132
10	Pesticides Ordinance	Cap. 133
11	Dangerous Drugs Ordinance	Cap. 134
12	Antibiotics Ordinance	Cap. 137
13	Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance	Cap. 138
14	Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance	Cap. 139
15	Control of Chemicals Ordinance	Cap. 145
16	Crimes Ordinance	Cap. 200
17	Plant (Importation and Pest Control) Ordinance	Cap. 207
18	Weapons Ordinance	Cap. 217
19	Magistrates Ordinance	Cap. 227
20	Police Force Ordinance	Cap. 232
21	Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance	Cap. 238



## 07 Legislation under which Customs staff can act (Cont'd)

22	Marine Fish (Marketing and Exportation) Regulations	Cap. 291A
23	Dangerous Goods Ordinance	Cap. 295
24	Reserved Commodities Ordinance	Cap. 296
25	Air Pollution Control Ordinance	Cap. 311
26	Shipping and Port Control Ordinance	Cap. 313
27	Industrial Training (Clothing Industry) Ordinance	Cap. 318
28	Protection of Non-Government Certificates of Origin Ordinance	Cap. 324
29	Motor Vehicles (First Registration Tax) Ordinance	Cap. 330
30	Customs and Excise Service Ordinance	Cap. 342
31	Waste Disposal Ordinance	Cap. 354
32	Trade Descriptions Ordinance	Cap. 362
33	Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance	Cap. 371
34	Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance	Cap. 390
35	Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance	Cap. 403
36	Drug Trafficking (Recovery of Proceeds) Ordinance	Cap. 405
37	Rabies Ordinance	Cap. 421
38	Toys and Children's Products Safety Ordinance	Cap. 424
39	Organized and Serious Crimes Ordinance	Cap. 455
40	Consumer Goods Safety Ordinance	Cap. 456
41	Fugitive Offenders Ordinance	Cap. 503
42	Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance	Cap. 525

## 07 Legislation under which Customs staff can act (Cont'd)

43	Weapons of Mass Destruction (Control of Provision of Services) Ordinance	Cap. 526
44	Copyright Ordinance	Cap. 528
45	United Nations Sanctions Ordinance	Cap. 537
46	Prevention of Copyright Piracy Ordinance	Cap. 544
47	Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance	Cap. 548
48	Chinese Medicine Ordinance	Cap. 549
49	Trade Marks Ordinance	Cap. 559
50	Broadcasting Ordinance	Cap. 562
51	United Nations (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance	Cap. 575
52	Chemical Weapons (Convention) Ordinance	Cap. 578
53	Prevention of Child Pornography Ordinance	Cap. 579
54	Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance	Cap. 586
55	Interception of Communications and Surveillance Ordinance	Cap. 589
56	Food Safety Ordinance	Cap. 612
57	Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Ordinance	Cap. 615
58	Companies Ordinance	Cap. 622
59	Cross-boundary Movement of Physical Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments Ordinance	Cap. 629
60	Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources Ordinance	Cap. 635
61	Mercury Control Ordinance	Cap. 640



# 08 Actual revenue • for 2023-24 and 2024-25

	Actual Revenue	
	2023-24	2024-25
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
<b>Duties</b>		
Hydrocarbon oils	2,958,320	2,531,607
Tobacco	7,247,686	4,321,006
Alcoholic Beverages	686,890	472,236
Other Alcoholic Products	5,730	5,721
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>10,898,626</b>	<b>7,330,570</b>
<b>Fees charged under Dutiable Commodities Ordinance</b>		
Licence Fees	8,523	8,040
Attendance Fees	560	701
Denaturing Fees	166	129
Storage Fees	1	2
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>9,250</b>	<b>8,872</b>
<b>Trade Declaration Charges</b>		
Imports and Exports Declaration Charges	355,027	360,269
Clothing Levy Service Charges (see Note)	46	46
Penalties	43,524	41,873
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>398,597</b>	<b>402,188</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>113,905</b>	<b>167,080</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,420,378</b>	<b>7,908,710</b>

Note: Clothing Industry Training Levy collected on behalf of the Clothing Industry Training Authority

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# 09 Actual expenditure for 2023-24 and 2024-25

