

TRADE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT

Programme Areas

(1) Commercial Relations

Aim

The aim is to secure and preserve maximum access and fair treatment for export of goods and services from Hong Kong to the Mainland and international markets.

Brief Description

- The Department, through its Multilateral Trade Division, Regional Cooperation Division, Europe Division and Commercial Relations Branches of respective geographical Divisions, is responsible for Hong Kong's commercial relations. It seeks to protect Hong Kong's trade interests and rights by monitoring and responding to trade policies and measures of other trading partners through multilateral and bilateral negotiations and other channels. To this end, Hong Kong relies on the rules-based multilateral trading system under the auspices of the World Trade Organization (WTO) as the cornerstone of its external trade policy. The Department pursues free trade agreements and investment promotion and protection agreements with our trading partners to secure access with favourable conditions to overseas markets and to facilitate two-way investment flows and economic growth. The Department also engages actively in the discussions with the Mainland on further liberalisation of trade and investment under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) and the effective implementation of respective liberalisation measures.

(2) Trade Support and Facilitation

Aim

The aim is to :

- fulfil Hong Kong's obligations under international, multilateral and bilateral trade agreements/arrangements and optimise the benefits to Hong Kong flowing from such agreements;
- provide origin certification services, supervise and monitor similar services provided by Government Approved Certification Organisations (GACOs);
- enable the Department to promptly disseminate textiles-related regulations and other information to Hong Kong's textiles trade through operating a voluntary registration scheme for textiles traders; and
- ensure the efficient operation of control or surveillance measures on import and export of strategic commodities, reserved commodities (rice) and rough diamonds, and export of powdered formula for infants and young children, facilitate local importers of Mainland cereals and grain flour to complement the Mainland's export administration measures, facilitate local exporters of wine to make use of the Mainland's customs facilitation measures for wine entering the Mainland through Hong Kong, and provide a licensing service to supplement control on import and export of ozone depleting substances operated by the Environmental Protection Department for protection of the environment.

Brief Description

- The Department serves the trade/community by providing various licensing/registration facilities in respect of certain commodities, and providing origin certification service for the export of Hong Kong products; and
- The Department provides a one-stop certification service for Hong Kong Service Supplier (HKSS) and Hong Kong Investor (HKI) to support the implementation of CEPA.

(3) Industries Support

Aim

The aim is to :

- support and facilitate the development of Hong Kong's manufacturing and service industries, including small and medium enterprises (SMEs). To this end, we will :
 - provide and co-ordinate programmes in support of SMEs in Hong Kong; and
 - facilitate access to information and services needed by industries.

Brief Description

- The Department administers funding schemes to help enterprises, in particular SMEs, obtain finance, expand markets outside Hong Kong and enhance overall competitiveness. The funding schemes are the SME Loan Guarantee Scheme, the SME Export Marketing Fund, the Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales and the Trade and Industrial Organisation Support Fund;
- The Department provides information and consultation services to SMEs through its Support and Consultation Centre for SMEs (SUCCESS), and maintains liaison with local trade and industrial organisations; and
- The Department provides secretariat support to the Trade and Industry Advisory Board, and the Small and Medium Enterprises Committee.
- The Mainland Division of the Department provides secretariat support to the Working Group on Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors (Working Group) under the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee. The Working Group aims to promote the Basic Law among the industrial, commercial and professional sectors.