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Editor’s Notes:

Supplement IX to CEPA was formally implemented on 1 January 2013. The total number of liberalized sectors under Trade in Services is increased to 48, with an emphasis on the Early and Pilot measures in Guangdong and the innovative policy of Hengqin. At the same time, the restrictions on the number of persons engaged in the operation and the business area of individually owned stores are lifted, while more favourable access conditions are provided for the small and medium sized enterprises of Macao to enter the Mainland market, especially the Hengqin New Area. Furthermore, to reinforce the promotion and implementation of CEPA, Macao Economic Services continued to participate in the “CEPA Training for the Mainland Business System” organized by the Ministry of Commerce of PRC, with the aim to assist the different provinces and cities in the Mainland to better understand and make use of CEPA.

1. *“Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair” was held in Wuhan of Hubei Province*

The road-show “Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair” which had been successfully conducted in a number of major cities, was solemnly held in Wuhan of Hubei Province from 7 to 9 December. The series of activities comprised designated exhibition area for promotion of Macao, business matching sessions, seminar on promotion of the investment environment of



Officiating guests participated in the opening ceremony of “Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair”

Portuguese-Speaking countries and sales promotion of products for exhibiting to the Mainland people and strengthening the role of Macao as a world tourism and leisure center and a regional business and trade services platform. Governor of Hubei Province, Mr. Wang Guosheng, Secretariat for Economy and Finance of Macao, Mr. Tam Pak Yuen and Deputy Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Macao SAR, Ms. Gao Yan officiated the opening ceremony of the Fair. Mr. Tam Pak Yuen delivered opening speech and expressed that by holding "Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair" in Wuhan, the channels for Macao products and services to enter the vast market of the Mainland would be developed, which would further enhance future cooperation and integration between Macao and Hubei. The Government of Macao SAR will continue to make its efforts to promote and deepen the economic and business cooperation between the two places, to promote the exchanges and cooperation among enterprises of the two sides, with development in multiple fields and levels, with a view to achieving collaborative development, mutual benefits and the win-win outcome.

The Fair covered an exhibition area of over 6,000 square meters, with more than 250 booths. The theme exhibit areas included economic development pavilion, Macao tourism pavilion, Macao trade and investment pavilion, pavilion of Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries, cultural and creative products pavilion, etc. At the same time, a number of Macao enterprises showcased special souvenirs, "Made-in-Macao" products and products from Portuguese-speaking countries that received popular and strong sales response on-site.

2. Macao Economic Services led a delegation to participate "The 8th China Food Expo" in Chengdu

Macao Economic Services organized a delegation of 24 people from local business and industrial sectors to participate "The 8th China Food Expo", held from 26 to 29 October 2012 in Chengdu of Sichuan Province. The delegation was led by Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai. Members of the delegation included representatives from the Municipal Council of Macao, Macao Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Association of Macau, Macao Federal Commercial Association of Wine and Food Industries in Portuguese Speaking Countries and Regions, Macau Union Suppliers Association, the Macau Merchandise Merchants Industry Chamber of Commerce, etc.



Signing ceremony of the Food Expo

This event was jointly organized by the Ministry of Commerce of PRC and Sichuan Provincial People's Government. The exhibitors came from local and foreign countries or regions. It was one of the largest in scale and highest in level of China's food industry. The participation in this Expo enabled the purchasing industry of Macao to communicate with the food manufacturing and sales industry of other countries or

regions, which was favourable for the development of local food consumption and food market. During this event, two Macao enterprises signed with a Mainland supplier the purchasing contracts of frozen pork products totalling nearly 40 tons. One of the enterprises became the authorized agency of the Mainland supplier to supply frozen pork products in Macao, which successfully opened up a new food supply chain for Macao. Furthermore, the Macao delegation visited Meishan of Sichuan Province, and participated in the Macao-Meishan Economic and Trade Cooperation Meeting. Various enterprises are engaged in manufacturing and processing of agricultural by-products in Meishan, making it a distinguished base for processing of agricultural products in China. The Macao delegation visited a local famous enterprise, which manufactured pickles, aimed at further expanding the sources of food supply for Macao.

