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content

1. Mainland further liberalizes the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Goods towards Macao with increase of duty-free allowance for visitors who are Mainland residents
2. DSEDТ briefs businesses on new allowance measures to boost community economy
3. 2nd edition of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High-Value Trademark Cultivation Competition kicks off
4. Seminar on Hengqin's Policies for Supporting Technological Exchange and Cooperation with PSCs
5. Technology Enterprise Certification Programme includes Hengqin elements into assessment criteria
6. DSEDТ organizes Hengqin study visit for PSC enterprises to boost China-PSCs business opportunities
7. Hengqin and Macao join hands to launch IP cooperation and exchange activity
8. DSEDТ organizes GBA tour for PSC sci-tech enterprises to promote cooperation
9. DSEDТ organizes Brazilian and Portuguese sci-tech enterprises to stage roadshows in BEYOND EXPO
10. DSEDТ organizes Mainland visit for PSC Sci-Tech Enterprises GBA Study Tour

Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement



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Editor's Note:

To deepen the economic exchange and cooperation between the Mainland and Macao, the Mainland further liberalized the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Goods towards Macao by increasing the duty-free allowance for luggage articles brought into the Mainland from Macao by visitors who are Mainland residents. The Ministry of Finance, the General Administration of Customs and the State Administration of Taxation announced on 28 June that visitors who are Mainland residents aged 18 or above entering the Mainland from Macao can pass the Customs duty-free with luggage articles, acquired abroad in a reasonable quantity for personal use, with a total value within RMB12,000.

The Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED) subsequently held a briefing seminar in the morning of 29 June to introduce in detail the measures to businesses with a view to allowing the latter to better understand and grasp fully the details, seize the opportunity and make good use of the measures beneficial to Macao.

The 2nd edition of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High-Value Trademark Cultivation Competition (hereafter "the Competition") officially commenced in Dongguan on 16 April. Gao Guosheng, Deputy Director-General of the Guangdong Administration for Market Regulation (Intellectual Property Office); Liang Shaoguang, Deputy Secretary-General of Dongguan People's Municipal Government; Leslie Shay, Assistant Director of Intellectual Property (Trade Marks) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government; and Cheang Hio Man, Head of Intellectual Property Department of the DSED attended the launch ceremony and made speeches.

1. Mainland further liberalizes the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Goods towards Macao with increase of duty-free allowance for visitors who are Mainland residents

To deepen the economic exchange and cooperation between the Mainland and Macao, the Mainland further liberalized the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Goods towards Macao by increasing the duty-free allowance for luggage articles brought into the Mainland from Macao by visitors who are Mainland residents. The Ministry of Finance, the General Administration of Customs and the State Administration of Taxation announced on 28 June that visitors who are Mainland residents aged 18 or above entering the Mainland from Macao can pass the Customs duty-free with luggage articles, acquired abroad in a reasonable quantity for personal use, with a total value within RMB12,000.

Meanwhile, the visitors stated above can purchase a certain quantity of duty-free goods at inbound duty-free stores located at border

checkpoints as they are allowed to pass the Customs duty-free with the purchase and the luggage articles acquired abroad in a reasonable quantity for personal use within a total value of RMB15,000. The aforesaid measures have been implemented from 1 July 2024 at 6 border checkpoints including Gongbei and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge. It will be extended to all points of entry (except Hengqin's "first-tier" border checkpoint) from 1 August 2024.

The Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED) expressed sincere gratitude to the Central People's Government (CPG) for introducing again measures beneficial to Macao. The measures will help boosting the willingness of Mainland visitors to travel to and spend in Macao, promoting Macao's overall economic development. The DSED encourages the business sector to

grasp the opportunity by jointly putting the CPG's series of measures beneficial to Macao in practice through actively developing diversified products and services, continuously enhancing quality and bringing better consumption experience to visitors. The DSEDT will also dedicate full efforts to promotion to allow the business sector to fully understand the relevant information and meanwhile continue to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to pursue quality development, create a better business environment and join hands with the society to promote the development of community economy.

