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**Editor’s Notes:**

The 2013 Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Joint Conference was held in Zhongshan of Guangdong Province on 14 June, which consisted of the following main topics: expediting the Guangdong-Macao new checkpoint project; intensifying the projects such as the Guangdong-Macao industrial zone in Hengqin and Nansha New District; formal opening and related follow-up work of the Hengqin new campus of the University of Macau, etc. “The 4<sup>th</sup> International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum” was grandly held in Macao on 6 June. More than 1,300 guests, including participation of government officials and representatives of international financial institutions, project contractors, equipment manufacturing enterprises, etc from many countries. A total of five cooperation agreements were signed, with an estimated amount of over 1.4 billion US dollars. This forum not only helped to promote the exchange and cooperation among Macao, China and other countries in the world, but also fostered development in the area of international infrastructure construction, which added new elements to the appropriate diversification of the Macao economy. To deepen the understanding of the local industrial and business sectors on the policy and direction of the macro economic development of China, as well as to enable them to effectively grasp the new opportunities of the economic development of the Mainland, especially to make use of CEPA and the development of Hengqin,

“Seminar on Investment Policy of China 2013” was held in Macao in April. More than 200 guests from the industrial and commercial sectors participated, and anticipated result was achieved.

### ***1. The 2013 Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Joint Conference was held in Zhongshan of Guangdong Province***

The 2013 Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Joint Conference was held in Zhongshan of Guangdong Province on 14 June. The Governor of Guangdong Province, Mr. Zhu Xiaodan and the Chief Executive of Macao, Mr. Chui Sai On led their delegations to participate, and they both delivered speech in the conference. The two sides



Guangdong and Macao signed a number of agreements and letters of intent during the conference. (Courtesy photo from the Government Information Bureau)

were satisfied with and ascertained the result achieved through cooperation between Guangdong and Macao. It was confirmed that the next stage of Guangdong-Macao Cooperation would mainly strengthen 4 areas, including: (1) accelerate to expedite Guangdong and Macao to achieve full liberalization of Trade in Services, bringing a new growing point for Guangdong-Macao Cooperation; (2) reinforce to give impetus to building the main cooperation platforms such as Nansha, Hengqin and Tsui Hang New District, bringing the comparative advantages of the two sides into full play and developing a new Guangdong-Macao cooperation platform; (3) propel the construction of cross-border large-scale traffic infrastructure and facilitation of customs clearance; (4) deepen the cooperation in the area of social affairs and livelihood, focus on strengthening the cooperation in the areas of ecological environment, low-carbon development, culture and education, hygiene, etc.

The two sides also signed 11 cooperation agreements or letters of intent, including “Cooperation Agreement about Construction and Implementation of the New Guangdong-Macao Passenger Passageway”, “Framework Agreement on Exchange and Cooperation of the Work of Food Safety between Guangdong and Macao”, “Letter of Intent of Cooperation about Facilitated Travel for Yachts between Guangdong Zhongshan Municipal Government and the Macao SAR Government”, “Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Agreement on Environmental Protection”, “Guangdong-Macao Cooperation

Agreement on Old Age Security”, “Letter of Intent of Cooperation about Facilitated Travel for Yachts between Guangzhou Nansha District Management Committee and the Macao SAR Government”, “Guangdong-Macao Closer Cooperation Agreement on Anti-Smuggling”, “Closer Cooperation Agreement about Accelerating to Expedite Building of the Project of Extending the Inter-city Rapid Light Rail to Hengqin of Zhuhai”, “Framework Agreement on Occupational Training Cooperation”, “Cooperation Agreement on Contingency Plan for the New Campus of University of Macau” and “Memorandum of Understanding about Cooperation in Facilitation of Quarantine Related to Conventions and Exhibitions”.

## **2. “The 4<sup>th</sup> International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum” was grandly held in Macao**

Under the guidance of the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC, the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the Macao SAR, Macao Economic Services and China International Contractors



The officiating guests participated in the grand opening ceremony.