For continuing to support the economic development of Macao and the need of residents for food, the SAR government will actively explore multiple and more direct food supply channels to stabilize the food supply to Macao.

3. Guangdong-Macao Logistics Cooperation Conference was held in Jiangmen City

The Economic & Information Commission of Guangdong Province and the Logistics Development Committee of Macao SAR Government jointly held “Guangdong-Macao Logistics Cooperation Conference 2012” in Jiangmen from 30 to 31 October 2012. The Vice Chairman, Mr. Tsui Wai Kwan and Secretary, Mr. Wong Wan of the Logistics Development Committee led a delegation composing of 15 committee members, 12 representatives from different government departments and 20 representatives from the logistics industry to take part in the Conference. More than a hundred representatives from both Guangdong and Macao sides participated in this conference.



Group photo of Macao delegation at the conference

Guest speakers from the two places explained on topics such as “Working together on the construction of the logistics passage of the western bank of the Pearl River”, “Advantages and opportunities of Nansha New District for the development of logistics industry”, “Innovate the mode of logistics information to promote the upgrade of logistics industry”, “Customs clearance situation of Macao goods”, “Current development status of Macao logistics services and business opportunities for cooperation with Guangdong” and “Current development status of air transport industry of Macao and business opportunities for cooperation with Guangdong”. Furthermore, delegations of the two places visited Dah Chong Hong Logistics Centre in Jiangmen, Centre for Exhibition and Sales of Products of Macao and Portuguese

Speaking Countries which was established in Jiangmen as well as Nansha Terminal Phase II of Guangzhou Port and Guangdong Enpro Supply Chain Management Limited, located in Nansha District. This activity strengthened the exchange and cooperation between the departments in charge of logistics of the two places and the industry.

4. *The Consultation on the rules of origin of CEPA products for the second half of 2012 was held in Shenzhen*

The consultation on the rules of origin of Macao products applying for zero-tariff treatment for the second half of 2012 was convened at Shenzhen Customs on 16 November 2012. The meeting was hosted by Deputy Director of Department of Duty Collection of the General Administration of Customs of the PRC, Mr. Kang Qiang and Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai. Representatives from Macao Economic Services, Macao Customs Service, the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in Macao SAR, Gongbei and Shenzhen Customs attended the meeting.



The two sides consulted on the rules of origin for the product petitioned for zero-tariff treatment

This meeting mainly discussed on the rules of origin for the product petitioned for zero-tariff treatment by the industry. Through consultation, the two sides reached consensus on the rules of origin of that product. Starting from 1 January, this product is eligible for the zero-tariff treatment upon entry to the Mainland. Under the current list of Trade in Goods of CEPA, starting from 2013, the total number of Macao products eligible for the zero-tariff treatment upon entry to the Mainland was 1,262. For products not yet listed as Trade in Goods of CEPA, that is, products of which the Macao side had not yet reached consensus with the Mainland on the rules of origin, the manufacturers concerned may submit their application to Macao Economic Services. Macao manufacturers can submit to Macao Economic Services petitions for products to be listed as Trade in Goods of CEPA before February 15 and August 15 each year. Detailed Information and related application form can be downloaded from the website of Macao Economic Services (www.economia.gov.mo) and the CEPA exclusive website (www.cepa.gov.mo).

5. *Guangzhou delegation visited Macao Economic Services*

Led by Vice Mayor of Guangzhou Municipality, Mr. Zhang Ji, the delegation of Economic and Trade Commission of Guangzhou Municipality visited Macao Economic Services and met with the Director Mr. Sou Tim Peng on 19 October 2012. Mr. Sou Tim Peng introduced the latest development status of the conventions and exhibitions sector of Macao, as well as the supporting policies and measures of the SAR government to promote the sector. The two sides exchanged views on the positioning and strategies for developing the conventions and exhibitions sector. The concept of future cooperation between the convention and exhibition industry of Guangzhou and Macao was also discussed. After the meeting, the delegation of Guangzhou Municipality visited the “17th Macao International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF)”.



Vice Mayor Zhang Ji and Director Sou Tim Peng took photo after the meeting.

