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closer Economic Partnership Arrangement

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Officiating guests attended the opening ceremony of “Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair” held in Nanchang, Jiangxi

Editor's Note:

The 20th stop of the “Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair” was held in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province. The event deepens exchanges between enterprises of the two places, and, in particular, enhances the understanding of the Macao business community and youth entrepreneurs on the investment environment and business opportunities of Jiangxi, promoting economic and trade cooperation between the two places under the

framework of CEPA. Macao Economic Services organized 24 senior representatives of the convention and exhibition industry to participate in the “Macao convention and exhibition personnel training” held in Shanghai. The training helps promote exchange and regional development, and deepens integration in the convention and exhibition industry between the Mainland and Macao.

For implementation of deployment in the Pilot Free Trade Zone, the People's Government of Guangdong Province released the “Implementation Plan for the Construction of China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone”, and clarifies the direction for development as well as specific measures for the construction of the three sub-areas of the FTZ, with a view to building a more international investment and business environment for investors.

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1. “Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair” held in Nanchang, of Jiangxi Province

Having been held in a number of major cities in the Mainland since 2009, the 20th stop of the “Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair” took place in Nanchang International Exhibition Center in Jiangxi Province, from 18 to 20 September this year.

The event covered an exhibition area of 6,500 square meters, with zones for exhibition and sale of Made in Macao products, Macao souvenirs, products of SMEs and young entrepreneurs as well as products from Portuguese-speaking countries, which were welcomed by the Nanchang people. Besides, an exhibition area was designated for Macao government departments to present Macao’s business environment, tourism resources, culture development and local customs to the public.

In order to deepen exchanges and cooperation between enterprises of Macao and Jiangxi, the “Seminar on Investment Matchmaking among Macao, Portuguese-speaking Countries and Jiangxi” was held concurrently, to introduce and promote to interested entrepreneurs the investment and business environment as well as the investment projects of the three places, in fulfillment of the event’s objective of “bringing in and going out”.

To foster exchange and learning between young entrepreneurs of Macao and Jiangxi, representatives of 14 Macao’s youth associations and organizations were organized to take part in a series of activities, including participation in the “Matchmaking Seminar between Young Entrepreneurs of Macao and Jiangxi” and visit to the APP industrial base in Gong Qing City and the Planning Hall of Poyang Lake Ecological and Economic Area.

The event enabled the Jiangxi people to know more about the culture and specialty products of Macao, deepened exchanges between enterprises of the two places, and, in particular, enhanced the understanding of the Macao business community and youth entrepreneurs on the investment environment and business opportunities of Jiangxi, promoting economic and trade cooperation between the two places under the framework of CEPA, while demonstrating the special and close relationship between Macao and Portuguese-speaking countries, as well as Macao’s role as the world tourism and leisure center and regional trade and business service platform.



Exhibition hall of “Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair” in Nanchang, Jiangxi

2. “Training For Macao Convention and Exhibition Talents” was jointly organized by Macao Economic Services and the Ministry of Commerce of the Central People's Government



Photo-taking of keynote guests and Macao Convention and Exhibition trainees at the opening ceremony of the course

The “Training For Macao Convention and Exhibition Talents” was the key cooperation project this year between Macao and Mainland China in the field of MICE industry under the “Agreement on Strengthening the Ministry of Commerce-Macao Cooperation in Convention and Exhibition Industry”. On 13 – 16 July, 24 senior representatives from Macao MICE industry were invited by Macao Economic Services to attend the 4-day training which was held in Shanghai. With the assistance of China

Training Center, convention and exhibition professionals with practical experiences from Mainland were invited as the tutors, giving lectures regarding the new development trends and focusing on the concerned topics in Macao MICE industry, so as to cope with the actual demand of the industry. Certificates were awarded to the trainees who have completed the course. In addition, the Training Center also arranged seminars for exchange between Mainland Convention and Exhibition competent departments, association representatives in related industries and Macao Convention and Exhibition delegations, introducing relevant policies regarding participation and organization of exhibitions in both places in order to facilitate the mutual development of the Convention and Exhibition industry between the Mainland and Macao.

The Macao Convention and Exhibition delegation visited the advanced venues and related facilities at the National Exhibition Center (Shanghai) during their stay in Shanghai. Meanwhile, they also paid a visit to the renowned local major exhibition “Mobile Asia Expo 2015”. The training activities helped promote the exchange and regional development of the Convention and Exhibition industry between the Mainland and Macao, as well as deepen the integration of the industry in both sides. At the same time, the training activities also helped enhance professionalism and quality of Macao convention and exhibition talents, and strengthen the advantages for sustainable development of the industry.

3. Macao Economic Services visited the Gongbei Customs

A delegation of six representatives of Macao Economic Services, headed by Director, Mr. Sou Tim Peng, visited the Gongbei Customs, and met with Deputy Director General of Gongbei Customs, Mr. Xiong Zhenguo. In the meeting, the two parties conducted discussions and exchanges on the modes of customs supervision and operation for Guangdong Free Trade Zone, customs clearance facilitation measures for Hengqin Area of the FTZ, import cargo clearance system, customs clearance facilitation measures for goods under CEPA as well as on reinforcing policy measures and business exchange. Furthermore, the two sides agreed to strengthen normalized exchanges at all levels and to establish a regular communication mechanism to formulate measures suitable for economic development of the two places.



