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closer Economic Partnership Arrangement

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Editor's Note:

To implement and actively participate in the work on promoting the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, as well as to strengthen the exchange and cooperation between the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) and local commercial authorities in the Bay Area, a delegation of the DSE recently visited the nine Mainland cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area to meet with the leaders of the local commercial authorities, and visit the Macao-owned enterprises, as well as high and new technology parks in those places. By visiting the commercial authorities of the nine cities of the Bay Area, the DSE hopes to establish close partnerships and



Visit to the Guangzhou Municipal Commission of Commerce

further clarify the future directions of cooperation with them.

In addition, the consultation on the Agreement on Trade in Goods under CEPA officially kicked off with the first Senior Officials' Meeting for enhancement of trade in goods under CEPA convened in Macao on 20 March. In respect of rules of origin (ROOs) consultation, the Consultation Meeting on Specific Issues Related to ROOs for the Agreement on Trade in Goods under the China-Macao CEPA was held between the Mainland's General Administration of Customs (GACC) and the DSE on 25 May in Chongqing to consult on the details of the ROOs-related articles and chapters of the Agreement on Trade in Goods under CEPA.

The Macao SAR Government organised a delegation of Macao entrepreneurs to travel to Portugal and Brazil between 19 June and 29 June for exchange and visit. During the period, Parafuturo de Macau Investment and Development Limited signed a cooperation agreement with Beta-i, a renowned Portuguese incubator, on 21 June at the China and PSCs Economic and Trade Cooperation Business Meeting held in Lisbon, Portugal. Parafuturo will set up a "Macao Interaction Zone" in Lisbon, while both sides can make recommendations to each other on youth startup enterprises moving in to each other's incubation centre. This, accompanied with the launch of the China-PSCs Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Exchange Programme, can provide a more precise support to Macao's young business starters for innovating and starting up new businesses in Portugal.

1. DSE visits nine Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area cities



Meeting with the Economic, Trade and Information Commission of Shenzhen Municipality

To implement and actively participate in the work on promoting the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, as well as to strengthen the exchange and cooperation between the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) and local commercial authorities in the Bay Area, a delegation of the DSE recently visited the nine Mainland cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area to meet with the leaders of the local

commercial authorities, and visit the Macao-owned enterprises, as well as high and new technology parks in those places.

The DSE visited the Guangzhou Municipal Commission of Commerce, Zhuhai Bureau of Commerce, Bureau of Commerce of Foshan City, Zhongshan Bureau of Commerce and Jiangmen Bureau of Commerce between 28 May and 29 May; and visited the Economic, Trade and Information Commission of Shenzhen Municipality, Bureau of Commerce of Huizhou Municipality, Bureau of Commerce of Dongguan City and Bureau of Commerce of Zhaoqing City between 11 June and 13 June. During the visits, the Mainland commercial authorities gave an account on their areas' latest business and investment development opportunities and roles in the development of the Bay Area; both sides discussed and exchanged views on topics including customs clearance facilitation,

streamlining of inspection and quarantine measures, and optimisation of trade in services and trade in goods.

The Framework Agreement on Deepening Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Cooperation in the Development of the Bay Area has established the objectives of cooperation in the development of the Bay Area, which include advancing Macao's development into a commercial and trade cooperation service platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, and promoting facilitation of flows of people and goods by means of enhancing the level of customs clearance facilitation, so as to boost mutual investment between Mainland and Macao enterprises, and to encourage people in Macao to invest, start up new businesses and work in Guangdong. Chan Tze Wai, Deputy Director of DSE, says as Guangdong and Macao have been maintaining close relations and have signed the related cooperation agreements, it is believed that there will be wider room for cooperation between the Mainland and Macao in trade and investment areas on such an ideal basis following the imminent promulgation of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area's development plan. Macao will give full play to its "One Centre, One Platform" advantages to further promote optimisation of trade and investment facilitation with the Mainland, so as to provide more development opportunities to enterprises in the two places and to accelerate the integration into the Bay Area's development.

During the trip, the delegation visited the Guangdong-Macao (Jiangmen) Industrial



Site visit to a Bay Area city technology company

Cooperation Demonstration Zone, where they learned about the planning of the support areas of the Yamen Electroplating Industrial Base and the investment of the Macao-owned enterprises, and paid visits to Macao food products manufacturers investing in Jiangmen. The delegation also visited the Shenzhen Bay Eco-Technology Park, Huizhou Tonghu Ecological and Smart Zone, Dongguan Songshan Lake High-Tech Zone and Zhaoqing New District to get informed about the investment environment and development prospects of those zones and parks under the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area.