The DSEDT has been attaching high importance to the development of community economy, utilizing the unique resources of communities on various fronts and promoting all-sector participation, including: organizing a

number of consumption events to draw visitors to communities; implementing the Distinctive Shops Programme in collaboration with district-based business associations to assist community-based businesses to perform advertising and marketing by means of new medias, among others. In recent years, photo spot installations have been added in various districts to infuse innovative elements to traditional districts, and digitalization support measures have been introduced to encourage community-based businesses to keep pace with time and explore business opportunities.

In the future, the DSEDT will continue to promote community economy, support SMEs with a multi-pronged approach in sustaining operations and innovating, and improve business environment with a view to injecting new impetus to economic development.

2. DSEDT briefs businesses on new allowance measures to boost community economy



Subsequent to the announcement of increasing the duty-free allowance for luggage articles brought into the Mainland from Macao by visitors who are Mainland residents on 28 June, the Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSEDT) held a briefing seminar in the morning of 29 June to introduce in detail the measures to businesses with a view to allowing the latter to better understand and grasp fully the details, seize the opportunity and make good use of the measures beneficial to Macao.

Tai Kin Ip, the DSEDT's Director, stated at the seminar that the Central People's Government (CPG)'s measures beneficial to Macao help to

enhance the willingness of Mainland visitors to spend in Macao and boost Macao's overall economic development. The DSEDT will step up the publicity efforts to allow businesses to fully grasp the content of the measures. In the future, the DSEDT will continue to work with businesses to improve the business environment with a multi-pronged approach and promote consumption by boosting customer base and flows. Meanwhile, it will assist small and medium enterprises to implement digital transformation, smart development and competitiveness enhancement, and encourage businesses to make use of the measures beneficial to Macao in order to jointly promote the development of community economy.

At the seminar, representatives of business sectors expressed welcome to the measures beneficial to Macao introduced by the CPG, and gratitude to the CPG's care and support for Macao's economic development. They considered the measures conducive to bringing Mainland visitors to visit and spend in Macao, stimulating the retailing market, invigorating the community economy and injecting new impetus to Macao's overall economic development. Businesses will seize the opportunity to actively develop diversified products and services

and continuously enhancing quality in order to attract more Mainland visitors to spend in Macao and make use of the CPG's beneficial measures.

Representatives of business and retailing associations attending this seminar included: Vong Kok Seng, Vice President of Board of Directors of the Macao Chamber of Commerce; Chui Yuk Lum Antonio, President of the Industrial Association of Macau; Tam Kai Cho Alan, Executive Vice President of the Industry and Commerce Association of Macau; Lee Koi Ian, Director-General of the Macau Goldsmith's Guild; Wu Keng Kuong, Director-General of the Federal General Commercial Association of Macau Small and Medium Enterprises; Ma Kin Cheong, Director-General of the Industry and Commerce Association of Macau Northern District; Lo Teng Kam, Director-General of the Industry and Commerce Federation of Macau Central and Southern District; Yeong Keng Hoi, President of the Industry and Commerce Federation of Islands of Macao; Wu Tat Chong, President of the Industry and Commerce Association of Macau ZAPE; Yip Wing Fat Frederick, Director-General of the Macau Association of Retailers & Tourism Services; Wong Man Chi, Director of the Macao International Brand Enterprise Commercial Association; Samson Wat, Director of Board of Supervisors of the Macau Retail Management Association; Vong Chiok Va, Vice Chairman of Board of Directors of the Macau Merchandise Merchants Industry Chamber of Commerce; and Lam Vai Hong, President of the Macao Pastry Specialty Association, among others.



The DSED holds a seminar to brief businesses on the CPG's measures beneficial to Macao

3. 2nd edition of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High-Value Trademark Cultivation Competition kicks off



The 2nd edition of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High-Value Trademark Cultivation Competition officially commenced in Dongguan

The 2nd edition of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High-Value Trademark Cultivation Competition (hereafter “the Competition”) officially commenced in Dongguan on 16 April. Gao Guosheng, Deputy Director-General of the Guangdong Administration for Market Regulation (Intellectual Property Office) (GAMR); Liang Shaoguang, Deputy Secretary-General of Dongguan People’s Municipal Government; Leslie Shay, Assistant Director of Intellectual Property (Trade Marks) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government; and Cheang Hio Man, Head of Intellectual Property Department of the Economic and Technological Development Bureau of the Macao Special Administrative Region Government (DSEDT) attended the launch ceremony and made speeches.