Macao Economic Services paid a courtesy visit to the Gongbei Customs

4. 2015 Annual Working Meeting of Guangdong-Macao Inspection and Authentication Task Force was held in Macao



Representatives from both sides attended the 2015 Annual Working Meeting of Guangdong-Macao Inspection and Authentication Task Force

For implementation of related works of “Framework Agreement on Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao”, the Guangdong-Macao Inspection and Authentication Task Force called an annual meeting on 18 September 2015 in Macao. Director of Macao Economic Services, Mr. Sou Tim Peng and Deputy-Director General of Administration of Quality and Technology Supervision of Guangdong Province, Mr. Gao Guosheng chaired the meeting. Both parties reviewed the work achievements of the task force, which continued to reinforce the cooperation in the field of information exchange as well as

standardization between the two places through various work projects. In the meantime, the two parties conducted field trips to numerous examination institutions of the two places so as to enhance understanding on the examination institutions and systems of both sides. Last year, Association of Macao Goldsmiths and Zhuhai Municipal Quality Supervision Bureau worked together to establish the “Zhuhai and Macao Precious Metals and Gems Public Inspection Service Platform” as well as Guangdong and Macao Precious Metals and Gems Inspection Company Limited. The Platform introduced advanced examination technology and implemented related examination works in Macao, enhancing the training of jewelry practitioners and elevating the overall quality of the industry.

At the meeting, representatives of both parties discussed the future working direction of the task force, which is to continue to deepen cooperation and exchange of Guangdong-Macao standardization, investigate and organize training and field study, assist local industries and young entrepreneurs to learn more about the industry standards in the Mainland, and also develop cooperation in the aspect of standardization. In strengthening the cooperation of inspection and authentication between the two places, the two sides will study the establishment of certification and accreditation system, and explore the effect and scope of cooperation in the area of inspection and certification in promoting the development of Guangdong Free Trade Zone. In addition, the task force members also discussed to promote Portuguese-speaking countries’ products to the Mainland market through the platform of Macao, as well as facilitate of the economic and trade cooperation relations between the Mainland China and Portuguese-speaking countries through the cooperation of inspection and quarantine between the two places.

After the meeting, the delegations also visited the Zhuhai and Macao Precious Metals and Gems Public Inspection Service Platform for more understanding on the latest development and operation situation.

5. “The Mainland China and Macao Trademark Registration and Protection” Forum was held in Macao



“The Mainland China and Macao Trademark Registration and Protection” Forum was held in Macao

In order to further deepen the cooperation exchange mechanism of intellectual property between Mainland China and Macao SAR, and to strengthen the exchange in the area of trademarks between two places, Macao Economic Services organized the “Mainland and Macao Trademark Registration and Protection” Forum on 17 September 2015 in Macao.

Director of the Quality Supervision of Trademark Office of The State Administration For Industry & Commerce of the People’s Republic of China, Mr. Cheng

Meng and Head of Trademark Management Division of Guangdong Province Administration For Industry and Commerce, Mr. Lin Fang were invited to the Forum and discussed with representatives of Macao Economic Services on four topics, namely ‘New “Trademark Law” in Mainland and its Implementing Regulations’, ‘How to Set up Trademark Agencies in the Mainland by Macao Service Suppliers’, ‘Administrative Management and Protection System of Trademark in Mainland’ as well as ‘Macao Legislative System and Registration & Application Procedure of Macao Trademark’, further exploring the practical situations on trademark protection of the two places. There were around 100 participants from the field of local intellectual property industry, legal profession and the business community attended the Forum.

The Forum enabled Macao enterprises and practitioners in the field of business, intellectual property as well as legal profession to further understand the trademark registration system in the Mainland and Macao, the approval procedure and standard of the trademark in both places, enhance awareness on civil rights defence, while encouraging Macao Service Suppliers to set up trademark agencies in the Mainland to expand the scope of their business development.



Group photo of the guests participated in the Forum

6. Meeting of Implementation Work of CEPA Trade in Goods of 2014 and Consultation on Electronic Certificate of Origin was held in Wuxi of Jiangsu Province



Representatives from China and Macao participated in the CEPA Meeting

Meeting of implementation work of CEPA Trade in Goods of 2014 and consultation on electronic certificate of origin was held in Wuxi of Jiangsu Province on 9 September. The meeting was hosted by the Deputy Head of Department of Tariff of the General Administration of Customs of the PRC, Ms. Xu Hui Yun and Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai.

During the meeting, the two sides reported on the implementation of CEPA in Trade in Goods of 2014. In 2014, total export value of CEPA products reached MOP94.18 million, involving an estimate tariff saving amounting to MOP5.9 million. Since the implementation of CEPA, total export value of CEPA products as of the third quarter of 2015 reached 630 million, involving an estimate tariff saving amounting to MOP49.69 million, and a total of 3,199 certificates of origin were used.