By visiting the commercial authorities of the nine cities of the Bay Area, the DSE hopes to establish close partnerships and further clarify the future directions of cooperation with them. Based on the principle of achieving complementary

development and a win-win environment, all sides will deepen the regional cooperation in order to contribute together to the

Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area's economic development and establishment.

2. Consultation on trade in goods and trade facilitation under CEPA begins (Chongqing and Beijing)



The Consultation Meeting on Specific Issues Related to ROOs for the Agreement on Trade in Goods under the China-Macao CEPA is held in Chongqing

The consultation on the Agreement on Trade in Goods under CEPA officially kicked off with the first Senior Officials' Meeting for enhancement of trade in goods under CEPA convened in Macao on 20 March. In respect of rules of origin (ROOs) consultation, the Consultation Meeting on Specific Issues Related to ROOs for the Agreement on Trade in Goods under the China-Macao CEPA was held between the Mainland's General Administration of Customs (GACC) and the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) on 25 May in Chongqing to consult on the details of the ROOs-related articles and chapters of the Agreement on Trade in Goods under CEPA. In-depth communication and discussion were made over technical issues such as wholly

obtained or produced goods, regional value content, de minimis, accumulation, and ROOs verification.

In respect of consultation on customs clearance facilitation, the Meeting of Task Group on Trade in Goods Facilitation under CEPA was held on 14 June in Beijing between a Macao delegation, comprised of representatives of the DSE, Macao Customs, Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) of Macao and Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), and representatives of China's Ministry of Commerce, Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, GACC, Certification and Accreditation Administration and other authorities. At the meeting, both sides reviewed the achievements in the trade



The Meeting of Task Group on Trade in Goods Facilitation under CEPA is held in Beijing

facilitation implemented with their joint efforts. Besides, the Macao side relayed fully the appeals of the business community, based on their actual needs, to the Mainland authorities. Both sides also carried out

sufficient communication as they exchanged views over topics such as customs clearance facilitation, inspection and quarantine and customs procedures.

3. Macao entrepreneur delegation visits youth entrepreneurship projects in Portugal and Brazil



The Secretary for Economy and Finance participated in the Fosun Protechting Global Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation Competition's challenge camp closing ceremony

To materialise Macao's development as a commercial and trade cooperation service platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries (PSCs), and keep promoting the development of the China-PSCs Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Exchange Centre, the Macao SAR Government organised a delegation of Macao entrepreneurs to travel to Portugal and Brazil between 19 June and 29 June for exchange and visit. During the period, Parafuturo de Macau Investment and Development Limited signed a cooperation agreement with Beta-i, a renowned Portuguese incubator, on 21 June at the China and PSCs Economic and Trade

Cooperation Business Meeting held in Lisbon, Portugal. Parafuturo will set up a "Macao Interaction Zone" in Lisbon, while both sides can make recommendations to each other on youth startup enterprises moving in to each other's incubation centre. This, accompanied with the launch of the China-PSCs Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Exchange Programme, can provide a more precise support to Macao's young business starters for innovating and starting up new businesses in Portugal. During the Business Meeting, the delegation, led by the Secretary for Economy and Finance, visited Beta-i, and participated in the closing ceremony of the challenge camp of the Fosun Protechting Global Youth Entrepreneurship and



The Macao entrepreneur delegation visits Beta-i and exchanges with local young business starters

Innovation Competition to show support to the two Macao teams participating in the challenge camp in Lisbon, and to witness the two teams entering the final 12 of the Competition.

After finishing the Portugal visit, the Secretary for Economy and Finance led the Macao entrepreneur delegation to continue their trip by visiting Brazil. In the afternoon of 26 June, the delegation visited Fábrica de Startups, a youth startup enterprise centre in Rio de Janeiro, and exchanged with the persons-in-charge of four youth entrepreneurship projects. The Secretary for Economy and Finance and the delegation officially finished their study visit to

Portugal and Brazil and headed back to Macao on 28 June. (Source: Secretariat for Economy and Finance of Macao, Macao Young Entrepreneur Incubation Centre)



The Secretary for Economy and Finance visits Fábrica de Startups, a youth startup enterprise centre in Rio de Janeiro, and exchanges with the persons-in-charge of four youth entrepreneurship projects

4. DSE takes the gold and jewellery sector to visit Jieyang in search of business opportunities



Exchange and discussion between the sectors of the two places

To fulfil the role of the task force on services sector cooperation between Guangdong and Macao under CEPA on the basis of the Framework Agreement on

Guangdong-Macao Cooperation, as well as to promote exchange and cooperation between the services sectors of Guangdong and Macao, the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) took a total of some thirty representatives of Macao's gold and jewellery sector to visit Jieyang in eastern Guangdong between 26 April and 27 April for site visits to the nationally-renowned jade polishing and wholesaling centre, as well as exchanging and connecting with local counterparts.