		Actual Expenditure	
		2023-24	2024-25
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
<b>Operating Account</b>			
Personal Emoluments			
Salaries		3,761,035	3,912,152
Allowances		97,222	90,194
Job-related allowances		35,106	36,093
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3,893,363</b>	<b>4,038,439</b>
Other Recurrent Expenses			
Personnel related expenses		405,309	443,485
Rewards and special services		30,042	25,375
General departmental expenses		1,223,810	1,205,793
Land usage cost		1	1
Grant to the Customs and Excise Service			
Welfare Fund		348	347
Seizure management		77,889	59,300
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,737,399</b>	<b>1,734,301</b>
<b>Capital</b>			
Plant, vehicles and equipment		15,025	38,847
Minor plant, vehicles and equipment		80,949	81,110
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>95,974</b>	<b>119,957</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,726,736</b>	<b>5,892,697</b>



# 10 Case Statistics (2023)

Ordinance	Number of Cases	Number of Arrests	Estimated Value of Seized Items (HK\$'000)
Air Pollution Control	5	–	3
Antibiotics	3	3	284
Consumer Goods Safety	55	–	19
Copyright/Prevention of Copyright Piracy	50	60	2,997
Crimes	2	–	20
Cross-boundary Movement of Physical Currency and BNI	84	84	2,501
Customs & Excise Service	11	13	38,547
Dangerous Drugs	1 361	296	5,173,206
Dangerous Goods	2	1	1
Dogs & Cats	5	3	1
Dutiable Commodities	15 212	12 133	1,934,416
Firearms & Ammunition	33	7	453
Food Safety	28	23	1,361
Immigration	23	35	54
Import & Export	1 848	930	3,289,083
Merchant Shipping (local vessels)	2	1	524
Organized & Serious Crimes	9	53	50,571
Ozone Layer Protection	1	–	2
Pesticides	1	–	2
Pharmacy & Poisons	115	48	16,625
Plant (Importation & Pest Control)	41	3	313
Protection of ES of Animals & Plants	404	273	1,592,886
Public Health & Municipal Services	1 108	978	7,046
Public Health (Animals & Birds)	14	11	9
Rabies	11	11	237
Reserved Commodities	33	4	23
Smoking (Public Health)	737	512	11,857
Telecommunication	32	27	2,172
Toys & Children's Products Safety	26	–	8
Trade Descriptions	788	342	288,559
Waste Disposal	16	5	106,120
Weapons	99	14	915
Weights & Measures	33	–	10
Other Ordinances	125	57	1
<b>All Ordinances *</b>	<b>21 525</b>	<b>15 592</b>	<b>10,522,314</b>

The figure '0' refers to a positive figure of value of less than 0.5.

\* Actual total. A case may involve more than one ordinance. Hence, the total of all ordinances cannot add up to the actual total.

# 10 Case Statistics (2024)

Ordinance	Number of Cases	Number of Arrests	Estimated Value of Seized Items (HK\$'000)
Consumer Goods Safety	52	1	173
Control of Chemicals	5	2	472
Copyright/Prevention of Copyright Piracy	59	61	3,906
Cross-boundary Movement of Physical Currency and BNI	108	108	9
Customs & Excise Service	5	4	19,913
Dangerous Drugs	1 362	365	2,626,257
Dangerous Goods	5	5	45
Dutiable Commodities	25 554	22 752	2,781,307
Firearms & Ammunition	23	2	1,014
Food Safety	13	12	148
Immigration	19	30	9
Import & Export	3 811	2 291	4,718,422
Organized & Serious Crimes	12	33	465
Ozone Layer Protection	2	–	36
Pharmacy & Poisons	150	58	164,039
Plant (Importation & Pest Control)	28	4	95
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	1	–	1
Protection of ES of Animals & Plants	446	304	99,012
Public Health & Municipal Services	2 014	1 811	1,959
Public Health (Animals & Birds)	10	8	28
Rabies	18	15	485
Reserved Commodities	30	1	85
Smoking (Public Health)	15	3	92
Telecommunication	18	2	647
Toys & Children's Products Safety	36	–	10
Trade Descriptions	887	409	310,804
Waste Disposal	71	33	9,142
Weapons	55	6	517
Weights & Measures	46	–	100
Other Ordinances	148	131	0
<b>All Ordinances *</b>	<b>33 753</b>	<b>27 878</b>	<b>9,132,462</b>

The figure '0' refers to a positive figure of value of less than 0.5.

\* Actual total. A case may involve more than one ordinance. Hence, the total of all ordinances cannot add up to the actual total.



