

2008 Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation Agreement  
Signing Ceremony

\*\*\*\*\*

Hong Kong and Guangdong signed 11 co-operation agreements today (August 5), including the following:

- (1) Co-operation Agreement on Expediting the Implementation of CEPA and its Supplement V
- (2) Agreement on the Promotion of Education Exchange and Co-operation between Guangdong and Hong Kong
- (3) Co-operation Arrangement on Allowing Hong Kong Service Providers to Operate Welfare Service Agencies for Persons with Disabilities in the Form of Wholly-owned Private Non-government Enterprises in the Guangdong Province on a Pilot Basis
- (4) Co-operation Agreement on Job Referral Agency Service
- (5) Co-operation Agreement on Job Intermediary Service
- (6) Co-operation Agreement on Registration of Hong Kong Professionals who have obtained the Mainland's registered Urban Planner qualification or Supervision Engineer qualification in Guangdong
- (7) Co-operation Agreement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on Tourism
- (8) Co-operation Agreement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on Medical Services
- (9) Agreement on Co-operation between Guangdong and Hong Kong in Promoting Hong Kong-Owned Processing Trade Enterprises to Restructure and Upgrade
- (10) Co-operation Agreement on setting up Joint

Platform for Co-operation in Innovation and Technology

- (11) Agreement to enhance co-operation between Hong Kong and Guangdong in emergency management

Following is the gist of the eleven co-operation agreements:

**Co-operation Agreement on Expediting the Implementation of CEPA and its Supplement V<sup>1</sup>**

- To step up the promotion of CEPA and its Supplement V, in particular the pilot measures in Guangdong Province.
- To deepen the implementation of CEPA and its Supplement V through improvement in the supplementary or implementation measures; and development of new application guides and approval procedural flowcharts.
- To establish notification, discussion and monitoring mechanism for CEPA implementation; and to exchange data and information on implementation of CEPA.
- To introduce trade and investment facilitation measures, including the setting up of green lane for approving CEPA applications; provision of "one-stop service" for investment consultation and processing; and provision of priority service to Hong Kong Service Suppliers.
- To strengthen the support service to Hong Kong

---

<sup>1</sup> Signed by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau of HKSAR and the Economic and Trade Commission of Guangdong Province

Service Suppliers through updating the CEPA website; and promotion of CEPA business opportunities in seminars and "World SME Expo" etc.

**Agreement on the Promotion of Education Exchange and Co-operation between Hong Kong and Guangdong<sup>2</sup>**

- Continuing to promote the establishment of sister schools between Guangdong and Hong Kong.
- Continuing to further the Guangdong-Hong Kong Teachers Exchange and Collaboration Programme (Chinese Language) in order to promote education reform in Guangdong and Hong Kong.
- Continuing to implement the Guangdong-Hong Kong Language Teachers Training Programme.
- Expanding various exchange programmes in terms of level and content.
- Fostering exchange in higher education between Guangdong and Hong Kong.
- Strengthening the communication and exchange of information between the Guangdong and Hong Kong education authorities.

**Co-operation Arrangement on Allowing Hong Kong Service Providers to Operate Welfare Service Agencies for Persons with Disabilities in the Form of Wholly-owned Private Non-government Enterprises in the Guangdong Province on a Pilot Basis<sup>3</sup>**

---

<sup>2</sup> Signed by the Education Bureau of HKSAR and the Department of Education of Guangdong Province

<sup>3</sup> Signed by the Labour and Welfare Bureau of HKSAR and the

- Follow up the introduction of measures under Supplement V to the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) which allows Hong Kong service providers to operate welfare service agencies for persons with disabilities in the form of wholly-owned private non-government enterprises, to provide care and rehabilitation services in the Guangdong Province on a pilot basis.
- Enhance experience sharing, training and co-operation in professional welfare services for persons with disabilities between the Governments of both places through the Expert Group on Social Welfare Co-operation (Expert Group).
- Explore the development mode and management experiences of Hong Kong service providers in operating welfare service agencies for persons with disabilities in the Guangdong Province.
- Under the framework of the Expert Group, the Hong Kong and Guangdong Governments will facilitate Hong Kong service providers in operating welfare service agencies for persons with disabilities in the Guangdong Province through publicity in the two places; and study the formulation of relevant policies to provide support for the welfare agencies serving persons with disabilities.

**Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation Agreements on Job Referral Agency<sup>4</sup> and Job Intermediary Service<sup>5</sup>**

---

Department of Civil Affairs of Guangdong Province

<sup>4</sup> Signed by the Labour and Welfare Bureau of HKSAR and the Department of Labour and Social Security of Guangdong Province

<sup>5</sup> Signed by the Labour and Welfare Bureau of HKSAR and the Department of Personnel of Guangdong Province of Guangdong Province

**respectively**

- Hong Kong and Guangdong agreed to make concerted effort to implement the arrangement under Supplement V to CEPA that the minimum registered capital required for Hong Kong Service Suppliers to set up wholly-owned job referral agencies and job intermediaries in Guangdong Province follows the requirements applicable to Mainland enterprises in Guangdong Province.
- Both governments would strengthen the communication and co-operation on job referral service and job intermediary service.
- GD authorities would provide guidelines for Hong Kong Service Suppliers to set up wholly owned job referral agencies and job intermediaries in GD.
- Labour and Welfare Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region would promote the liberalisation measures and provide consultation service to the Hong Kong Service Suppliers, and confirm their relevant employment agency status in Hong Kong.