Dubbed as “China's Jade Capital”, Jieyang is famous for its polishing facilities and craftsmanship, and is a specialised industrial area combining polishing and

trade of jades. Macao's gold and jewellery sector is the backbone of the local retail services sector, with its sales securely occupying over twenty percent of Macao's total retail sales. It is also a major sector for Macao's economic development.

Coordinated by the Department of Commerce of Guangdong Province and arranged by the Jieyang municipal government and Bureau of Commerce of Jieyang, the group of representatives were presented with exhibitions of high-end jade polishing, carving and other finishing processes and processes of white jade cutting and finishing, and visited the raw jade trading market, sales market and jade products e-commerce live broadcast centre. The group also paid a visit to Jieyang's jewellery and jade trade association to conduct exchanges over the development of the gold and jewellery sectors of the two places with around thirty local enterprise representatives, and to make focused discussions on topics such as how to integrate Jieyang's design and craftsmanship with Macao's well-developed international tourism consumption market, favouring the establishment of mutually beneficial cooperation relationships.

This tightly scheduled and fruitful activity has effectively built a cooperation platform for both sides' gold and jewellery retail services sector to establish interconnections for future business exchanges that will benefit the sector in

exploring sources of supply, markets and businesses, helping the enterprises' development substantially.

Those who participated in this exchange activity include: DSE's Deputy Director Chan Tze Wai and Head of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Department Chan Weng Tat; Macao Goldsmith's Guild's Chairman Lei Chi Fong and Vice-Chairman Lei Cheok Kuan; President of Macao Youth Innovation of Jewelry Association Lam Weng In; President of Macau Jewellery Designer Association Chan Kam Mui and other representatives of the sector members.



Presented with exhibition of processes of high-end jade polishing and carving

5. Working Group on Enhancing Hong Kong/Macao Economic Cooperation meeting held in Hong Kong

To promote the economic development of Hong Kong and Macao, the Working Group on Enhancing Hong Kong/Macao Economic Cooperation held this year's meeting in Hong Kong in the afternoon of 5 June. Both sides agree that both Hong Kong and Macao have their own unique advantages to play indispensable roles in the national development and to complement each other. The development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, in coordination with the development strategies of the "Belt and Road" Initiative, will provide historic opportunities for the economic development of the two places. Hong Kong and Macao will strengthen the cooperation in areas such as economic activities, tourism and investment promotion, and explore new room for development.



Group photo of the attending representatives of the Working Group on Enhancing Hong Kong/Macao Economic Cooperation meeting

To further deepen the economic cooperation between the two places, both sides will launch the cooperation in the areas

of legal transparency and technical trade barriers according to the Economic and Technical Cooperation Work Programme under the HK-Macao CEPA.

Moreover, the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area will bring the tourism sector new development opportunities. Both sides will continue to develop more Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao multi-destination tourism products; meanwhile, by taking opportunity of the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, jointly explore the launch of cooperation in tourism as part of the "Bridge Economy". In respect of investment promotion, both sides will continue to join forces with Guangdong Province to promote investment opportunities and carry out marketing initiatives abroad, so as to attract more overseas institutions to invest in the region. They will also continue to provide referral and consultancy services for mutual investment between investors of the two places through the liaison mechanism between them.

This meeting was jointly chaired by Tai Kin Ip, Director of the Economic Bureau of the Macao SAR Government (DSE), and Bernard Chan Pak-li, Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development. Other representatives of the Macao side include Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes,

Director of the Macao Government Tourism Office, Chan Tze Wai, Deputy Director of the DSE, and Vong Vai Lon Agostinho, Member of Executive Committee of the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM); the Hong Kong side is

comprised of representatives of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, Invest Hong Kong, Tourism Commission, Hong Kong Tourism Board and Trade and Industry Department.

6. Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area Macao Youth Entrepreneurship Exchange Tour



Exchange and discussion with youth entrepreneurship authorities and local startup enterprises in Zhongshan

To encourage the youth of Macao in integrating themselves into the development and progress of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area Macao Youth Entrepreneurship Exchange Tour, hosted by the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) and co-hosted by Parafuturo de Macau Investment and Development Limited, was successfully held between 12 April and 14 April of 2018 with the participation of 42 representatives of Macao's youth associations and youth startup enterprises. During the 3-day study visit, the Tour visited the youth entrepreneurship incubation bases in 5 cities

in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, including Zhongshan, Guangzhou, Zhuhai and Shenzhen, which have signed youth entrepreneurship cooperation agreements with the Macao SAR Government, as well as Hong Kong's Cyberport, with which the cooperation is being planned to be strengthened and advanced.

