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Editor's Notes:

"Conference of Entrepreneurs between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries cum Project Matching Meeting for China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund" was successfully held in Macao. More than 600 guests including officials and entrepreneurs from the Mainland and the Portuguese-speaking Countries participated in the conference, to explore how Macao could further play its role as an economic and trade platform for China and Portuguese-speaking Countries. Two agreements on trade cooperation were signed, including "Supplementary Agreement on Cooperation among Trade Promotion Organizations/Chambers of Commerce" and "Project of Wanbao Mozambique Agriculture Zone", the first project of China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund. "Meeting of Guangzhou-Macao Cooperation Taskforce 2013" was held in Guangzhou. The two places would continue to strengthen cooperation and jointly promote different cooperation projects in the following year. During the meeting, related departments of the two places signed four agreements and memorandums, namely "Cooperation Agreement to Jointly Develop the Portuguese-speaking Countries Markets", "Cooperation Agreement on Mutual Support for Convention and Exhibition Projects", "Memorandum of cooperation on 2014 Macao Guangzhou Famous Products Fair" and "Memorandum of cooperation on deepening the overall strategic cooperation and enhancing the open economy between Guangzhou and Macao".

1. "Conference of Entrepreneurs between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries cum Project Matching Meeting for China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund" was held in Macao

The "Conference of Entrepreneurs between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries cum Project Matching Meeting for China and Portuguese-speaking

Countries Cooperation



The officiating guests witnessed the signing of the cooperation agreement.

and Development Fund" was held in Macao on 6 November 2013, with the theme of "Grasp Opportunities and Deepen Cooperation in Pursuit of Mutual Development and Win-win Outcomes". Over 600 officials and entrepreneurs from China and the Portuguese-speaking countries participated in the conference, to explore how to promote economic and trade development between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries by utilizing Macao as a platform, as well as making use of the bridging function of China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund.

Two cooperation agreements were signed in the conference, namely the "Supplementary Agreement on Cooperation among Trade Promotion Organizations/ Chambers of Commerce" signed by representatives from nine trade promotion organizations of China, Macao and the Portuguese-speaking countries, as well as "Project of Wanbao Mozambique Agriculture Zone", the first project of China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund. The project was mainly about the agricultural planting and processing in Mozambique, with a total investment of 130 million Renminbi to solve local food problem. Seminars on designated topics and project matching meetings were also held during the conference, bringing opportunities of cooperation on agriculture, infra-structure, manufacturing, energy and natural resources for China and the Portuguese-speaking countries, as well as with China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund. A total of 95 business projects were successfully matched, involving 85 enterprises from different areas.

2. Secretariat for Economy and Finance led a delegation to participate in the "Meeting of Guangzhou-Macao Cooperation Taskforce 2013" held in Guangzhou



Government officials of the two places witnessed the signing of the cooperation agreement. (Courtesy photo from the Government Information Bureau)

Secretariat for Economy and Finance, Mr. Tam Pak Yuen led a of **SAR** delegation the Government to participate in the "Meeting of Guangzhou-Macao Cooperation Taskforce 2013" held in Guangzhou on 11 December 2013. The Guangzhou-Macao Cooperation Taskforce reviewed cooperation between the places in the past year. Good

progress was achieved in different areas such as economy and trade, convention and exhibition, tourism, cultural and creative industry, agricultural products and vocational training. The two sides would continue to strengthen cooperation in the following year and jointly give impetus to the different cooperation projects. After the meeting, the heads of related departments of the two places signed four agreements and memoranda, namely "Cooperation Agreement on Joint Development of the Portuguese-speaking Countries Markets", "Cooperation Agreement on Mutual Support for Convention and Exhibition Projects", "Memorandum of cooperation on 2014 Macao Guangzhou Famous Products Fair" and "Memorandum of cooperation on deepening the overall strategic cooperation and enhancing the open economy between Guangzhou and Macao".

During the meeting, the two sides confirmed that the next step was to jointly develop Guangzhou Nansha New District as an early and pilot integrated exemplary zone for CEPA implementation in accordance with the "Letter of the State Council of the PRC on Approving the Development Plan of Guangzhou Nansha New District", further implement in details the "Agreement related to Guangzhou-Macao collaboration on promoting Nansha as the early and pilot integrated exemplary zone for CEPA implementation", and strengthen cooperation in the following 4 areas below:

- 1. Further strengthen cooperation of economic and trade as well as convention and exhibition projects of the two places, promote mutual development of industries, especially the convention and exhibition industry through complementing respective advantages. Continue to play Macao's role as a platform to connect to the Portuguese speaking countries and promote the advantages of Guangzhou and Macao;
- 2. Expand the collaboration on vocational education between Guangzhou and Macao, promote "Macao Occupational Skills Recognition System" to other technical schools in Guangzhou, encourage participation of exchange activities and observation tour to

Gold Pin Competition;

- Strengthen cooperation on agricultural products, in the area of inspection and quarantine, launch the comparative study on investigation of veterinary drug residues in sediments of registered aquaculture farms supplying edible aquatic animal to Hong Kong and Macao;
- 4. Deepen cooperation in tourism between the two places. Strengthen the packaging and integration of tourism resources of Guangzhou and Macao. Make use of the "144-hour facilitation visa policy". Study and explore competitive tourism products and routes.

