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Editor’s Notes:

Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Joint Conference 2012 was held in mid-May in Macao. The leaders of two sides conducted a review of the achievements in the past year and confirmed the key collaboration projects for future cooperation. The two sides exchanged views on several topics and signed five protocols at the meeting. In order to improve the understanding of Macao enterprises on CEPA and its supplements, and to promote cooperation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and service industry between Guangdong and Macao, Macao Economic Services jointly organized the “Seminar on Policies of CEPA and Guangdong-Macao Cooperation on Services Sector” with the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province at the end of April, to introduce the measures of Macao Service Suppliers participating in cross-sector business in the Mainland, inspection and quarantine of food and red wine, and the facilitation measures on access conditions and others. Invited by the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province, Macao Economic Services led a delegation of local entrepreneurs to attend the opening ceremony of the “2012 Guangdong International Wine Spirits Expo” and paid visit to the exchange activities. The delegation comprised more than 30 representatives from Macau Union Suppliers Association, International Lusophone Markets Business Association and other wine traders. This activity has deepened exchanges and cooperation of the wine industry between Guangdong and Macao.

1. Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Joint Conference 2012 was held in Macao

Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Joint Conference 2012 was held on 15 May in Macao. Mr. Zhu Xiaodan, Governor of Guangdong Province and Mr. Chui Sai On, Executive of Macao SAR led their respective delegations to attend the Conference and delivered keynote speeches. The two sides were satisfied with the results of last year and confirmed the key collaboration projects in 2012. At the Conference, both sides exchanged views on twelve topics and signed five protocols. Key tasks to be promoted in 2012 have been outlined: to promote the liberalization on trade in services, to accelerate the planning and implementation of policies; to promote the construction of cooperation areas, including Hengqin New Area and Guangzhou Nansha New Area; to promote the construction of Guangdong-Macao cross-border infrastructure projects, in particular, by giving impetus to the facilitation of customs clearance; to construct a quality living circle of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao that surrounding the construction of social life community, to enhance cooperation in social and welfare, environmental protection areas; to optimize the collaboration mechanism of the two sides. As a result, a new collaboration mechanism will be



The leaders and principal officials of two sides exchanged views on several issues related to the economy and society.
(Courtesy photo from Government Information Bureau)

introduced between Guangdong and Macao, with joint leadership of Mr. Tam Pak Yuen, Secretary for Economy and Finance and Ms. Zhao Yufang, Vice-Governor of Guangdong Province, to hold regular meetings to discuss the collaboration projects. The five protocols signed at the Conference were: “2012 Major Work Plan for the Implementation of the ‘Framework Agreement on Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao’”, “Framework Agreement of Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao on New Custom Portal”, “Cooperation Document on Leasing of Rights to Use State-owned Land for Construction”, “Cooperation Agreement of Special Taskforce on Standardization of Guangdong and Macao” and “MoU of Cooperation on Tourism between Guangdong and Macao”.

2. “Seminar on Policies of CEPA and Guangdong-Macao Cooperation on Services Sector” was held in Macao

The Macao Economic Services and the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province jointly held the “Seminar on Policies of CEPA and Guangdong-Macao Cooperation on Services Sector” on 26 April at Lotus Room of World Trade Center in Macao, a total of 150 representatives from local industrial and commercial sector and government departments attended the Seminar. Mr. Qi Zhenli, the Counsel of the

Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province led the management of departments related to economy and trade, namely, Department of Market System Development of the Commission, Department of Production Services of the Commission, Guangdong Sub-Customs Administration, Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of Guangdong Province, Guangdong Provincial Administration for Industry and Commerce, Gongbei Customs District and Zhuhai Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau, to present a number of new and preferential policies covered in Supplement VIII CEPA. The contents included: Macao Service Suppliers are allowed to participate in cross-sector business in the Mainland; inspection and quarantine were provided for food and red wine, and facilitation measures on access conditions; pilot applications of mutual recognition of electronic signature certificates; new measures on distribution and individually owned stores.



The leaders of Macao Economic Services and the delegation of Guangdong Province took group photo.

In addition, promote cooperation of SMEs and service industry between Guangdong and Macao, in order to further implement the “Framework Agreement on Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao”. During the Seminar, polices of Guangdong Province assisting Macao SMEs set up in Guangdong, procedures and preferential services of establishing enterprises for Macao enterprises entering into Guangdong, as well as Guangdong International Wine Spirits Expo were also presented. The Seminar improved the understanding of Macao enterprises on CEPA and its supplements, and provided communication platform to acquaint with the implementation of CEPA and cooperation of service sector between Guangdong and Macao, which achieved the goal of strengthening the publicity of the early and pilot implementation of Guangdong Province.