# 11 Major Seized Items

Ordinance Major Seized Item	2023		2024	
	Quantity	Estimated Value of Seized Items (HK\$'000)	Quantity	Estimated Value of Seized Items (HK\$'000)
<b>Dangerous Drugs<sup>(1)</sup></b>				
Heroin (kg)	331.7	285,828	129.8	95,794
Opium (kg)	131.6	15,393	—	—
Cannabis (kg)	2 353.5	475,927	2 863.4	599,653
Ketamine (kg)	1 815.6	937,379	1 201.8	597,841
Cocaine (kg)	2 003.1	2,042,418	711.3	668,826
Methamphetamine (Ice) (kg)	2 207.7	1,321,080	1 110.2	577,651
MDMA (Ecstasy) (tablet)	7 612.0	24,417	3 346.0	19,954
Synthetic Cathinones (bath salts) (kg)	2.3	282	0.1	16
Gamma-butyrolactone (GBL) (kg)	15.1	8	8.6	9
Cannabidiol (CBD) (kg) <sup>(2)</sup>	119.5	443	53.2	3,968
Etomidate (kg) <sup>(3)</sup>	0	1	24	12,956
Other Psychotropic Drugs (tablet)	3 584.0	6,921	9 070.0	2,543
<b>Dutiable Commodities<sup>(4)</sup></b>				
Cigarette (mille)	652 246	2,257,851	616 397	2,734,422
Other Tobacco (kg)	32 785	157,704	75 540	383,210
Hydrocabon Oil ('000 litre)	47	972	28	662
Liquor ('000 litre)	51	16,888	669	15,119
<b>Import &amp; Export</b>				
Computer and Accessories ('000 no.)	7 469	202,611	323 530	1,196,164
Electrical and Electronic Goods <sup>(5)</sup> ('000 no.)	297 856	1,661,792	84 697	544,475
Mobile Phone and Accessories ('000 no.)	1 518	133,245	575	395,878
Pharmaceutical Products ('000 tablet)	4 065	46,729	3 927	215,731
Foodstuff and Drinks <sup>(6)</sup> (tonnes)	95	183,714	32	89,623
Cosmetic and Beauty ('000 no.)	108	10,088	222	52,033

The figure '0' refers to a positive figure of value of less than 0.5.

- (1) The estimated value of seized items includes dangerous drugs measured in different units of measurement.
- (2) Starting from 1 February 2023, CBD has been listed as a dangerous drug under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance.
- (3) Starting from 14 February 2025, Etomidate has been listed as a dangerous drug under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance.
- (4) Include all ordinances.
- (5) Exclude mobile phones and accessories.
- (6) Exclude meat.

- (7) Include mainly bags, wallets and belts.
- (8) Exclude sildenafil and antibiotics.
- (9) The Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 was put into effect on 30 April 2022, and no person may import, promote, manufacture, sell or possess for commercial purposes alternative smoking products (ASPs), including electronic cigarette products, heated tobacco products and herbal cigarettes. Thereafter, the Import and Export (Amendment) Ordinance 2023 took effect on 30 June 2023, providing for the prohibition on importing ASPs and the exemptions.

# 11 Major Seized Items (Cont'd)

Ordinance Major Seized Item	2023		2024	
	Quantity	Estimated Value of Seized Items (HK\$'000)	Quantity	Estimated Value of Seized Items (HK\$'000)
<b>Copyright</b>				
Electrical and Electronic Goods <sup>(5)</sup> ('000 no.)	2	1,555	2	2,899
Optical Disc ('000 no.)	11	416	8	619
<b>Forged Trademark (FTM)</b>				
Watch and Parts ('000 no.)	49	65,402	65	85,286
Footwear ('000 pairs)	91	41,880	256	72,643
Mobile Phone and Accessories ('000 no.)	242	101,507	238	49,006
Fashion Accessories ('000 no.) <sup>(7)</sup>	74	18,934	58	27,077
Garment and Accessories ('000 pc)	77	20,310	100	19,996
Electrical and Electronic Goods <sup>(5)</sup> ('000 no.)	63	8,729	51	8,783
<b>Pharmacy &amp; Poisons</b>				
Part I Poisons <sup>(8)</sup> (kg)	16	70	312	14,242
(litre)	10	599	148	5,834
('000 tablet)	267	9,457	720	42,129
<b>Protection of ES of Animals &amp; Plants</b>				
Shark Fin (kg)	11 617	71,576	20 843	55,748
Wood (kg)	358	3,995	1 776	19,236
Totoaba, Parts or Specimen (kg)	3	411	–	–
Ginseng (kg)	374	389	463	1,398
Ivory and Related Products (kg)	32	137	47	471
<b>Others</b>				
Alternative Smoking Products (ASPs) ('000 no.) <sup>(9)</sup>	3 849	24,519	12 194	46,503
Fireworks (kg)	1	0	65	1
Firearms and Parts (no.)	2	4	4	1

The figure '0' refers to a positive figure of value of less than 0.5.