3. "Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair" was held in Shaanxi, Xian

The large-scale integrated exhibition for business and trade promotion, "Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair", was held in Xian of Shaanxi Province for 3 consecutive days from 13 to 15 December 2013. Since 2009, the Fair has been held in 13 different cities in the Mainland, and this one was the 14th road show. The on-site sales response was strong, with numerous people visiting the trade fair. Aside from exhibiting and selling products, the program of this Xian



Secretary for Economy and Finance of Macao, Mr. Tam Pak Yuen delivered the opening remarks at the ceremony.

station comprised seminar on promotion of the investment environment of Shaanxi—Macao—Portuguese-speaking countries, seminar on promotion of business and tourism of Macao, business matching session for Shaanxi and Macao, featured performances, etc., providing a platform for connecting the enterprises of Shaanxi and Macau, further promoting the economic and trade cooperation between the two sides, as well as showing to the public and enterprises of Shaanxi the role of Macao as a world tourism and leisure centre, and a regional business and trade services platform.

Secretary for Economy and Finance of Macao, Mr. Tam Pak Yuen, Vice Governor of the People's Government of Shaanxi Province, Ms. Wang Li Xia, Deputy Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Macao SAR, Ms. Chou Hong and other guests officiated the opening ceremony of the Fair. Secretariat for Economy and Finance of Macao, Mr. Tam Pak Yuen delivered speech and expressed that the road show "Dynamic Macao Business and Trade Fair" was held in the Mainland to open up the channels for Macao products and services to enter the vast market of the Mainland. At the same time, it was expected that Shaanxi and Macao could take this activity as an opportunity to foster cooperation in the areas of business and trade, convention and

exhibition as well as tourism, providing a good platform for the exchange between Shaanxi and Portuguese-speaking countries, and thus bringing into full play the role of Macao as a bridge of business and trade cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

The Fair was held at Xian Qujiang International Conference Exhibition Center, with an exhibition area of around 8,000 square meters and 260 exhibition booths, including "Made-in-Macao" products exhibit area, Macao special souvenirs pavilion, Macao enterprises exhibit area, and pavilion of products of Portuguese-speaking countries, bringing to the public of Shaanxi the special food products made in Macao and products of Portuguese-speaking countries. At the same time, Macao economic development pavilion, Macao tourism pavilion, Macao trade and investment pavilion, the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese Speaking Countries (Macao) pavilion and Macao convention and exhibition pavilion were also set up so that the local public could experience from multiple perspectives the diversified economic development, commerce, tourism, cultural development, local customs and practices of Macao.

4. Representatives of Macao Economic Services explained on designated topics in the "Seminar to Promote Guangdong-Macao Cooperation — CEPA and Service Industry

Union of Associations of Professional Accountants of Macau held the "Seminar to Promote Guangdong-Macao **CEPA** Cooperation Service Industry" on 24 October 2013. Representatives of Macao Economic Services explained on designated topics on "CEPA and



Group photo of the participants of the seminar

Accounting Service". Aside from introducing the latest development of CEPA, the liberalization content and related laws and regulations regarding the service sector of accounting under CEPA was also explained in details, enabling the participants to have a more in-depth understanding on how to make use of CEPA to engage in the accounting service sector in the Mainland.

Since the memorandum of cooperation was signed between Union of Associations of Professional Accountants of Macau and Accounting Society of Foshan in 2010, exchange activity has been organized every year. 2013 was the 10th anniversary of the signing of

CEPA between the Mainland and Macao, Union of Associations of Professional Accountants of Macau invited organizations of the accounting sector in Guangdong Province and Macao to jointly hold a seminar, discussing issues related to CEPA and the service industry for more extensive and in-depth exploration of implementation of CEPA policies, acceleration of regional integration, as well as development of accounting profession in the two places. The main guests who participated in this seminar included Assistant to Head of Department of the Economic Affairs of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao SAR, Mr. Gao Shang De, President of the Committee for the Registry of Auditors and Accountants, Mr. Iong Kong Leong, Director of the Commission of Audit, Mr. Neoh Hwai Beng, Director-General of the Macau Productivity and Technology Transfer Centre, Mr. Shuen Ka Hung, as well as accounting professionals from Guangzhou, Foshan, Zhuhai, Zhongshan, Jiangmen and Macao.

