

## 11 September, 2017

Mr. Lawrence Cheung
Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Community Relation)
Environmental Protection Department
Waste Management (Special Duties) Division
Room 801-804, 8/F, AIA Tower,
183 Electric Road,
North Point, Hong Kong

(By Post)

Dear Mr. Cheung,

## Implementation Arrangements for Municipal Solid Waste Charging

On behalf of the Hong Kong Retail Management Association, I would like to extend our thanks to you and your team for meeting with our members on 31 August, 2017, regarding the implementation arrangements for the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging.

Take this opportunity, I write to recap our members' views and matters requesting your department's kind follow-up as expressed at the meeting which include the following:

- (a) Members, especially those from catering sector, highlighted that it is important to make available quality designated garbage bag (DGB) that could be durable for heavy food waste. They suggested the Government to have multiple sources to manufacture different sizes of DGB so as to lower the cost and widen the choices.
- (b) Members asked if the DGB has barcode that retail shops can sell to consumers to replace the plastic shopping bags that they currently sell at a minimum charge of 50 cents. Members also asked how the Commerce & Industry sectors can bulk purchase the DGB.



- (c) Members also raised concerns about the urgency on public education on the MSW charging, and the support on recycling business, in particular, food waste recycling. They are particularly interested to know the time table on public education.
- (d) Members requested your Department to provide quality specifications of the proposed DGBs for their comments.
- (e) Members also would like your Department to further clarify the application of the oversized waste label.
- (f) To ensure smooth distribution of DGBs, members would like to know the detailed mechanism regarding the appointment of chain retailers as authorized agents, and arrangement of bulk purchase by single operator, such as caterer.
- (g) They are also interested to know the manufacturing arrangement of DGBs that would enhance choices and ease of availability for the public and the industries.

In the meantime, we would contact your Department to follow up on the implementation plan especially regarding the above-mentioned items. For further enquires, you may contact Ms. Katherine Yu, Senior Manager, Communications & PR, at anytime.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth Yu

**Executive Director**