**Co-operation Agreement on Registration of Hong Kong Professionals who have obtained the Mainland's registered Urban Planner qualification or Supervision Engineer qualification in Guangdong<sup>6</sup>**

- Allow Hong Kong professionals who have obtained the Mainland's registered Urban Planner qualification or Supervision Engineer

---

<sup>6</sup> The co-operation agreement will be signed by the Development Bureau of the Hong Kong Special Administration Region and the Department of Construction of the Guangdong Province.

qualification to carry out relevant works in the Guangdong Province.

- The Guangdong authorities will formulate the registration method and promulgate the method on its website.
- Both Governments will start organizing registration work in the Guangdong Province for the Hong Kong professionals who have obtained the Mainland's registered Urban Planner qualification or Supervision Engineer qualification.
- When seeking registration in the Guangdong Province, the Hong Kong professionals who have obtained the Mainland's registered Urban Planner qualification or Supervision Engineer qualification should be employed by qualified urban planning design institutes or relevant qualified construction enterprises having proper business registration in the Guangdong Province. Such Hong Kong professionals will enjoy the relevant national treatment.

**Co-operation Agreement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on Tourism<sup>7</sup>**

- The Guangdong authorities proceed to approve applications submitted by Hong Kong service suppliers for setting up travel agents in Guangdong on a equity joint venture or wholly owned basis.
- Mainland-authorized Hong Kong travel

---

<sup>7</sup> Signed by the Tourism Commission of HKSAR and the Guangdong Provincial Tourism Administration

enterprise(s) can organise group tours to Hong Kong for eligible non-Guangdong residents in Shenzhen on a pilot basis.

- To strengthen co-operation in promoting "Honest Tourism" and multi-destination itineraries.
- To strengthen communication between tourism authorities of both sides.

**Co-operation Agreement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on medical services<sup>8</sup>**

- The authorities of Hong Kong and Guangdong will work closely to implement the liberalisation measures on setting up outpatient clinics in Guangdong province as stipulated in the Supplement V to CEPA. The two sides will enhance communication when formulating the pertaining regulations and implementation details to ensure that they are conducive to the provision of services by Hong Kong service suppliers. They shall also step up publicity of the measures, and the Guangdong side will provide guidance and assistance to applicants. The Guangdong side will also provide the Food and Health Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region with timely information on the progress of the setting up of outpatient clinics in Guangdong by Hong Kong service suppliers.

**Agreement on Co-operation between Guangdong and Hong Kong in Promoting Hong Kong-Owned Processing Trade**

---

<sup>8</sup> Signed by the Food and Health Bureau of HKSAR and the Health Department of Guangdong Province

**Enterprises to Restructure and Upgrade<sup>9</sup>**

- To promote relocation and industrial upgrading of processing trade enterprises.
- To promote Hong Kong-owned enterprises engaged in processing trade with supplied materials to “restructure without production halts” on the spot, and become foreign invested enterprises or other categories of enterprises with the status of independent legal persons.
- To assist and encourage processing trade enterprises to expand their sales into the domestic market.
- To publicise the latest policies in processing trade in order to enhance the ability of the trade to cope with policy adjustments.
- To promote the co-operation and development in trade in services between Guangdong and Hong Kong.
- To promote enhancements in customs clearance and inspection between Guangdong and Hong Kong, and coordinate simplification of customs clearance procedures.

**Co-operation Agreement on setting up Joint Platform for Co-operation in Innovation and Technology<sup>10</sup>**

- To consolidate the technological resources of the

---

<sup>9</sup> Signed by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau of HKSAR and the Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation of Guangdong Province

<sup>10</sup> Signed by the Innovation and Technology Commission of HKSAR and the Department of Science and Technology of the Guangdong Province.



two places through setting up joint innovative platform of industrial technology (R&D centres), with a view to strengthening technological co-operation between Guangdong and Hong Kong.

- To foster effective integration of R&D, industries and markets of the two places, to broaden the scope of technological and innovative activities as well as to enhance co-operation between research institutes and research teams.
- To encourage collaboration of universities, research institutes and enterprises in the two places for the development of applied research and industrial technology.
- Key areas of co-operation includes information and communications technology, new generation technology on automobiles and critical parts and components, new materials and nanotechnology, biomedical and health technology, LED lighting technology, new energy and environmental technology, textiles and clothing technology, and modern technology of service industry.

**Agreement to enhance co-operation between Hong Kong and Guangdong in emergency management<sup>11</sup>**

- The authorities of Hong Kong and Guangdong will strengthen their co-operation and exchange information on major emergencies that affect the two places.
- There will be regular meetings between experts of the two authorities to share experience in

---

<sup>11</sup> Signed by the Security Bureau of HKSAR and the Emergency Management Office of the Guangdong Province.

emergency management.

Ends/Tuesday, August 5, 2008

NNNN