During the activity, the Macao Youth Entrepreneurship Exchange Tour site visited the cities' youth entrepreneurship incubation centres and facilities designated for Hong Kong and Macao. Apart from getting informed on-site about the youth entrepreneurship support policies of different places, they also focused on strengthening the exchanges and connections with local youth startup enterprises. During the meetings, young business starters from the Mainland and Hong Kong shared their stories and experiences of entrepreneurship, which were highly beneficial to the personal development of the participating representatives from Macao, and facilitated each of the sides to establish connections and expand its business network in order to

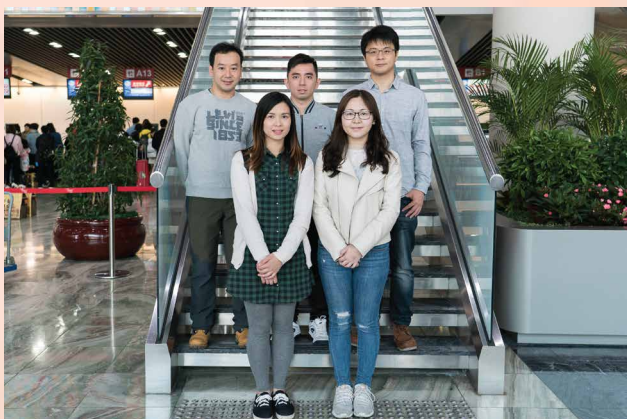
promote business cooperation. Some participants engaging in youth entrepreneurship in Macao remark that this is an inspiring and fruitful tour which allowed them to acquire an understanding of the different modes and policies of youth entrepreneurship incubation and the development trends of industries of the neighbouring cities, boosting the confidence of Macao's young business starters in the entrepreneurship development of the Bay Area and Macao. They hope various sectors will work together and support each other for fostering a rapid development of youth

entrepreneurship and creating better conditions for Macao's innovation and entrepreneurship environment.



The Exchange Tour concludes with an exchange visit to Hong Kong's Cyberport

7. CPDFund Internship Programme officially launched



Group photo of the trainees of the CPDFund Internship Programme taken before departure for Beijing

Since having its headquarter successfully settled in Macao last year, the China-Portuguese Speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund (CPDFund) has been assisting Macao in establishing itself as a commercial and trade cooperation service platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries by actively capitalising on its advantages, of which one is the provision of internship opportunities to Macao's financial sector

practitioners. Five trainees of the CPDFund Internship Programme departed for Beijing on 8 April this year to undergo internship training for periods of 3 months and 9 months. The internship trainees, who were recommended by the Monetary Authority of Macao (AMCM) and the Macau Association of Banks, have multiple years of finance-related work experiences. The training units include the China Development Bank and the China-Africa Development Fund, and on-the-job training is carried out in their legal, risk, marketing and project assessment departments. The aim of the Internship Programme is to nurture talents for assisting the future development of Macao's featured finance through participation in actual work that will enable acquisition of experience, broadening of vision and enhancement of professional knowledge.

8. CPDFund holds promotion in Qianhai

The China-Portuguese Speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund (CPDFund) Promotion Seminar was held on 10 May this year at the meeting room of the Administrative Committee of the Shenzhen Qianhai Free Trade Zone Area office. The Seminar was hosted by Wen Ping, head of the Administrative Committee's financial innovation division, with Zhang Ruiyang, manager of the CPDFund, being the guest speaker, and was co-hosted by the Guangdong Pilot Free Trade Zone Office and the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE). Some 50 entrepreneurs and representatives from Qianhai's financial industry association, Shenzhen Private Equity Fund Association and Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area Enterprise Alliance attended this Seminar. Zhang gave an account of the CPDFund's background, features and functions, areas of investment, investment standards and

processes, strengths of the fund and specialities of the management team; during the exchange session, the attending representatives stated that the CPDFund could provide enterprises in Qianhai, Shenzhen with new development opportunities, as the management team of the CPDFund could provide assistance in terms of business experience and information network, which would favour the search for suitable investment projects.