The measure of CEPA zero tariff treatment enables goods of Macao origin exporting to the Mainland to be exempted from tariff, lowering the cost of export of the manufacturers and in turn strengthening the price competitiveness of made-in-Macao products, which is beneficial for the enterprises developing in the Mainland market. It plays a supportive role for the development of the manufacturing sector in Macao, and at the same time promotes Macao towards moderate economic diversification. To consistently include more Macao products eligible for the zero-tariff treatment, through consultation with the General Administration of Customs of the PRC, Macao Economic Services added rules of origin for 4 more Macao goods benefiting from zero tariff this year, and total number of Macao products eligible for the zero-tariff treatment has reached 1,319.

To enhance efficiency of customs clearance and facilitate enterprises to complete customs declaration procedures, the two sides planned to introduce electronic certificate of origin for Trade in Goods of CEPA, meaning to replace paper certificates with electronic certificates. They consulted on related issues of implementation of paperless certificate of origin so as to make good preparatory work for the preliminary phrase. Furthermore, the two sides exchanged on the working direction to deepen Trade in Goods of CEPA in order to further promote the development of Trade in Goods of CEPA.

7. “Seminar on liberalization of trade in services in Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Macao” held in Macao



Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai delivered a speech at the opening ceremony

“Seminar on liberalization of trade in services in Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Macao” which organized by Guangzhou Municipal People’s Government, Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, and Guangzhou Municipal Commission of Commerce, hosted by the Macao Convention and Exhibition Association, was held from September 21 to 24. About 30 officials and representatives from Guangzhou government attended the Seminar.

Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai delivered a speech at the opening ceremony. She stated that the Agreement between the Mainland and Macao on Achieving Basic Liberalization of Trade in Services in Guangdong, under the framework of CEPA, was signed last year, the pilot implementation on basic liberalization of trade in services between the Mainland and Macao in Guangdong Province which was a foundation for the next stage of full liberalization of trade in services among other provinces in the Mainland and Macao.

The theme of first workshop was “Under CEPA Agreement – Liberalization of Trade in Services between Guangdong and Macao, the prospects of cooperation in service sectors of two places”. The representatives of Macao Economic Services as speakers of the workshop, to introduce the contents of CEPA and its supplements, as well as the Agreement between the Mainland and Macao on Achieving Basic Liberalization of Trade in Services in Guangdong. In the meantime, they summarized the circumstances of Macao economy and its service sectors, concluded the implementation and effectiveness of CEPA, and shared the outlook about cooperation between Guangzhou and Macao. Participants showed great interests on the contents of workshop, raising questions and comments enthusiastically. The speakers and participants interacted frequently, aims at exploring new opportunities for cooperation in two places.

8. The Mainland promulgated “Implementation Plan for the Construction of China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone”, as well as implementation plan for the construction of other areas

The People’s Government of Guangdong Province promulgated “Implementation Plan for the Construction of China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone” (hereinafter referred to as “The Plan”) on 20 July 2015. To implement the deployment of the Central People’s Government and the State Council about pilot free trade zone, and to promote the experience of China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone at full blast, the general requirement for the construction of the 3 areas of China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone (Nansha Area of Guangzhou, Qianhai & Shekou Area of Shenzhen and Hengqin Area of Zhuhai), guidelines of each individual function and layout, as well as the main development targets and specific implementation measures of the areas were clearly stated. The 8 highlights of the main content include: (1) Speeding up the establishment of an investment and trade system which is consistent with the international high-end standard, (2) Building an administration system in accordance with the law and a market mechanism for fair competition, (3) Construction of a high standard platform for cooperation with countries and areas along the "One Belt One Road", (4) Building a demonstration zone for deeper cooperation among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, (5) Strengthening the integration of international trade functions, (6) Upgrading the functional level in international maritime service, (7) Deepening the open innovation in the area of finance and (8) Improving the corresponding supervision and tax environment. In addition, with the authorization of related departments in the Mainland, the administration departments of the 3 areas promulgated “Implementation Plan for the Construction of Nansha Area of Guangzhou of China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone”, “Implementation Plan for the Construction of Qianhai & Shekou Area of Shenzhen of China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone” and “General Plan for the Reform and Innovative Development of Hengqin Area of Zhuhai of China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone in 2015” respectively. The 3 plans coped with the requirements of “The Plan”, integrating each individual features to complete the related tasks, establishing a more international investment and business environment for the investors of each individual area.

For the complete text of “Implementation Plan for the Construction of China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone” please refer to:

http://zwgk.gd.gov.cn/006939748/201507/t20150721_593534.html

Nansha Area of Guangzhou:

http://china-gdftz.gov.cn/zwgk/tzgg/201508/t20150805_1172.html#zhuyao

Qianhai & Shekou Area of Shenzhen:

http://china-gdftz.gov.cn/zwgk/tzgg/201507/t20150724_1130.html#zhuyao

Hengqin Area of Zhuhai:

http://china-gdftz.gov.cn/zwgk/tzgg/201508/t20150811_1184.html#zhuyao