5. Representatives of Macao Economic Services participated in "CEPA Training for the Mainland Business System 2013" held in Nanjing of Jiangsu Province

To continue promotion and implementation of CEPA in the Mainland, and assist officials of the Mainland Business System to fully understand and master the content of CEPA, the Ministry of Commerce of PRC held "CEPA Training for the Mainland Business System" from 19 to 20 November 2013 in Nanjing of Jiangsu Province for a total of more than 130 officials of business system



Deputy Director-General, Mr. Sun Tong conducted a training session on CEPA issues.

from different provinces and municipalities of the whole country. The first day of training was conducted by Deputy Director-General of the Department of Taiwan, Hong Kong & Macao Affairs of the Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Sun Tong, Researcher of Institute of International Economic Research of National Development and Reform Commission, Mr. Zhang Jian Ping, Director of Division under Department of Taiwan, Hong Kong & Macao Affairs of the Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Chen Zhi Tuan and Consultant of Department of Foreign Investment Administration of the Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Meng Xing, on topics "Overview of CEPA", "Economies of Hong Kong and Macao and cooperation between the two places", "Interpretation of the main content of CEPA and liberalization measures of trade-in services" and "Policy and implementation of foreign investment on the service industry in the Mainland" respectively. On the second day, representatives from Hong Kong Trade and Industry Department and Macao Economic Services introduced the current development status of the service industry of Hong Kong and

Macao as well as the opportunities for cooperation with the Mainland respectively. After the training, the representatives visited two Hong Kong enterprises which were established successfully in Nanjing through CEPA. With Nanjing being a CEPA Model City, holding such training in Nanjing is conducive to reinforcing the promotion of the CEPA.

6. Macao Economic Services held "Seminar on Examination Standards of Trademarks and Strategy for Protection of Branding Rights in the Mainland"



"Examination procedures and standards of trademarks in the Mainland" were introduced by the guest speaker

To further implement the project about strengthening cooperation in the area of trademarks under the liaison mechanism established between the State Administration for Industry and Commerce and Macao Economic Services under the framework of "Trade and Investment Facilitation" of Supplement VI to CEPA, Macao Economic Services held "Seminar on

Examination Standards of Trademarks and Strategy for Protection of Branding Rights in the Mainland" on 12 November. Deputy Director of Examination Division V of Trademark Office of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, Mr. Rong Hua and Manager of Trademark Department of Beijing office of Wan Hui Da Intellectual Property Agency Limited, Mr. Yang Ming Ming were invited as speakers, giving presentation on two designated topics, "Examination procedures and standards of trademarks in the Mainland" and "Policy to protect the rights of trademark entering the Mainland market" respectively, as well as answering in details the questions raised by participants from the industry.

This seminar was held to enable the Macau industry to have a better understanding of the trademark registration system and master the examination procedures and standards of trademarks in the Mainland, to assist the Macao enterprises to develop effective management and protection strategies for branding rights, as well as to make use of the strategies to establish strong brands and enhance added values so as to gain sustainable competitive advantages.

7. Representatives of Macao Economic Services participated in "The 9th Pan-PRD Regional Intellectual Property Cooperation Joint Conference"

"The 9th Pan-PRD Regional Intellectual Property Cooperation Joint Conference" organized by Guizhou Province Intellectual Property Bureau was held in Guiyang of Guizhou Province on 15 October 2013. More than 60 representatives from the departments of intellectual property, trade and industry, and copyright of the nine provinces (regions) of Pan-Pearl River Delta region, Hong Kong and Macao participated in the Conference. During the Conference, representatives from the different areas of "9+2" introduced respectively their work achievements since their cooperation in intellectual property, progress status of promotion of work of intellectual property and implementation status of their cooperation projects. A preliminary discussion was also made on the proposal, form of cooperation, topics of the joint conference and theme of the exchange activity of "The 10th Pan-PRD Regional Intellectual Property Cooperation Joint Conference" jointly held by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

Since the signing of the "Pan-PRD Regional Intellectual Property Cooperation Agreement" in 2004, eight conferences of the Pan-PRD Regional Intellectual Property Cooperation Joint Conference were successfully held. Nearly 100 cooperation projects were implemented, with remarkable results on the establishment of coordination mechanism of patent administrative enforcement, the construction and sharing of patent information centre, the construction of intellectual property expert database as well as on exchanges among the government officials. The transformation of economic development mode of the Pan-PRD region is effectively supported, which has a positive meaning in enhancing the overall strength of the region.

8. Addition of Standards of Origin of 24 Products from 1 January 2014

According to the agreement of CEPA, Macao Economic Services and related departments of the Mainland has completed consultations on the rules of origin for the products newly petitioned for zero-tariff treatment for the second half of 2013. Starting from 1 January 2014, the rules of origin for 24 products were added, including 15 yarn products and 9 textile products. 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) and the CEPA exclusive website (www.cepa.gov.mo) for reference.