CPDFund Promotion Seminar

9. Exchange on the development of classic stores/brands of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area

To promote cooperation in the implementation of trademark and branding strategies among the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, and to materialise the deployment related to trademark cooperation projects under the Framework Agreement on Guangdong-Macao Cooperation, staff members of the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) and representatives of the "Classic Brand Support Group" of the

Macao Chain Stores and Franchise Association went to Guangzhou on 31 May 2018 to attend an exchange session on the development of classic stores/brands of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area. Officials from the Guangdong Province Administration for Industry & Commerce and from the intellectual property (IP) authorities of the Hong Kong SAR and Macao SAR, legal experts in IP, and

representatives of trade associations and enterprises in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao attended the activity, during which discussions revolving around topics such as the branding development of classic stores/brands and trademark registration examination standard were made. After the session, representatives from Hong Kong and Macao visited the Guangzhou Trademark Examination Center of the State Intellectual Property Office.



Group photo of the attending representatives

10. Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area IP promotion meeting



Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area IP promotion meeting

To further promote collaboration among the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area in the development in the area of intellectual property (IP), and to strengthen

the creation, utilisation and protection of IP within the Bay Area, representatives of the Guangdong Intellectual Property Office visited the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) on 25 May 2018. Both sides discussed and exchanged on tasks including establishing a new mechanism for IP cooperation among the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, strengthening the collaboration in IP protection among the Bay Area and optimising the IP information and resource sharing platform, so as to jointly establish the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area as a bay area of IP competency, with a view to promoting the overall innovation development of the Bay Area.

11. Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area IP and technology innovation cooperation exchange activity

To further promote the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, strengthen exchanges and cooperation in the area of intellectual property (IP) among the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao

Bay Area, and enhance the IP operation capability of the Bay Area, the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) and representatives of the Centre for Innovation of the Institute of Collaborative Innovation of the University

of Macau attended an exchange activity, namely “Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao IP and Technology Innovation Cooperation – IP Cooperation in Technology Transfer”, held in Hengqin on 20 April 2018. IP officials and representatives of tertiary schools, enterprises and IP operation service institutions in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area were invited as seminar guest speakers and for round-table discussions to jointly explore how to make use of IP to promote transformation and transfer of science and technology in order to assist the collaborative development between the economies of the three places with the circulation of science and technology achievements under the increasingly close and active economic and

technology exchanges and cooperation between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. After the activity, the representatives visited HIPEX, a national IP operation platform, to discover on-site the platform’s operating conditions, business pattern and future trend of development.



Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area IP and technology innovation cooperation exchange activity

12. Cross-border E-commerce Marketing Strategy Workshop



Guest speaker gives a presentation on the latest trend of cross-border e-commerce

To enable small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to get a better grasp of cross-border e-commerce skills, the DSE organised the Cross-border E-commerce Marketing Strategy Workshop from 9 June to 10 June by

inviting four cross-border e-commerce professionals, including Chen Haiquan, Director of Guangzhou’s Asia-Pacific E-commerce Institute, Huang Yiyan, Operation Director of NetEase POP, a Mainland cross-border e-commerce platform, Deng Hui, Marketing Director of Guangzhou D-MCARK, an e-commerce agency, and Ma Jun, Executive Vice President of the Sino-Portuguese E-Commerce Chamber, to share the frontline information on cross-border e-commerce, popular e-commerce marketing strategies and practical skills with Macao’s business sector.

Attendees of this activity are mainly owners of SMEs in Macao engaging in retailing. They expressed a high level of interest in exploring the Mainland market, and reckoned that the workshop was helpful in understanding the current development trend and opportunities of the Mainland's cross-border e-commerce, as well as how to develop Mainland business with precise

promotion and marketing strategies by leveraging on e-commerce agencies. Making a positive effect on boosting Macao's e-commerce development, this activity has deepened the business sector's understanding of the development trend of cross-border e-commerce, and has helped Macao's SMEs to explore the enormous Mainland market as well.

13. Authority of Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Cooperation Zone visits the DSE

Wang Zizhong, Deputy Director of Hong Kong Affairs Division of the Authority of Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Cooperation Zone, and Niu Yanqin, Deputy Secretary-General of China Merchants Charitable Foundation (CMCF), visited the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) on 8 June this year for discussing the initiatives to strengthen the cooperation in youth entrepreneurship between the two places, including encouraging young business starters in the Bay Area in participating in the China-PSCs Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Exchange Programme, setting up a Macao interaction zone and jointly organising an entrepreneurship competition. Both sides agreed that, on the foundation of last year's successful cooperation, the Macao Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation Competition will continue to act as the Macao selection round for the China Merchants Cup Qianhai Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Competition 2018 to provide an ideal exchange platform to youth entrepreneurs in the three places with a view to jointly promoting the collaborative development of youth innovation and entrepreneurship among the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area. After the meeting, representatives of the Shenzhen side visited the Macao Young Entrepreneur Incubation Centre located at The Carat.



Representatives of the Qianhai authority and the CMCF visit the DSE