- (1) The estimated value of seized items includes dangerous drugs measured in different units of measurement.
- (2) Starting from 1 February 2023, CBD has been listed as a dangerous drug under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance.
- (3) Starting from 14 February 2025, Etomidate has been listed as a dangerous drug under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance.
- (4) Include all ordinances.
- (5) Exclude mobile phones and accessories.
- (6) Exclude meat.

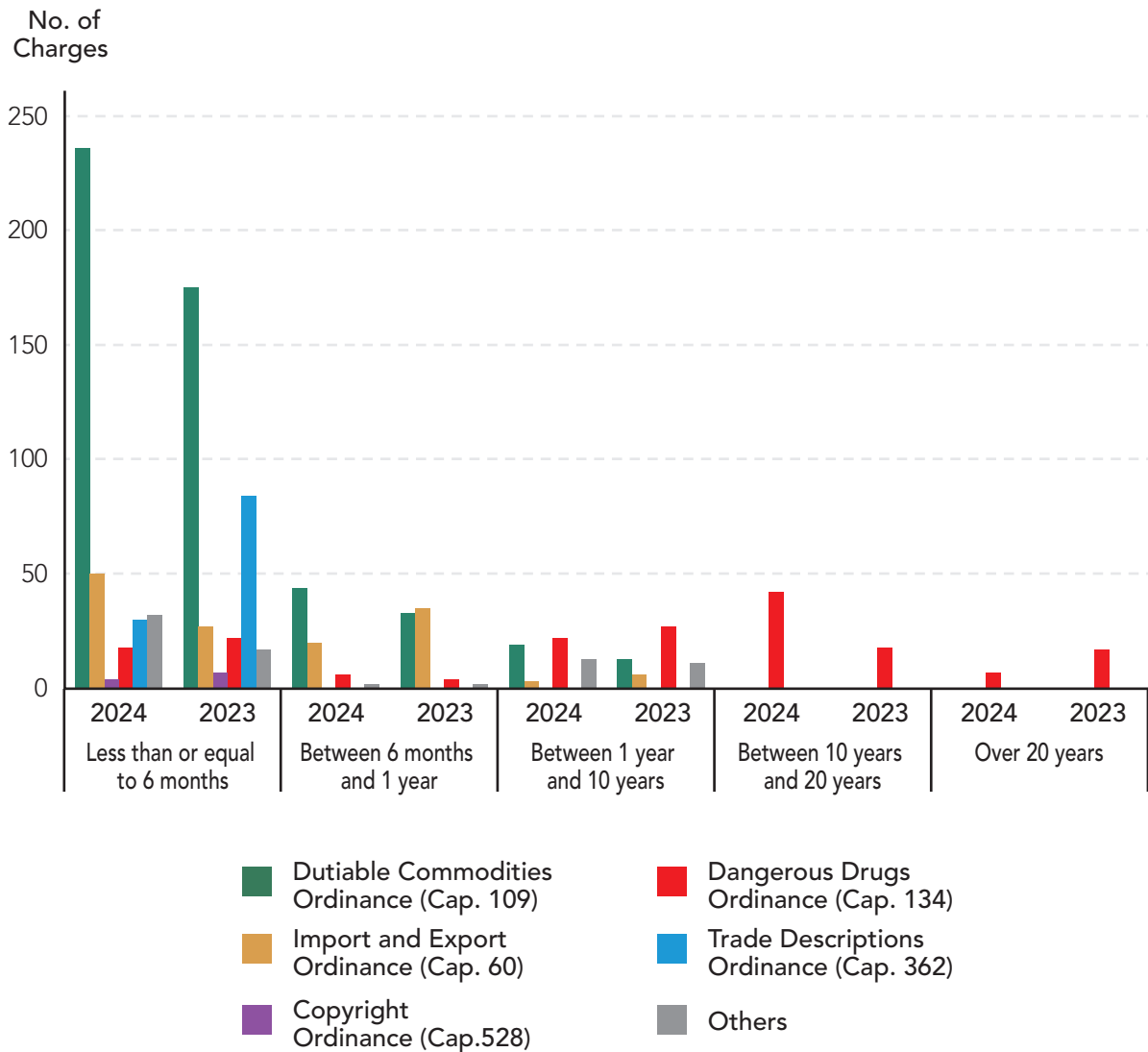
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- (9) The Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 was put into effect on 30 April 2022, and no person may import, promote, manufacture, sell or possess for commercial purposes alternative smoking products (ASPs), including electronic cigarette products, heated tobacco products and herbal cigarettes. Thereafter, the Import and Export (Amendment) Ordinance 2023 took effect on 30 June 2023, providing for the prohibition on importing ASPs and the exemptions.