Jointly organized by the GAMR, the Dongguan People’s Municipal Government, the Intellectual Property Department of the HKSAR Government and the DSEDT, this edition of the Competition will stage its preliminary round, semi-final and final in Dongguan and is expected to end in August 2024.

All projects participating in this edition of the Competition will be divided into the Growth Group and Start-up Group and further into the “Growth/Start-up Group Manufacturing Track”, “Growth/Start-up Group Services Track” and “Growth/Start-

up Group Agricultural Track” based on whether they are in the advance manufacturing, modern services or new agricultural sector. This edition of the Competition will confer gold and silver awards and bestow Top 100 honours. The total prize purse is RMB2 million, with a prize of RMB100 thousand for each of the 10 gold awardees, a prize of RMB50 thousand for each of the 20 silver awardees, and those bestowed with Top 100 honours will be awarded a certificate of honour.



Photo taken at the venue of the 2nd edition of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High-Value Trademark Cultivation Competition

4. Seminar on Hengqin's Policies for Supporting Technological Exchange and Cooperation with PSCs

To promote coordinated development between Macao and Hengqin, the Economic and Technological Development Bureau and Hengqin's Economic Development Bureau held the Seminar on Hengqin's Policies for Supporting Technological Exchange and Cooperation with Portuguese-Speaking Countries (PSCs) on 26 April and 24 May in Hengqin and Macao respectively. Each of the sessions was respectively attended by around 30 representatives of the PSC businesses in Macao and around 50 representatives of Brazilian and Portuguese technology sector. The focus of the seminar was on briefing on the Measures on Supporting the Technological Exchange and Cooperation with Portuguese-Speaking Countries in the Guangdong-Macao Intensive Cooperation Zone in Hengqin and introducing Hengqin's economic situation, industrial landscape and relevant policies. During the session held in Hengqin, the participants were brought to a site visit to the Traditional Chinese Medicine Science and Technology Industrial Park of Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao, as well as to the Centre for Science and Technology Exchange and Cooperation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries to gain a deeper understanding of the technology industry environment of Hengqin.



Group photo of participants of the Seminar on Hengqin's Policies for Supporting Technological Exchange and Cooperation with PSCs



Seminar on Hengqin's Policies for Supporting Technological Exchange and Cooperation with PSCs

5. Technology Enterprise Certification Programme includes Hengqin elements into assessment criteria

To complement the SAR Government's "1+4" adequate diversification strategy and commit to bettering the system and policy environment for the development of technology sector, the Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED) introduced the Technology Enterprise Certification Programme last year to identify qualified local technology enterprises through an assessment system, building a growth ladder for Macao's technology enterprises and supporting their development. At present, there have been 24 enterprises certified as technology enterprises.

To further strengthen coordinated development between the technology sectors of Macao and Hengqin, the DSED updated the Technology Enterprise Certification Programme Prospectus in April this year by including the business activities and qualification of applicants' affiliated enterprises in Hengqin into the scope of assessment in order to encourage technology enterprises of the two places to develop their businesses by making use of the advantages of Macao and Hengqin.



Group photo taken at the certificate presentation ceremony of the Technology Enterprise Certification Programme

Following the updating of the Prospectus, the assessment committee will perform a multi-dimensional assessment on the scope and scale of business, status of research and development and level of innovativeness of the applicant enterprises and, if any, their affiliated enterprises in Hengqin and grant them, in ascending order, certifications of Promising Technology Enterprise, Growth Technology Enterprise and Key Technology Enterprise based on the assessment result. The certifications are valid for three years.

The Programme's application periods are in May and November every year. Applicants may submit applications through the DSED's online system. Details are available at the Programme's webpage (<https://www.dsedt.gov.mo/pcet>) or by calling 8597 2332.

