## Question on CuMask+TM (Paper IDC 78/2020)

## Written reply from the Innovation and Technology Bureau

The online registration period for the CuMask+TM ended on 6 June. During the one-month registration period, over 1.44 million registrations were received through the online system, covering more than 3.93 million registrants in total. As at 15 June, more than 3.5 million masks have been delivered successfully by Hongkong Post.

The CuMask+TM project was co-ordinated by the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA). The mask adopts an ergonomic design and is tailored according to the face shape of Asians. The mask can be washed for 60 times. The HKRITA is also aware of the opinion from various parties regarding the design.

We have also delivered some additional 140,000 CuMask<sup>+TM</sup> to residential homes and social welfare institutions in early May, for further distribution to the needy. We understand that some residential homes may not have enough manpower to individually wash and dry the masks for service users every day. The arrangement to hand out CuMask<sup>+TM</sup> is to provide one more choice for the needy. Residential homes, institutions, service users and families may decide when to use the masks in light of the actual situation and need.

We have requested the HKRITA to submit to the Government a report and audited accounts for the entire project. We anticipate that we can make public the report and audited accounts this August. We stand ready to explain to the public if necessary.

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