## 12 Stop and Search of Persons / Vehicles at Control Points

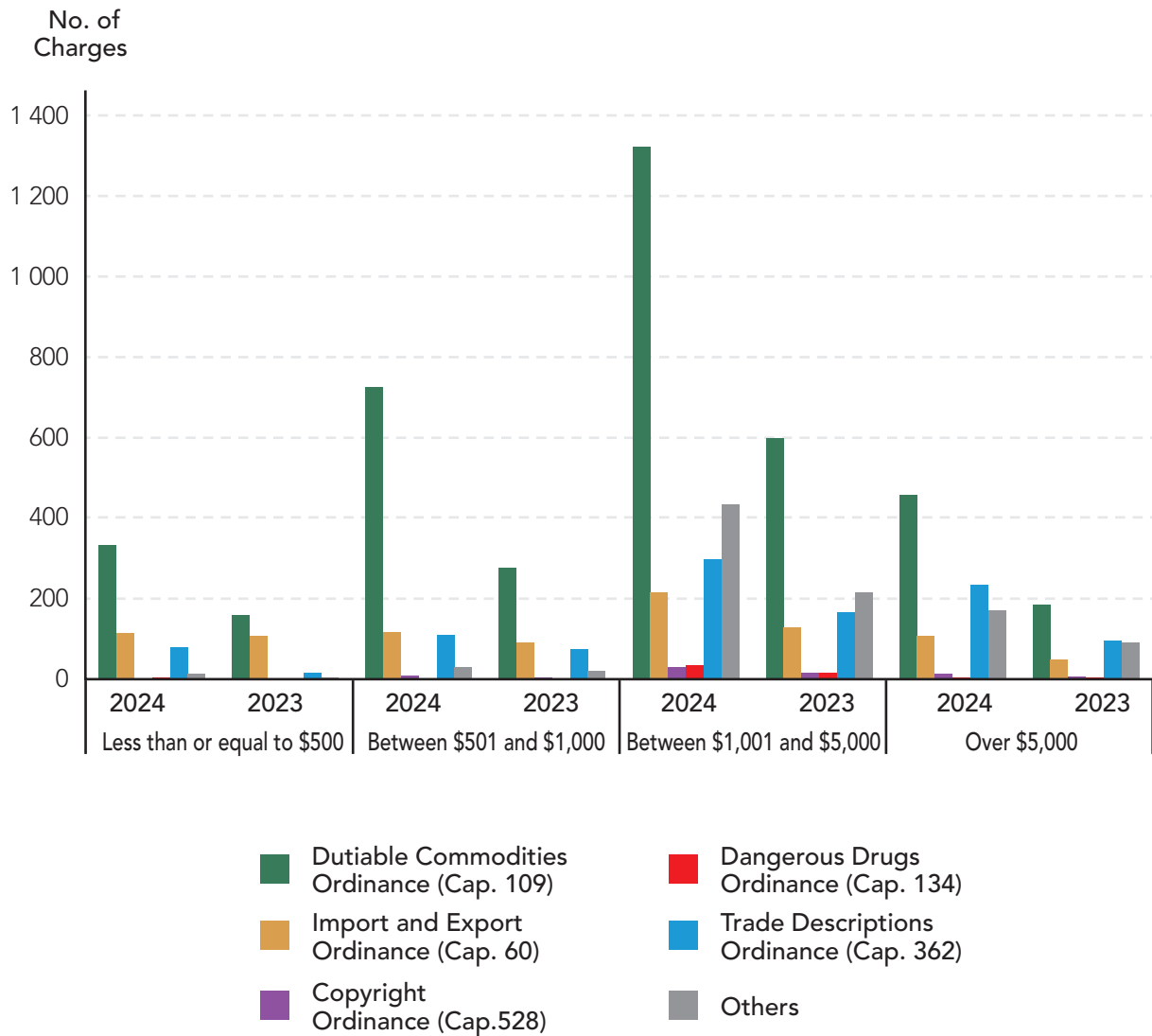
	2023	2024
No. of persons stopped and searched	107 290	126 400
No. of vehicles checked	253 960	337 450