Association jointly organized “The 4<sup>th</sup> International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum”, which was grandly held on 6-7 June in Macao. After this forum first successfully took place in Macao last year, the forum this year there were 40 officials of the minister and vice-minister level from a number of countries and regions to take part, ranging from professions and government departments such as traffic infrastructure, public works and transportation, equipment department, financial and economic management department. Moreover, with attendance of more than 1,300 elites of the industry from all over the world, the forum was brought to a higher standard and with more international influence. The main theme of the forum was “Diversified Financing Energizes International Cooperation”, drawing attention to the development trend of international infrastructure investment, emphasizing on new innovative elements of financing, promoting cross-country and cross-region cooperation among China and foreign countries, especially focusing on the transformation and upgrade of the business of international contractors from China; series of activities were composed of 18 events with designated topics such as keynote addresses, keynote forums, parallel forums and business negotiations.

During the forum, a total of five cooperation agreements were signed, which amounted to a total of over 1.4 billion US dollars. The projects signed included railway, water supply

and drainage, aviation, electricity supply and new energy. Furthermore, the Macao Construction Association and six foreign construction contractor associations signed and joined the “Joint Action Plan of Cooperation of International Infrastructure Construction”. Cooperation and links between the infrastructure and construction related industry of Macao and that of the international market would be further strengthened.

### **3. *The Ministry of Commerce of the PRC and Secretariat for Economy and Finance of the SAR government jointly held the “Seminar on Investment Policy of China 2013”***

The “Seminar on Investment Policy of China 2013” was jointly held by the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC and Secretariat for Economy and Finance of the Macao SAR government in Macao on 25 April. About 200 guests were invited to the seminar, including representatives from related administrative departments, chambers of commerce and the media in Macao to take part. During the seminar, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce



Vice Minister of the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC, Mr. Wang Chao delivered the keynote address

of the PRC, Mr. Wang Chao delivered the keynote address. Representatives from a number of ministries and commissions of the Mainland, including National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Housing and urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Commerce, explained on the following topics, including: (1) Policy for the Mainland enterprises to make overseas investment; (2) Main policies of salary and income distribution for the Mainland enterprises; (3) Ecological civilization and policies/regulations of environmental protection; (4) Transforming the development form of city to promote healthy urban-rural development; (5) Taking the opportunity of implementing liberalization of Trade in Services to promote mutual development of the service industry of the two places; (6) Development of Hengqin, Nansha and participation of the Macao enterprises; and (7) Making use of the platform of conventions and exhibitions to drive investment cooperation between the Mainland and Macao. This seminar enabled the business and industrial sectors of Macao to have a more in-depth understanding of the policy and direction of the macro economic development of China, grasp the new opportunities to develop in the Mainland, especially to make use of the privileges of CEPA and the new development of Hengqin, driving the Mainland and Macao to stride forward in the direction of complementing the advantages of each other and achieving mutual benefits.

#### **4. *“Working Meeting of Guangdong-Macao Cooperation on Services Sector Taskforce 2013” was held in Macao***

The working meeting of Guangdong-Macao Cooperation on Services Sector Taskforce 2013 was held at Macao Economic Services on 18 April. The Guangdong Delegation was led by the Counsel of the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province, Mr. Qi Zhenli, with a total of 8 delegates attending the meeting.



Group photo of delegates of Guangdong-Macao Cooperation on Services Sector Taskforce after the meeting.

Participants from the Macao side included the Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai and the Secretary of the Logistics Development Committee of Macao, Mr. Wong Wan.

Guangdong-Macao Cooperation on Services Sector Taskforce was one of the important parts of Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Agreement, with the mission of broadening the scope of cooperation on services sector of the two places, enhancing the standard of cooperation as well as promoting complementary development of services sector of the two places. During the meeting, based on the conclusion of the achievements of cooperation on services sector between Guangdong and Macao last year, the work arrangement of this year was discussed, including the two sides focusing on propelling to jointly hold the seminar on promotion and introduction of CEPA, continuing to hold Guangdong-Macao Logistics Cooperation Conference, building the regular communication mechanism for Guangdong-Macao cooperation in the conventions and exhibitions sector and exploring the future direction for cooperation among the small and medium sized enterprises of Guangdong and Macao, etc.