3. The First Meeting of Guangdong-Macao Intellectual Property Rights Taskforce was convened in Guangzhou

In order to effectively implement the “Framework Agreement on Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao” regarding formation of “Intellectual Property Rights Taskforce”, the first meeting of Intellectual Property Rights Taskforce was convened on 10 May 2012 in Guangzhou. Delegations from Macao Economic Services and Macao Customs Service participated in the meeting. The participants also included



Director, Ms Tao Kaiyuan and Deputy Director, Mr Tai Kin Ip represented Guangdong and Macao to sign and exchange the “MoU of Cooperation on Intellectual Property Rights between Guangdong and Macao”

representatives of the institutional members of Guangdong-Macao Intellectual Property Rights Taskforce.

At the meeting, Ms. Tao Kaiyuan, Director of Intellectual Property Office of Guangdong Province, and Mr. Tai Kin Ip, Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services represented Guangdong and Macao respectively, to sign the “MoU of Cooperation on Intellectual Property Rights between Guangdong and Macao”. This marked the formal establishment of Guangdong-Macao Intellectual Property Rights Taskforce. The taskforce consisted of units from the protection and management departments of intellectual property rights (IPR) of the two places, members of Guangdong included Intellectual Property Office of Guangdong Province (the leading department), Guangdong Provincial Administration for Industry and Commerce, Copyright Bureau of Guangdong Province, Guangdong Provincial Public Security Department and Guangdong Sub-Customs Administration; members of Macao included Macao Economic Services (the leading department) and Macao Customs Service. The Meeting confirmed that Guangdong and Macao will develop information resources sharing in 2012-2014, construct and optimize the collaboration mechanism of cross-border IPR enforcement, strengthen cooperation on IPR publicity and education, and arrange for IPR related exchange visits and cooperation and others, provided for a total of 18 cooperation projects in 4 major fields. These projects will comprehensively enhance cooperation in the area of IPR between Guangdong and Macao.

4. Macao Economic Services led delegation to participate in “The 2012 Guangdong International Wine Spirits Expo”



The delegation visited the “Macao Portuguese Speaking Country Pavilion” in the exhibition

Hosted by the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province, co-organized by Guangdong Alcohol Monopoly Bureau and Guangdong Provincial Alcohol Industry Association, the “2012 Guangdong International Wine Spirits Expo” was held from 23 to 25 May at Poly World Trade Pazhou Expo in Guangzhou. This Expo, held annually, attracts agents of over 60 countries, to exhibit the most influential well-known brands in the Mainland. The opening ceremony was officiated in the afternoon of 23 May, by Deputy Director General of Department of Market Operation and Consumption Promotion of Ministry of

Commerce, Mr. Lu Zheng Min, the Counsel of the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province, Mr. Feng Hui Zhao and Deputy Director of Macao Economic Services, Ms. Chan Tze Wai.

To further enhance understanding of the local industry on the development of wine industry in the Mainland, Macao Economic Services organized a delegation of Macao entrepreneurs to participate in the

opening ceremony as well as in related visits and exchanges. The delegates comprised over 30 representatives from the Macau Union Suppliers Association, the International Lusophone Markets Business Association (ACIML) and other wine traders from Macao. Moreover, to strengthen the economic and trade cooperation between Guangdong and Macao, as well as to enhance the understanding of the Mainland consumers towards the wine products of Portuguese speaking countries and regions, the Macao Federal Commercial Association of Wine and Food Industries from Portuguese Speaking Countries and Regions organized the representatives from local industry to take part in the Expo, and set up a special exhibition area “Macao Portuguese Speaking Country Pavilion”, which received positive feedback from the Mainland sales enterprises and the public. The Macao exhibitors also agreed that this Expo was a very good platform, with remarkable effects and considerable rewards achieved. Not only could they better understand the operation of the Mainland market, but also build a good cooperation relationship with the Mainland enterprises. Guangzhou could serve as a bridgehead for Macao exhibitors to enter the Mainland market, and they would consider participating in more similar activities.