經濟及科技發展局
Direcção dos Serviços de Economia e Desenvolvimento Tecnológico

科技企業認證計劃

目的：
通過評鑑制度識別出本地具實質的科技企業，並透過授予不同級別的官方認證及提供配套支援措施，以推動科技企業成長。

認證類型：
合資格科技企業由高至低可被授予以下級別認證：
• 重點科技企業
• 成長型科技企業
• 潛力型科技企業

認證有效期：
3年

評審標準：
獲認證企業必須滿足指定必要條件，並在計分項目中獲得一定分數。

必要條件主要包括：

- 主營科創業務滿一年
- 在澳實際經營
- 業務規模等要求

計分項目主要包括：

- 企業規模
- 知識產權數量
- 產學研情況
- 研發人員情況
- 獲獎情況
- 人員學歷情況
- 關聯企業實質

相關申請將由經濟及科技發展局屬組的評審委員會進行評審。

申請方式：網上申請或親臨申請
申請時間：每年5月及11月
查詢電話：85972332
電郵：pcet@dsedt.gov.mo
詳情請瀏覽計劃專頁：
<https://www.dsedt.gov.mo/pcet>

6. DSEDt organizes Hengqin study visit for PSC enterprises to boost China-PSCs business opportunities



The group visits the Centre for Science and Technology Exchange and Cooperation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries

The PSC Sci-Tech Enterprises GBA Study Tour, which was organized by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSEDt), arranged for a study visit to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) in May for nearly 30 representatives from 18 Brazilian and Portuguese technology enterprises, incubators and tertiary institutions. The trip to Hengqin started on 21 May, with visits to the Exhibition Hall of the Guangdong-Macao Intensive Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, the Centre for Science and Technology Exchange and Cooperation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries, the InnoValley HQ, the Technology Industrial Park of Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao, the Zhuhai UM Science & Technology Research Institute and other institutions, as well as a number of technology enterprises to enhance their understanding of the overall planning, future development and industrial landscape of Hengqin. The group also participated in the Pitch Roadshow for Sci-Tech Enterprises from Brazil and Portugal (Zhuhai-Hengqin), which was jointly organized by the Zhuhai Science and Technology Innovation Bureau, the DSEDt and the Economic Development Bureau of Hengqin. 10 technology and innovation enterprises from Brazil and Portugal put on roadshows to present their projects to the attending government representatives, venture funds and Mainland enterprises and had discussions with the various

parties in order to discover collaboration partners. 2 collaboration agreements were signed during the event, and one of which was concluded between a Brazilian biomedicine enterprise and its peer in Hengqin.



Pitch Roadshow for Sci-Tech Enterprises from Brazil and Portugal (Zhuhai-Hengqin)

7. Hengqin and Macao join hands to launch IP cooperation and exchange activity

To further deepen the collaboration on intellectual property (IP) protection between Hengqin and Macao, the Commercial Services Bureau of Guangdong-Macao Intensive Cooperation Zone in Hengqin (CSB), the Customs of Macao Special Administrative Region (SA) and the Economic and Technological Development Bureau of the Macao Special Administrative Region Government (DSED) held a discussion meeting on IP cooperation in Hengqin on 30 April. Lei Lok Fai, Deputy Director-General of the SA; Chan Tze Wai, Deputy Director of the DSED; and Wu Chuangwei, Director of the CSB, among other leaders, attended the meeting.

Deputy Director Chan Tze Wai stated at the meeting that with the implementation of the “1+4” adequate diversification strategy and the extensive advancement of Hengqin-Macao integration, technology research and development and high-end manufacturing, traditional Chinese medicine, cultural, tourism, convention and exhibition, commercial and trade, as well as modern finance are the major sectors that Macao and Hengqin are jointly developing, and IP protection is essential to the development of these sectors. The integrated development between IP and technology and economy can only be advanced effectively under a good IP protection environment. Therefore, enhancing IP protection between Hengqin and Macao is of high significance to achieving mutual benefits and sustainable development and providing solid support to the development of Hengqin and Macao. At the end of the meeting, the three parties jointly signed the Notes of the Meeting on Intellectual Property Protection Cooperation between Hengqin and Macao to jointly further enhance IP-related cooperation, safeguard the legal rights of IP-market entities in Hengqin and Macao, and create a fair, law-based and international business environment through establishing collaboration mechanisms that include communication and coordination, information sharing, exchange and training, as well as publicity and education.