# 13 Range of Sentences

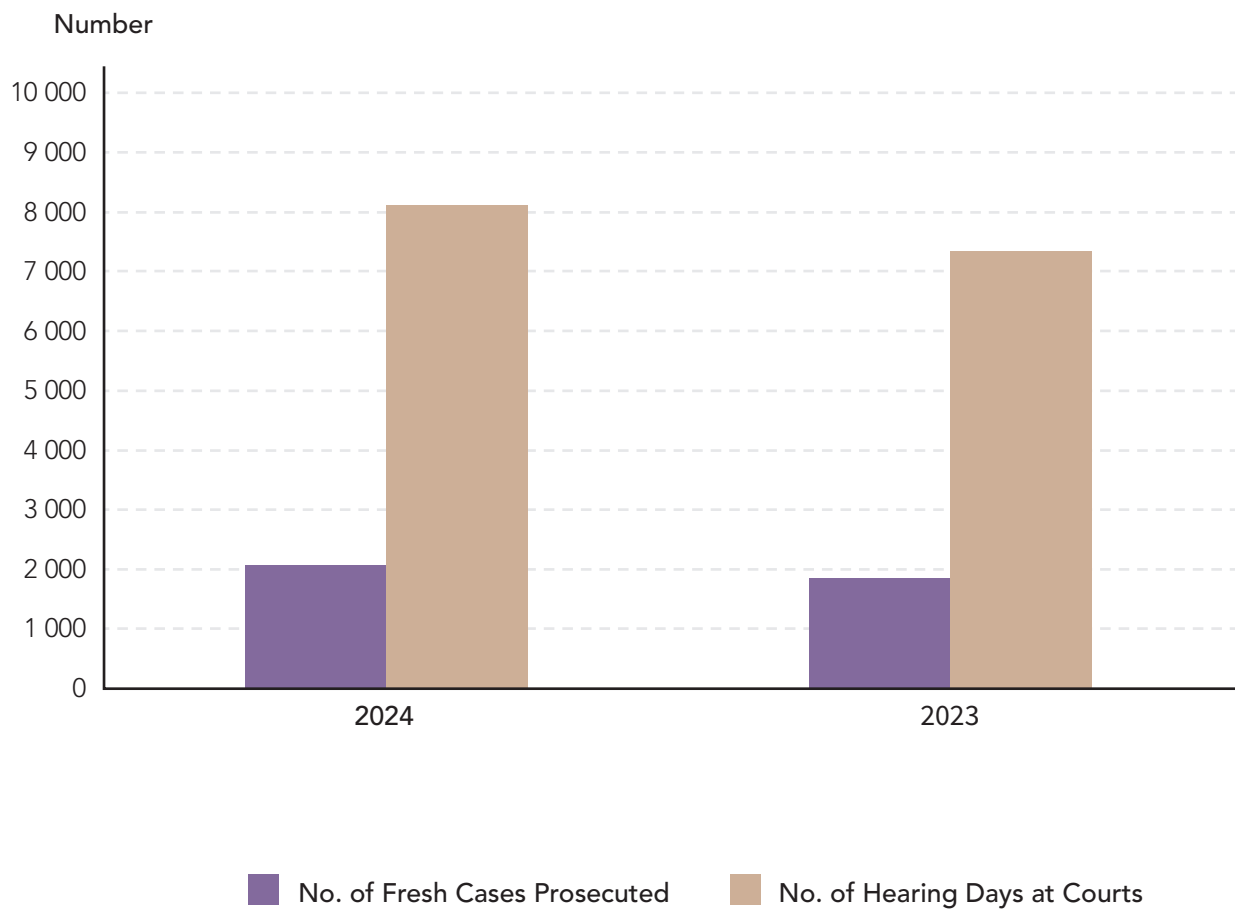




# 14 Range of Fines



# 15 Court Actions







Facebook



Website



Instagram



WeChat



抖音



小紅書