6. *Economic Development Committee called for a meeting to explore the cooperation under CEPA*

In view of the implementation of the Supplement IX to CEPA on 1 January 2013, the Economic Policy Research Group of the Economic Development Committee called for a meeting on 9 October 2012. Macao Economic Services was invited to present the latest developments of CEPA so as to explore and share views on effectively implementing the content of cooperation.

The meeting was hosted by the group leader of the Economic Policy Research Group, Mr. Vong Kok

Seng. During the meeting, the representative from Macao Economic Services reviewed the development of CEPA, explained thoroughly the legal text of the Supplement IX to CEPA, emphasizing on the aspects related to the Guangdong Province, especially on the liberalization of the service sector in Hengqin as well as analyzed the business opportunities brought about to the Macao enterprises. Many members enthusiastically raised questions and provided valuable suggestions on the policies to better implement the CEPA provisions.



Representatives of Macao Economic Services participated in the meeting of the Economic Policy Research Team of Economic Development Committee.

7. CEPA Training for the Mainland Business System was held in Chengdu

To further strengthen the work related to promotion and implementation of CEPA, assisting the officers in charge of the Mainland Business System from different provinces and cities in the Mainland to better understand and master the content of CEPA, the Ministry of Commerce of PRC held “CEPA Training for the Mainland Business System” from 16 to 18 October 2012 in Chengdu City of Sichuan Province. More than 60 commerce system officers from different provinces and municipalities of the whole country participated in this training.



Director of Division, Mr. Chen Zhi Tuan taught the CEPA training classes.

During the training, Director of Division under Department of Taiwan, Hong Kong & Macao Affairs of the Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Chen Zhi Tuan and Deputy-Director of Division of the same department, Mr. Ji Wen Lin explained in-depth the comprehensive round-up of CEPA and the definition of service suppliers under CEPA; Director of Division under Department of Foreign Investment, Ms. Zhu Ling Yan introduced the policy and implementation of foreign investment on the service industry; representatives from Hong Kong Trade and Industry Department and Macao Economic Services briefly explained the current status of the service industry of Hong Kong and Macao as well as the opportunities to cooperate with the Mainland.

Chengdu was just approved by the Ministry of Commerce to be one of the CEPA Model Cities (Districts) in mid-October. Together with Binhai New Area of Tianjin Municipality, Wuhan Municipality, Liangjiang New Area of Chongqing Municipality, Fuzhou city of Fujian Province, Xiamen Municipality and Quanzhou city, were approved as the third batch of CEPA Model Cities (Districts). As such, it was especially meaningful to hold such a training in Chengdu, considering that it has reinforced the promotion of the provisions under CEPA.

8. The first Macao candidate to pass the National Qualification Examination for Patent Agents

According to the commitments to further liberalize the service sector of patent agency for Macao in the Supplement to CEPA, starting from 2004, eligible Macao residents are allowed to sit the “National Qualification Examination for Patent Agents” held by State Intellectual Property Office of the PRC. A “Patent Agent Qualification Certificate” will be issued to those who pass the examination in order to engage in the patent business in the Mainland. Macao Economic Services has been the coordinator of the applications for this examination since 2004, and actively encouraging the Macao candidates to take part in the examination. Starting from 2011, Macao candidates can apply online through the website of State Intellectual Property Office of the PRC, and take part in the examination held in Guangzhou of Guangdong

Province. In 2012, there were two Macao residents who had applied for the examination. One of them passed and became the first Macao resident to obtain the qualification of national patent agent.

9. Announcement of the results of the National Judicial Examination

The results of the National Judicial Examination 2012 were announced recently. Two Macao residents passed the examination, totalling a number of twelve Macao residents who obtained passing grades over the past years. Moreover, currently there are five Macao lawyers who had successfully completed the training course and obtained the qualification of Appointed Attesting Officers of the Ministry of Justice of the PRC in 2006.

According to CEPA, Macao residents can apply to sit the National Judicial Examination since 2004. To facilitate the Macao residents to sit the examination, the Ministry of Justice of the PRC had agreed and approved to set up a venue of examination in Macao since 2005. For Macao, Legal Affairs Bureau is responsible for organizing and coordinating the work related to application and examination. For related information and result of the examination, please refer to the website of Legal Affairs Bureau: www.dsaj.gov.mo.