

**PA Newsletter** 

June 2020 

Issue 73 

Published by Macao Economic Bureau

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## Editor's Note:

**Since** the implementation of CEPA in 2004, the Mainland and Macao have been broadening and deepening the economic and trade cooperation through a series of policy measures under CEPA. On 20 November 2019, the two sides signed the Agreement Concerning Amendment to the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Services, which was officially implemented on 1 June, with a view to further fostering the close cooperation in trade in services between the two places, enhancing the level of liberalization of services sectors and promoting the moderate economic diversification of Macao.

The number of services sectors in which the Mainland accords full national treatment to Macao increases from 62 to 69, including services such as accounting, construction and design, engineering, facility repairing and maintenance, wholesaling, railway transportation, as well as freight forwarding. Service suppliers of Macao can be entitled to the same market access conditions as Mainland investors for entering the Mainland market. This creates a favorable environment for Macao enterprises to explore the enormous Mainland market.

In recent years, the food and pharmaceutical manufacturing sectors of Macao have experienced relatively notable development. Early this year, the DSE received proposals from these sectors to revise the ROOs for certain food and pharmaceutical products. After negotiation with the Mainland, revisions of a total of 7 ROOs for CEPA-covered products, of which 5 for food products and 2 for pharmaceutical products, have been confirmed and were implemented on 1 July this year. The products covered include prepared meat products, pharmaceutical products containing alkaloid, as well as medical products, among others.



oser Economic Partnership Arranger

## 1. Agreement Concerning Amendment to the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Services officially implemented on 1 June

Since the implementation of CEPA in 2004, the Mainland and Macao have been broadening and deepening the economic and trade cooperation through a series of policy measures under CEPA. On 20 November 2019, the two sides signed the Agreement Concerning Amendment to the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Services, which was officially implemented on 1 June, with a view to further fostering the close cooperation in trade in services between the two places, enhancing the level of liberalization of services sectors and promoting the moderate economic diversification of Macao.

Agreement further relaxes The the threshold for Macao enterprises to enter the Mainland' s services markets, covering the liberalization of sectors such as finance, legal accounting, services, construction and cultural engineering, services, tourism, distribution, as well as education. Liberalization measures are added on the existing basis to provide more preferential conditions for Macao enterprises and professionals to enter the Mainland for development.

Meanwhile, the number of services sectors in which the Mainland accords full national treatment to Macao increases from 62 to 69, including services such as accounting, construction and design, engineering, facility repairing and maintenance, wholesaling, railway transportation, as well as freight forwarding. Service suppliers of Macao can be entitled to the same market access conditions as Mainland investors for entering the Mainland market. This creates a favorable environment for Macao enterprises to explore the enormous Mainland market.

The Agreement puts in place multiple liberalization measures that will be implemented in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) on a pilot basis to promote in-depth integration between Macao and the GBA. Market access conditions that are more preferential are established in services sectors such as finance, legal, taxation, education, construction engineering and tourism to open up investment opportunities in more sectors. This creates better opportunities for Macao enterprises and professionals to enhance their capacities and qualities with respect to services sectors through the GBA, facilitating the achievement of full liberalization of trade in services in the GBA.

The Agreement Concerning Amendment to the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Services injects new impetus to, creates new conditions for and brings new opportunities to services sectors of Macao for their venturing into the Mainland. Services sector enterprises and professionals of Macao are expected to grasp the business opportunities brought by CEPA, capitalize on advantages, their own enhance their competitiveness and strengthen their mutually beneficial cooperation with the Mainland in order to develop a more ample room for development.





允許已取得澳門產業測量師資格的專業人士在深圳前海 珠海橫琴、廣州南沙直接註冊執案,開展房地產估價服 務,不需要通過內地與澳門資格互認。



## 2. Newly revised CEPA ROOs implemented on 1 July 2020

The CEPA Agreement on Trade in Goods was implemented on 1 January 2019. Goods have to fulfil the rules of origin (ROOs) determined by the Mainland and Macao to be entitled to the zero-tariff preference for exporting to the Mainland. The Agreement sets out ROOs for some 8,000 tariff-line products, while Article 26 of the Agreement establishes the mechanism for revising the CEPA ROOs. In with the accordance implementation procedures of the mechanism, enterprises may submit revision requests to the Macao Economic Bureau (DSE) by 1 March and 1 September of every year, so that the Mainland and Macao can conduct negotiations on such requests. The negotiated ROOs will be implemented not later than on 1 July of the year or on 1 January of the following year.

In the food recent vears, and pharmaceutical manufacturing sectors of Macao experienced have relatively notable development. Early this year, the DSE received proposals from these sectors to revise the ROOs for certain food and pharmaceutical products. After negotiation with the Mainland, revisions of a total of 7 ROOs for CEPA-covered products, of which 5 for food products and 2 for

pharmaceutical products, have been confirmed and were implemented on 1 July this year. The products covered include prepared meat products, pharmaceutical products containing alkaloid, as well as medical products, among others.

Trade in goods under CEPA has entered into effect and been implemented since 1 January 2004. As of May 2020, the DSE has issued 6,349 CEPA Certificates of Origin, of which 5,627 have been used. The value of goods exported to the Mainland under zero-tariff preference reached 1.08 billion patacas, with tariffs of almost 73.30 million patacas exempted. The products mainly include copper clad laminates, textiles and clothing, stamps, and food and beverages, among others. In the first five months of 2020, the total value of exports entering the Mainland market under zero tariffs is approximately 28.93 million patacas, increased by 14 times compared with the 1.84 million patacasin first year of implementation of CEPA.

Details about the revisions of ROOs can be accessed at the DSE's website and WeChat public account (DSEMACAU)or enquired by calling 85972328/85972342.

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## 3. Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High Value Patent Portfolio Contest 2020 to be held in Zhuhai in July

Jointly hosted by the Guangdong Province Market for Administration Regulation (Intellectual Property Office), the Intellectual Property Department of the Government of the Hong Kong SAR, the Macao Economic Bureau of the Government of the Macao SAR, the Zhuhai Municipal People's Government and the Dongguan Municipal People's Government, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area High Value Patent Portfolio Contest 2020 (hereafter referred to as the "GBAHVPPC") was launched in November 2019. This year' s GBAHVPPC is open to various types of innovation entities in the Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao, with its assessment focusing on three aspects: the overall technological cutting edge and market competitiveness of projects, the quality of early-stage patent portfolio and the result of high value patent portfolio in the contest. The contest aims to enhance the innovative capabilities and level of highvalue patent portfoliosof the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay (GBA) with Area а point-to-plane approachbyidentifying patent innovation cutting-edge projects with technology, substantial market potential and better patent value development, so as to accelerate the high-quality development of the GBA.

After the preliminary round, 3 projects from Macao have been qualified for the Top 100, including: automatictoilet cleanerproject byZhuhai Fuchang Keji Youxian Gongsi, new anti-tumor medicine development project by the University of Macau, and project on preventing ulcerative colitis with traditional Chinese medicine ingredients by Macao candidate Chen Xiuping. The semi-finalswere held in Dongguan on 4 June, and the finals will be held in Zhuhai in July.