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Editor's Note:

CEPA Newsletter is a bimonthly publication distributed for free by Macao Economic Services to those who are interested in CEPA. Those who want to receive the Newsletter on a regular basis are welcome to contact CEPA Information Center (Tel. No: 79897089, Fax No: 755011) for subscription or to visit the Center in person. Any comment on and suggestion to the publication are also appreciated.

1. CEPA Joint Steering Committee held its first meeting in Beijing

CEPA Joint Steering Committee held its first meeting in Beijing on 29th December, 2003. In the meeting, the Mainland and Macao devised a concrete work plan for implementing CEPA next year and established a close notification system. Furthermore, the two sides agreed to incorporate the “Joint Business Committee” into the Steering Committee so as to promote the comprehensive trade and economic cooperation and exchange of the two places through the consultation, coordination and guidance of the Committee.

2. Measures for the products that are not listed in CEPA to apply for zero tariffs on exports

If the products are manufactured or scheduled to be produced in Macao in the future are not listed in CEPA I and therefore are not able to enjoy the zero-tariffs benefits when exporting to the Mainland, starting from 1st January, 2004, the manufacturers can fill in the form provided by Macao Economic Services and apply for zero-tariffs on their products according to Annex 1, Article 5 (1) of CEPA and relevant regulations of the Macao SAR.

The manufacturers who want to enjoy zero-tariffs benefits from 1st January, 2005, should complete the application before 30th April, 2004. Two kinds of application forms are available, namely Form A and Form B. Form A is for the manufacturers who are currently manufacturing the applied products, while Form B is for those who plan to manufacture the applied products in the future. The application forms can be obtained from CEPA Information Centre or downloaded from the website of Macao Economic Services: www.economia.gov.mo.

After receiving the application forms, Macao Economic Services will verify the information provided by the applicants and submit the name of the products, and the information and data pertaining to the productivity or the estimated production capacity to the Ministry of Commerce of the Mainland before 1st June of the same year. After consultation and agreement reached by both sides on the products to be produced in the future, the confirmed list of products and the rule of origins will be announced before 1st December. For the products that apply for zero-tariffs benefits after 1st June, the zero-tariffs arrangement will be implemented in the following year.

If manufacturers have any enquiries regarding the application procedures or want to know more about the details, please visit the CEPA Information Center (Alameda Dr. Carlos d' Assumpção, N°263, Edifício China Civil Plaza, 20th floor, Macao) during office hours or contact us at 7989708.

3. Notice for operating individually owned stores in Guangdong

Pursuant to Annex 4 of CEPA: “To allow Macao permanent residents with Chinese citizenship to set up, in accordance with the relevant laws, regulations and administrative regulations, individually owned stores in Guangdong to provide retailing services excluding salt, tobacco and franchising operation, without being subject to the approval procedures applicable to foreign investments. The sales area of such stores should not exceed 300 square meters.”

When applying for operating individually owned stores in Guangdong, Macao permanent residents with Chinese citizenship, whether they possess Macao smart ID cards or the ordinary ones, should obtain an identification “certificate” issued by the Identification Bureau of Macao SAR. Afterwards, they can register the names of their stores directly with the local Administration for Industry and Commerce where their shops are located by submitting the certificates, together with copies of their home-visiting permits or Macao SAR passports, and attested identification documents (i.e. copies of the

individually store operators' ID cards attested by any Public Notary Offices or attesting officers appointed by the Mainland). After the registered names of the stores are authorized, the store operators can proceed with the registration of the stores again to the local Administration for Industry and Commerce by providing proofs for the use of the business premises and other relevant information.

1. Registration Company Name: Before a business comes to operation, it should first register its business name with the Administration for Industry and Commerce.
2. Obtaining the application form: applicants should obtain the application forms for establishing individually owned stores.
3. Applying for establishment: applicants should submit documents and proceed with the registration for establishment.
4. Obtaining a license: After paying the registration fees, the business may now obtain the operation license.

Documents that should be submitted when registering for the names of individually owned stores:

- “Application Form for pre-verification of the name of an individually owned store”
- ID cards of the store operators (photocopies)
- Attested identification documents (i.e. photocopies of Macao Resident ID cards and the home-visiting permits for Hong Kong and Macao residents, or photocopies of Macao Resident ID cards and Macao SAR passports attested by Public Notary Offices or attesting officers appointed by the Mainland).

Documents that should be submitted to register for the establishment of individually owned stores:

- Application form for establishing individually owned stores;
- “Notification of the pre-verified name of an individually owned store”(For those who have applied for pre-verification of the store names only);

- ID cards of the store operators (photocopies);
- Attested deification documents of the store operators (same as above);
- Proofs of the use of the business premises (Those who own the properties should submit copies of the certificates of property ownership together with the originals for verification. Those who lease the premises should submit leasing contracts of the premises);
- According to relevant laws and regulations, photocopies of the verified documents, licenses or written comments (after verified with the originals) from relevant departments should be submitted to the competent departments for examination and approval.

For details about establishing an individually owned store, please consult the website of Guangdong Administration for Industry and Commerce:

<http://www.gdgs.gov.cn/gsglxx/cepazl/index.htm>

To contact local departments of Administration for Industry and Commerce in Guangdong, please visit:

<http://www.gdgs.gov.cn/gsglxx/cepazl/lianxibei.htm>

(Source: The CEPA page on the website of Guangdong Administration for Industry and Commerce).