Representatives of the three parties jointly sign the Notes of the Meeting on Intellectual Property Protection Cooperation between Hengqin and Macao



Photo taken at the venue of the IP cooperation discussion meeting

8. DSEDT organizes GBA tour for PSC sci-tech enterprises to promote cooperation



The group visits the DSEDT

The PSC Sci-Tech Enterprises GBA Study Tour, which was organized by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSEDT), was undertaken from 19 to 25 May with site visits to Macao, Hengqin, Zhuhai and Guangzhou for getting an in-depth understanding of the technology and innovation landscape, market and policy advantages of these places. During the trip in Macao, the group visited the DSEDT to listen to the latter's presentation on the Centre for Science and Technology Exchange and Cooperation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CSTCP), followed by visits to the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries, the Pavilion of China-Portuguese-Speaking Countries Commercial and Trade Service Platform, the University of Macau and its subordinate State Key Laboratories, the Macau University of Science and Technology, and the Macao Young Entrepreneur Incubation Centre, among others, to enhance the participants' understanding of Macao's role as a platform

between China and Portuguese-speaking countries and current development in technology and innovation. During the tour, 3 Brazilian technology and innovation enterprises, which are engaged in medical technology, environmental biotechnology and artificial intelligence, set up businesses in Macao.



The DSEDT gives a presentation on the CSTCP

9. DSEDT organizes Brazilian and Portuguese sci-tech enterprises to stage roadshows in BEYOND EXPO



Incubators of Macao, Portugal and Brazil sign a cooperation agreement

Organized by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau, the Brazilian and Portuguese science and technology enterprises that participated in this year's PSC Sci-Tech Enterprises GBA Study Tour staged exhibitions in the China-Portuguese-Speaking Countries (PSCs) Technological Exchange and Cooperation Exhibition Area, and participated in the Pitch Roadshow for Sci-Tech Enterprises from Brazil and Portugal (Macao) on 24 May in this year's BEYOND EXPO. During the roadshows, representatives of 10 Brazilian and Portuguese

science and technology enterprises gave attendees detailed introduction to the innovation features and development planning of their projects. Some of the projects won the recognition of the attending experts and investors with clear market positioning, prominent market value, demonstration of successful cases and core technological patent. The participating enterprises had high regard of the event and expressed interest in exploring the Mainland market. The signing ceremony held in the event saw the signing of 6 cooperation agreements, which concerned strengthening the cooperation between Brazilian and Portuguese technology enterprises and the local peers, enhancing the support of the Mainland's private capital for PSC projects, commencing collaboration in product research and development between Brazilian and Portuguese technology enterprises and their Macao counterparts and other areas. The various parties will continue to make use of Macao and Hengqin as a platform and borrow support from the Centre for Science and Technology Exchange and Cooperation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries to strongly promote the flow and interconnection of technology and innovation resources between China and PSCs.



Pitch Roadshow for Sci-Tech Enterprises from Brazil and Portugal (Macao) is staged in the Beyond Expo

10. DSEDT organizes Mainland visit for PSC Sci-Tech Enterprises GBA Study Tour



The group visits Mainland technology enterprises

Apart from visiting a number of public authorities, technological research institutions and technology enterprises in Macao and Hengqin, the PSC Sci-Tech Enterprises GBA Study Tour also visited a number of technology enterprises in Zhuhai and Guangzhou, which were engaged in biomedicine, new energy vehicles, new-generation communication technology and other areas to enhance the understanding of participants about the landscape and development of the technology sector in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). With the collaboration of the Guangzhou Municipal Science and Technology Bureau, the Exchange Session for Brazilian and Portuguese Technology Enterprises (Guangzhou) was held with the participation of Guangzhou's local technology enterprises, private capital and incubators, as well as members of the group. Apart from presentation on the cooperation in technology and innovation and external exchange of Guangzhou, some Brazilian, Portuguese and Mainland technology enterprises also staged roadshows at the event. During the later

discussion session, the various parties had a lively discussion to explore the possibility and direction of commencing cooperation in the future, as well as to utilize the advantages of Macao as a platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries (PSCs) and of the GBA to promote the technological development of China and PSCs.



Exchange Session for Brazilian and Portuguese Technology Enterprises (Guangzhou)