#### **5. *The Second Working Meeting of Guangdong-Macao Standardisation Taskforce was convened in Macao***

Guangdong-Macao Standardisation Taskforce, which was formed according to the “Framework Agreement on Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao”, held the second working meeting at Macao Economic Services on 12 April. Deputy-Director General of Administration of Quality and Technology Supervision of Guangdong Province, Mr. Zhang Yan Fei, Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai and members of the taskforce from Guangdong and Macao attended the meeting. The two



sides reviewed the working progress after the first working meeting of Guangdong-Macao Standardisation Taskforce in August last year, exchanged the status of Guangdong-Macao cooperation in areas such as standardization, measurement of quantities, certification, brand building, public testing services platform for sharing of resources and assistance for the Guangdong or Macao



Group photo of delegates of Guangdong and Macao after the meeting.

funded enterprises to upgrade qualities. The next major tasks were also brought up: to continue to strengthen the work of information exchange, to deepen and broaden cooperation in standardization between the two places in different areas; and through calling for information sessions and seminars, industries of the two places will have more communication and exchanges, and a better understanding about the development status of one another. Study visits will also be organized to enhance business exchanges between the two places; study the public testing services platform for sharing of resources between the two places; strengthen the work of brand building and standardization of intellectual property rights, further strengthen the promotion; strengthen the training of personnel, exchange, etc. of quality, measurement of quantities and standardization between the two places. After the meeting, the taskforce visited the State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicines of Macau University of Science and Technology.

#### ***6. The Consultation on the rules of origin of CEPA products and Meeting of Implementation Work in 2012 was held in Macao***

The consultation on the rules of origins of Macao products applying for zero-tariff treatment for the first half of 2013 and annual meeting of Trade in Goods of CEPA was convened at Macao Economic Services on 11 April. The meeting was hosted by Deputy Director of Office of Rules of Origin under Department of Duty Collection



Group photo of delegates of Guangdong and Macao after the meeting.

of the General Administration of Customs of the PRC, Mr. Liu Ping and Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai. Ministries and commissions from the Mainland who attended the meeting included representatives from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Gongbei Customs and Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office. During the

meeting, the two sides first reviewed the implementation of Trade in Goods of last year. In 2012, Macao Economic Services issued 508 CEPA certificates of origin, with an increase of 2.2% as compared with the same period of 2011, involving products of total export value of MOP104 million, representing for the first time a value over MOP100 million since the implementation of CEPA.

Furthermore, the two sides consulted on the rules of origin for the products that the Macao side had petitioned for zero-tariff treatment for the first half of this year. By the end, both sides had reached consensus on the rules of origin for 12 products proposed by local business enterprises. By then, the total number of Macao products eligible for the zero-tariff treatment has reached 1,283 under Trade in Goods of CEPA. The rules of origin of the added product and respective tariff code are available for reference, on the website of Macao Economic Services ([www.economia.gov.mo](http://www.economia.gov.mo)) and the CEPA exclusive website ([www.cepa.gov.mo](http://www.cepa.gov.mo)) for reference.

#### ***7. The Guangdong Intellectual Property Office and Macao Economic Services jointly organized “Exchange Program of Guangdong-Macao Creative Industry and Intellectual Property Rights”***

To implement the “Framework Agreement on Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao”, and to guarantee cooperation to be carried out more effectively, the two sides formed the Guangdong-Macao Intellectual Property Rights Taskforce, and confirmed “Guangdong-Macao Intellectual Property Rights Cooperation Project 2012-2014”. “To develop exchanges among enterprises of copyright industry of Guangdong and Macao, to share experience of creation, application, protection and management of intellectual property rights of enterprises of copyright industry, to study promotion of cooperation in protection of intellectual property rights of enterprises from the copyright field, as well as to explore channels for trade development of copyright” were the fields of cooperation within the “Project” above mentioned between 2012-2014.

To implement the said cooperation items, the “Exchange Program of Guangdong-Macao Creative Industry and Intellectual Property Rights” was held in Guangzhou on 24 May 2013, which was jointly hosted by Macao Economic Services and Intellectual Property Office of Guangdong Province, and organized by Intellectual Property Office of Guangzhou Tianhe District. A total of 40 representatives from the related administrative departments of intellectual property rights in Guangdong and Macao, Committee of Cultural Industries of Macao, cultural industries of Macao, Yangcheng Creative Park, as well as related industry alliance and enterprises of the Park attended the seminar of this exchange program. “Development of creative industry, management and protection of intellectual property rights” was the main theme of this program, which included visit to the largest creative park in South China area — “Yangcheng Creative Park”. A seminar

with the representatives of industry alliance and enterprises of the Park was also held, so as to better understand the situation of the creative industry of Guangdong Province and management of the internal operation of enterprises of the Park, as well as sharing of experiences in the protection of intellectual property rights. The two sides also exchanged views on the situation and experiences of protection of intellectual property rights of the creative industry of the two places.