Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Macao Special Administrative Region Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement

Economic and Technical Cooperation Work Programme

- 1. Pursuant to Article 28 (Economic and Technical Cooperation) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Macao Special Administrative Region Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (hereinafter referred to as the "CEPA"), the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Macao Special Administrative Region (hereinafter referred to as "the two sides") have concluded this Work Programme on economic and technical cooperation.
- 2. The two sides decide to conduct economic and technical cooperation in the areas set out below. Cooperation in these areas will follow the guidance and coordination of the Joint Steering Committee set up in accordance with Article 30 (Institutional Arrangements) of the CEPA.
- 3. Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 28 (Economic and Technical Cooperation) of the CEPA, any new or revised area or content of economic and technical cooperation decided by the two sides will be incorporated into this Work Programme.
- 4. The two sides are to conduct economic and technical cooperation in the following areas:

Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation

1.1. Cooperation Mechanism

The Customs Administrations of the two sides will make use of the existing cooperation channels to promote cooperation in this area through reciprocal visits, discussions and other modes of communication.

1.2. Content of Cooperation

Taking into account the needs of their customs clearance systems and monitoring modes as well as their experience in cooperation, the two sides decide to strengthen cooperation in the following areas:

- Establish a reciprocal notification system to report their respective policies, regulations and procedures on customs clearance and management of clearance facilitation;
- 1.2.2. Conduct studies and exchanges on the differences between their respective customs clearance systems with a view to enriching the specific content of cooperation in customs clearance facilitation;
- 1.2.3. Explore the expansion of the scope for further cooperation in strengthening control and enhancing efficiency in respect of customs clearance in areas such as sea and land transportation, intermodal operation and logistics;
- 1.2.4. Strengthen cooperation in establishing a crisis management mechanism at control points and adopt effective measures to maintain smooth clearance on the two sides as far as possible;
- 1.2.5. Explore cooperation in other areas, such as the use of automated systems, temporary admission of goods, express consignment, release of goods, risk management, review and appeal, mutual recognition of examination results, Speedy

Customs Clearance, mutual recognition of "Authorised Economic Operator", joint interdiction of drug trafficking, enforcement of laws protecting intellectual property and the related personnel training, as well as human resources development and professional training; and

1.2.6. Establish a regular liaison mechanism to strengthen the exchanges on the latest developments of customs operations of the two sides and enhance the efficiency of customs clearance.

1.3. Collaborating Departments and Organisations

1.3.1. Hong Kong side:

Customs and Excise Department

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1.3.2. Macao side:

Macao Customs Service

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Technical Barriers to Trade

2.1. Cooperation Mechanism

The two sides will make use of the cooperation channels of the relevant departments to promote cooperation in this area through reciprocal visits, discussions and other modes of communication.

2.2. Content of Cooperation

Taking into account the needs of their systems and monitoring modes as well as their experience in cooperation, the two sides decide to strengthen cooperation in the following areas:

- 2.2.1. To ensure the safety of consumers of the two sides, enhance information flow and exchanges on product safety, in particular the exchange of information and intelligence on the safety of electrical and mechanical products, so as to jointly prevent safety problems associated with these products; and
- 2.2.2. Promote cooperation in the training of inspection and supervisory officers.
- 2.3. Collaborating Departments and Organisations

2.3.1. Hong Kong side:

Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

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Customs and Excise Department

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2.3.2. Macao side:

Macao Economic Bureau

Contact Point: Head of Licensing and Inspection

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3. Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

3.1. Cooperation Mechanism

The two sides will make use of the coordination mechanism to step up cooperation in inspection and quarantine of animals and plants as well as in food safety, so as to enable both sides to enforce their respective regulations more effectively.

3.2. Content of Cooperation

Taking into account the needs of their systems and monitoring modes as well as their experience in cooperation, the two sides decide to strengthen cooperation in the following areas:

- 3.2.1. Notify each other immediately of the information on epidemic outbreaks and food safety, and to step up academic exchange and joint research on health and quarantine issues; and
- 3.2.2. Enhance cooperation in areas such as investigation and prevention of tropical infectious diseases and live vectors, surveillance and control of special articles and radioactive articles, transportation of biological pathogenic factors and the related inspection, treatment and control measures.

3.3. Collaborating Departments and Organisations

3.3.1. Hong Kong side:

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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3.3.2. Macao side:

Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau

Contact Point: Member of Administration

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Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau

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4. Intellectual Property

4.1. Cooperation Mechanism

The two sides will make use of various modes of exchange, including the existing cooperation channels and mechanisms of the relevant departments of the two sides, to promote the cooperation in the area of intellectual property.

4.2. Content of Cooperation

The two sides recognise that strengthening intellectual property protection plays an important role in advancing economic development and promoting economic and trade exchanges and cooperation between the two places. The two sides decide to strengthen cooperation between government departments, enterprises, educational institutions as well as other relevant organisations and service suppliers in the following areas:

- 4.2.1. Exchange information on new initiatives, laws and regulations in relation to intellectual property, as well as on promoting and raising public awareness of intellectual property protection through establishing contact points and organising activities;
- 4.2.2. On personnel training, conduct knowledge and experience sharing in order to address current and emerging intellectual property issues;
- 4.2.3. Exchange information on information technology and automation systems in respect of the registration of intellectual property; and
- 4.2.4. Conduct exchanges and cooperation in promoting commercialisation of intellectual property and fostering the intellectual property intermediary services in both places as well as in promoting intellectual property trading and intellectual property dispute resolution.
- 4.3. Collaborating Departments and Organisations

4.3.1. Hong Kong side:

Intellectual Property Department

Contact Point: Chief Intellectual Property Examiner

(Strategy) 2

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4.3.2. Macao side:

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5. Transparency in Laws and Regulations

The two sides recognise that enhanced transparency in laws and regulations is an important foundation for promoting economic and trade flow between the two places. In the spirit of serving the commercial and industrial enterprises in the two places, the two sides decide to strengthen cooperation in the area of enhanced transparency of laws and regulations.

5.1. Cooperation Mechanism

The two sides will make use of the cooperation channels of the relevant departments to promote cooperation in this area through various modes of communication.

5.2. Content of Cooperation

The two sides decide to strengthen cooperation in the following areas:

- 5.2.1. Exchange information on the enactment and revision of laws, regulations and rules in respect of investment, trade and other economic areas;
- 5.2.2. Disseminate in a timely manner information on policies and regulations through various media including newspapers, journals and websites; and
- 5.2.3. Organise and support the organisation of various briefings and seminars on economic and trade policies and regulations.
- 5.3. Collaborating Departments and Organisations

5.3.1. Hong Kong side:

Trade and Industry Department

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5.3.2. Macao side:

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