After the Expo, the delegation visited Guangzhou JOYIN International Wine & Spirits Exchange, to better acquaint with the operation situation of logistics, custom declaration, inspection and quarantine, bonded warehousing, etc. of the wine products in the Mainland. Representatives of the Macao industry and the staff exchanged views enthusiastically and were eager to raise questions. This activity not only provided an opportunity for the Macao industry to associate with the Mainland enterprises, but also developed a broader scope for future cooperation between the two places. Through Macao’s participation in this Expo, more Mainland consumers understood the quality and situation of the wine products of Portuguese speaking countries, highlighting the role of Macao as a business and trade platform between China and Portugal.

5. Application Method of the National Qualification Examination for Patent Agents 2012 is published

Held by the State Intellectual Property Office of the PRC, the online application work of the “National Qualification Examination for Patent Agents 2012” has ended in mid-June. Eligible candidates are required to report to the Guangzhou examination centre by 2 November 2012, pay the application fee and obtain the examination passes. Eligible Macao candidates who live in the Mainland can choose other examination centres to submit the application documents for examination and to attend the qualification exam. For more detailed information, please refer to the following webpages of the State Intellectual Property Office of the PRC.

For Notice of National Qualification Examination for Patent Agents 2012:

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/zwgs/gg/201204/t20120425_679334.html (Chinese version only)

To consult the frequently asked questions:

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/zcfg/zcjd/201204/t20120428_682780.html (Chinese version only)

6. The Ministry of Commerce promulgated the “Notice on Cross-border Renminbi Foreign Direct Investment”

To promote investment facilitation and further improve the work of utilizing foreign investment, the Mainland promulgated the “Notice on Cross-border Renminbi Foreign Direct Investment” (hereinafter referred to as “Notice”) on 12 October 2011. The “Notice” came into effect on the date of its promulgation. The “Notice” is applicable to foreign investors as well as investors from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao regions, and allows them to, according the law, to make direct investments in China with the use of legally obtained offshore RMB funds. The “Notice” has set detailed regulations on the legal source of the offshore RMB funds for cross-border Renminbi direct investment, scope of direct investment as well as the related flow of approval. Other than submitting the related documents according to the laws, legislation and related regulations of foreign investment, investors and foreign invested enterprises should also submit to the authorized departments of the Ministry of Commerce the following documents: (1) evidence or documents to certify the source or sources of the offshore RMB funds; (2) statements about the use of the funds; (3) the “Cross Border RMB Direct Investment Registration Form”. For details of the “Notice”, please refer to:

<http://wzs.mofcom.gov.cn/aarticle/n/201110/20111007779546.html> (Chinese version only)

7. The first commercial registration measures in China are implemented in the Hengqin New Area

Zhuhai Municipal Government promulgated the "Administrative Measures on Commerce Registration of the Hengqin New Area of the Zhuhai Special Economic Zone" (hereinafter referred to as “Measures”) on 24 May, which came into effect on the same date. The “Measures”, divided into eight chapters and forty two articles, were the first government regulations on commercial registration nationwide, implementing a commercial registration system with “ease of entry” and a commerce supervision system with “strict control”. According to the regulations of the “Measures”, the procedures for registering business in Hengqin New Area are more convenient for Macao investors, for the sectors allowed under CEPA and its supplements. Registration for a company in Hengqin New Area by qualified investors can be processed “immediately on demand”, with same-day processing the fastest possible. If Macao investors choose to establish individual owned stores, they do not need to register for the individual owned stores and can directly process for the tax registration. For details of the “Measures”, please refer to:

<http://www.hengqin.gov.cn/show.aspx?id=5034&cid=62> (Chinese version only)

8. An additional made-in-Macao product is eligible for zero tariff treatment to enter the Mainland from 1st of July

The consultation on the rules of origins of Macao products applying for zero-tariff treatment for the first half of 2012 was convened in Shenzhen on 20 April. 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 the Ministry of Finance, Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Gongbei and Shenzhen Customs attended the meeting.

During the meeting, 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 “Tapioca and substitutes therefor prepared from starch” proposed by local business enterprises. Starting from 1 July, this product is eligible for the zero-tariff treatment upon entry to the Mainland. By then, the total number of Macao products eligible for the zero-tariff treatment has reached 1,260 under Trade in Goods of CEPA. The rules of origin of the added product and respective tariff code are now available on the website of Macao Economic Services (www.economia.gov.mo) and the CEPA exclusive website (www.cepa.gov.mo) for reference.



Officials from the Mainland and Macao consulted on the rules of origin for the products that Macao petitioned for zero-tariff treatment for the first half of 2012.