HONG KONG, CHINA – GEORGIA

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

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PREAMBLE

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China ("Hong Kong, China") and the Government of Georgia ("Georgia"), hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Parties":

INSPIRED by their growing bilateral economic and trade relationship;

BUILDING on their rights, obligations and undertakings under the *Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization* and the other agreements negotiated thereunder to which both Parties are party;

UPHOLDING the rights of their governments to regulate in order to meet government policy objectives;

DESIRING to strengthen their economic partnership and further liberalise bilateral trade and promote investment to bring economic and social benefits, to create new opportunities for employment and to improve the living standards of their peoples along with the protection of health and safety and of the environment;

REAFFIRMING their commitments to pursue the objective of sustainable development;

RESOLVED to create an expanded market for goods and services through establishing clear rules governing their trade, which will ensure a predictable, transparent and consistent commercial framework for business operations;

DESIRING to create favourable conditions for the development and diversification of trade between them and for the promotion of commercial and economic cooperation in areas of common interest;

RECOGNISING that the strengthening of their economic partnership through a free trade agreement, which removes barriers to trade in goods and services, will produce mutual benefits for Hong Kong, China and Georgia;

CONVINCED that this Agreement will enhance the competitiveness of their firms in global markets and create conditions encouraging economic and trade relations between them;

REAFFIRMING their commitments to democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental political and economic freedoms in accordance with their obligations under international law, and principles and objectives set out in the *United Nations Charter* and the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*; and

AFFIRMING their commitments to prevent and combat corruption in international trade and investment and to promote the principles of transparency and good governance;

Have agreed as follows: