

**Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation**

**Major New Cooperation Activities**

<b>Areas</b>	<b>Cooperation Activities</b>
<b>Cooperation in Legal and Dispute Resolution Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Support professional institutions in promoting the legal and dispute resolution services of the two places, and building cooperation and exchange platforms to enhance business exchange and collaboration.</li><li>➤ Support Hong Kong in establishing itself as a centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region.</li></ul>
<b>Financial Cooperation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Enhance the two-way cross-border Renminbi (RMB) fund flow mechanism and closer financial cooperation between the two places, including actively promoting the development of cross-border investment activities, and increasing the investment quota of RMB Qualified Foreign Institutional Investors (RQFII) for Hong Kong.</li><li>➤ On the basis of prudent risk management, study further expansion of the scope of eligible securities under the mutual capital market access scheme between the two places in an orderly manner, set a timetable for the establishment of an investor identification mechanism under the mutual market access scheme, and when the relevant conditions are fulfilled, to realise the inclusion of exchange-traded funds (ETFs) as eligible securities under the mutual market access scheme. Actively support the promotion of cooperation and connection between financial infrastructures in the two places, including the bond market.</li></ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Review and assess the progress of the mutual recognition of funds between the Mainland and Hong Kong, and continuously adjust and enhance the rules and regulatory policies on mutual recognition in view of new situations and new issues that arise in the course of the mutual recognition process.</li> <li>➤ Continue to encourage Mainland enterprises to issue bonds in RMB and in foreign currencies in Hong Kong, promote the realisation of Mainland enterprises issuing RMB-denominated stocks in Hong Kong and making use of Hong Kong platform to raise capital, and promote the full circulation of H-shares.</li> <li>➤ Actively promote mutual access between bond markets in the two places, including the active promotion of mutual access between exchange-listed bond markets in the two places. Support Hong Kong's development of offshore risk management business for the Mainland financial markets, and study the models of mutual access between bonds, over-the-counter financial derivatives and commodity derivatives markets in the two places.</li> </ul>
<b>Cooperation in Accounting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Improve the operational mechanism of ongoing convergence of accounting and auditing standards between the two places, jointly contribute in the international accounting and auditing standards setting organisations, and facilitate the setting of relevant high-quality international standards.</li> <li>➤ Support Hong Kong accounting professionals who have qualified as Chinese Certified Public Accountants to become partners of accounting firms in the Mainland, and support Mainland accounting professionals who have qualified as</li> </ul>

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	<p>Hong Kong Certified Public Accountants to become partners of accounting firms in Hong Kong.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Support the accounting sector of the two places to play a role in developing accounting and auditing standards, as well as establishing the management system of the accounting industry, and the appointment of Hong Kong accounting professionals as accounting advisory consultants.</li> <li>➤ Support Mainland accounting firms in setting up representative offices, branches, and developing member firms in Hong Kong.</li> <li>➤ Encourage accounting firms of the two places to strengthen cooperation and exchanges in business activities, such as deepening the development of the “Belt and Road” Initiative, and the provision of auditing services for listing of Mainland enterprises outside the Mainland.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cooperation in Innovation and Technology</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strengthen exchanges and cooperation between the two places in the area of innovation and technology, and through complementary advantages and synergy effect, bring in outstanding international research institutes and talent, and promote technological research and development, and the transfer of research and development results among institutes and enterprises in the Mainland, Hong Kong and overseas. In addition, the Mainland will support Hong Kong in developing innovation and technology industry in areas including robotics, bio-medicine, smart city and financial technology, and nurturing emerging industries.</li> <li>➤ Support the cooperation and exchanges of the high-tech zones and co-working space between the two places, encourage young people in Hong Kong</li> </ul>

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	to innovate and develop start-up businesses, and promote the commercialisation of innovation and technology. Enhance the communication and exchanges of young entrepreneurial talents between the two places, and provide them with room for development.
<b>Cooperation in Electronic Commerce</b>	➤ Strengthen exchanges between the two places regarding cross-boundary data flow, and form a joint working group to study feasible policy measures and arrangements.
<b>Cooperation in Intellectual Property</b>	<p>➤ Continue to enhance cooperation between the Mainland and Hong Kong in the areas of nurturing talents and personnel training.</p> <p>➤ Promote cooperation between the Mainland and Hong Kong in the implementation and exploitation of intellectual property, intellectual property intermediary services, intellectual property trading, and handling of intellectual property disputes through alternative dispute resolution (including arbitration or mediation).</p> <p>➤ Continue to support the enhancement of Hong Kong patent system, provide technical support and assistance for the implementation of the patent system in Hong Kong in various areas covering substantive examination, review, post-grant patent disputes, and automation services.</p> <p>➤ Support the cooperation in intellectual property creation, exploitation, protection and the development of intellectual property trading between Guangdong and Hong Kong, promote the publicity and education of intellectual property between the two places, and assist the development of high-end intellectual property service industry.</p>

Areas	Cooperation Activities
<b>Cooperation in Trademark and Branding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strengthen exchanges and cooperation between the Mainland and Hong Kong in matters relating to the “Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks”.</li> </ul>
<b>Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (related to Testing and Certification)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Actively consider recommending an eligible certification body located in Hong Kong to join the International Electrotechnical Commission System of Conformity Assessment Schemes for Electrotechnical Equipment and Components (IECEE) as a National Certification Body (NCB) of China.</li> <li>➤ Consider applications of eligible certification bodies set up by Hong Kong enterprises in the Mainland to become designated certification bodies under the China Compulsory Certification (CCC) System.</li> </ul>
<b>Deepening cooperation in economic and trade areas of the “Belt and Road” Initiative</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Establish an operational liaison mechanism, and strengthen information exchanges and communication on the “Belt and Road” Initiative between the two places.</li> <li>➤ Encourage the establishment of multi-level communication channels by government departments, industry organisations and investment promotion agencies of the two sides for information sharing.</li> <li>➤ Provide an exchange platform to support semi-official organisations, non-official organisations and the trade in the two places to play a part in facilitating the implementation of the “Belt and Road” Initiative.</li> <li>➤ Give full play to Hong Kong’s strengths in financial services, professional services, logistics, trading, etc., etc., and support the trade of Hong Kong in</li> </ul>

Areas	Cooperation Activities
	<p>participating in the development of various industrial parks and economic zones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Support the trade of the two places to strengthen cooperation, jointly participate in the major projects of the “Belt and Road” Initiative, and jointly explore the markets along the “Belt and Road”. Support Hong Kong in providing professional services for the “Belt and Road” Initiative, including the provision of professional services such as legal, dispute resolution, accounting and taxation services in a market-oriented approach for Mainland enterprises’ expansion into overseas markets and investment projects. Support the cooperation between the two places in the integration of large-scale infrastructure projects in respect of construction and operation.</li> <li>➤ Enhance publicity campaigns related to the “Belt and Road” Initiative. Support Hong Kong in organising high-level “Belt and Road” thematic forums. Encourage Hong Kong investment promotion agencies, industry associations and trade organisations to launch activities, such as seminars and training, relating to the “Belt and Road” Initiative.</li> </ul>
<b>Deepening Economic and Trade Cooperation in Pan-Pearl River Delta Region</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Give full play to existing cooperation platforms and liaison mechanisms to continue deepening economic and trade cooperation in Pan-Pearl River Delta Region.</li> <li>➤ Capitalise on the advantage of Hong Kong as an international financial, trading and shipping centre, strengthen cooperation of industries such as finance, commerce and trade, technology, tourism, etc., in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region, promote the expansion of mutual investment, and jointly explore the international markets.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Encourage enterprises in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region to utilise Hong Kong as a platform to explore cooperation in investment with the countries and regions along the “Belt and Road”.</li> <li>➤ Support the nine provinces/regions in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region to leverage their own advantages to build various types of cooperation zones with Hong Kong.</li> <li>➤ Actively promote the development of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area building on the existing basis of economic and trade cooperation.</li> </ul>
<b>Supporting the Participation of Hong Kong in the Development of Pilot Free Trade Zones</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Make use of the economic and trade cooperation mechanisms between the two places to enhance the notification of policies and information exchanges between the two sides on the development of the Mainland Pilot Free Trade Zones.</li> <li>➤ Study the further liberalisation for Hong Kong service industries in the Pilot Free Trade Zones under the framework of CEPA. encourage Hong Kong to participate actively in the national strategies on major development through the Pilot Free Trade Zones; capitalise on the strategy of “leveraging on Hong Kong and Macao, serving the Mainland and reaching out globally” of the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone; and further promote the liberalisation of trade in services between Guangdong and Hong Kong.</li> <li>➤ Encourage Hong Kong micro, small and medium enterprises and youth to start their businesses in the Pilot Free Trade Zones.</li> <li>➤ Give full play to Hong Kong’s strength in the aspects of investment management, trade regulation and financial innovation, etc. to integrate with the reform and liberalisation in the Mainland</li> </ul>

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	Pilot Free Trade Zones, devise new modes of development and explore the potential for cooperation.
<b>Deepening the Cooperation between Hong Kong and Qianhai, Nansha and Hengqin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Give full play to existing cooperation platforms and liaison mechanisms to promote the deepening of cooperation between Hong Kong and Qianhai, Nansha and Hengqin.</li> <li>➤ Support Qianhai, Nansha and Hengqin in taking forward further liberalisation to Hong Kong in key areas such as finance, transportation and shipping, commerce and trade, professional services and technology on an early and pilot basis, and explore new modes to deepen economic cooperation with Hong Kong.</li> <li>➤ Promote the setting up of cooperation demonstration zones for Guangdong and Hong Kong talents, and support Hong Kong youth to develop and start their businesses in Nansha, Qianhai and Hengqin, for example, at Guangdong Hong Kong and Macao Youth Entrepreneur Hub, and Youth Innovation and Entrepreneur Hub, etc.</li> </ul>