## [TRANSLATION]

# Implementation Guide for the Articles Relating to Certification and Accreditation in the Agreement on Trade in Services under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement

The Agreement on Trade in Services under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) (hereinafter referred to as the "CEPA Agreement on Trade in Services") and its annexes contain a total of six liberalisation measures relating to certification and accreditation. Item 1 covers the existing liberalisation measures in Supplement VII to CEPA and Supplement VIII to CEPA. Items 2 and 3 cover the existing liberalisation measures in the Guangdong Agreement of CEPA. Items 5 and 6 cover the existing liberalisation measures in Supplement X to CEPA. The implementation rules for these measures remain unchanged. Item 4 is a new liberalisation measure, i.e. "To implement, on a pilot basis, a mutual recognition arrangement of certification and relevant testing business among

Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone<sup>1</sup>, with a view to carrying out 'certified once, tested once, and results accepted by three places'". The implementation guide of this new measure is as follows:

Guangdong (confined to areas within the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone), Hong Kong and Macao shall implement, on a pilot basis, a mutual recognition arrangement of compliance certification, voluntary certification and relevant testing business, with a view to carrying out "certified once, tested once, and results accepted by three places". Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao certification and testing organisations engaging in certification and relevant testing business in Guangdong (confined to areas within the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone), Hong Kong and Macao shall enjoy the same treatment.

The arrangements for Hong Kong certification and testing organisations to undertake testing on products required by the China Compulsory Certification (CCC) System in the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone are as follows:

I. To allow testing organisations in Hong Kong to cooperate with designated Mainland certification bodies to undertake testing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The "China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone" includes the pilot free trade zones already established in the Guangdong Province of China at the time this implementation guide is published, as well as the areas to be covered upon review of the "China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone" in the future.

for all products as listed in the CCC Product Catalogue which are processed or manufactured in the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone. These testing organisations have to be accredited by the accreditation body of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) (i.e. the Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS)) to be competent in performing testing for the relevant products under the CCC System.

#### (1) Coverage

1. Scope of Products

All products as listed in the CCC Product Catalogue

2. Place of Origin of Products

Products processed or manufactured in the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone, irrespective of where they are designed and prototyped

# (2) Qualification and Regulatory Requirements for a Testing Organisation

Any testing organisation in Hong Kong engaging in testing business for CCC products shall be accredited by the accreditation body (HKAS) of the HKSAR Government that the organisation is competent in performing testing for CCC products.

HKAS shall refer to Article 11 of the Measures for the Administration of Certification Bodies, Inspection Bodies and Laboratories under the China Compulsory Certification System (the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China Decree No. 65), relevant implementation rules for the certification of CCC products, and guide on applying the laboratory accreditation criteria of the China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment in relevant fields to assess the competency of the Hong Kong testing organisation in performing testing for relevant CCC products, and shall issue confirmation documents to the laboratories fulfilling the For laboratories being confirmed to have fulfilled the requirements. conduct will requirements, HKAS surveillance visits or reassessments once a year to confirm their continued compliance with the requirements.

If, through surveillance visits or reassessments, HKAS finds that any Hong Kong testing laboratories fail to sustain compliance with the requirements, HKAS shall notify the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) as appropriate.

#### (3) Procedures

1. A qualified testing organisation in Hong Kong wishing to undertake testing activities of CCC products may seek collaboration with a designated Mainland CCC product certification body on the

testing activities concerned. Contact information of designated Mainland certification bodies and their scope of services are available at the CNCA website (http://english.cnca.gov.cn/).

2. According to the implementation rules of certification, the testing organisation is required to achieve collaboration and undertake certification and testing activities within the agreed scope of work through establishing an agreement with a designated Mainland certification body. The designated certification body shall submit the collaboration agreement to CNCA for approval, and the agreement will not be effective until CNCA grants its approval (Note: The approval does not include verification of qualification of The the testing laboratory concerned). designated CCC certification body shall submit the signed collaboration agreement to CNCA for record. CNCA will then announce on its official website a directory of Hong Kong testing organisations that have entered into collaboration agreement with designated CCC product certification notify the relevant Mainland authorities bodies, and for administration of certification.

3. Upon receiving notification from HKAS that a Hong Kong testing organisation has failed to sustain compliance with the relevant requirements, CNCA will inform the designated CCC certification body concerned. The designated CCC certification

body shall review its collaboration with the testing organisation concerned and report the result to CNCA. CNCA will announce the revised directory of testing organisations on its official website and notify the relevant Mainland authorities for administration of certification.

4. If it is found by a Mainland authority for administration of certification that a Hong Kong testing organisation undertaking CCC certification and testing activities has breached relevant laws, regulations or implementation rules of certification and accreditation, CNCA should be notified. CNCA will then notify the responsible department of the HKSAR Government. Upon investigation, the responsible department of the HKSAR Government will inform CNCA of the result and CNCA will decide whether the directory of organisations shall be revised.

II. To allow certification bodies in Hong Kong to cooperate with Mainland CCC product certification bodies on CCC factory inspection for assigning inspectors to carry out CCC factory inspection on CCC product manufacturers in the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone under the CCC System.

#### (1) Coverage

#### 1. Inspection targets

All manufacturers producing products as listed in the CCC

Product Catalogue in the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone

2. Scope of inspection

Initial factory audit and follow-up factory inspection for CCC products

#### (2) Qualification Requirements for Factory Inspectors

Factory inspectors should meet the relevant requirements as stipulated in the Measures for Administration of CCC Inspectors (CNCA Notice No. 29/2004) and obtain registration as a national CCC product certification inspector.

#### (3) Procedures

1. A certification body in Hong Kong shall seek collaboration with a designated Mainland CCC product certification body on the factory inspection activities concerned. Contact information of designated Mainland certification bodies and their scope of services are available at the CNCA website (http://english.cnca.gov.cn/).

2. The certification body in Hong Kong is required to achieve collaboration and establish an agreement with a designated Mainland certification body to undertake CCC product factory inspection activities within the agreed scope of work. The designated certification body shall submit the collaboration agreement to CNCA for approval, and the agreement will not be effective until CNCA grants its approval (Note: The approval does not include that for the

setting up of the certification body). The designated certification body shall submit the signed agreement to CNCA for record. CNCA will then announce on its official website a directory of Hong Kong certification bodies that have entered into collaboration agreement with designated CCC product certification bodies, and notify the relevant Mainland authorities for administration of certification.

3. The certification body in Hong Kong shall recommend CCC factory inspectors to the designated Mainland certification body, and submit application for registration of the CCC product certification inspectors to the China Certification and Accreditation Association (CCAA) through the designated Mainland certification body. According to the Measures for Administration of CCC Inspectors and relevant requirements of CCAA, the applicants submit application materials and participate in inspector training and qualification examinations. Those who have met the requirements can obtain registration as CCC product certification inspectors to perform CCC product factory inspection activities. The list of inspectors will be announced to the public at the CCAA website. The registration status of inspectors can be checked via the registration and administration system of certification personnel at the CCAA website.

4. If it is found by a Mainland authority for administration of certification that a Hong Kong CCC factory inspector undertaking CCC product factory inspection activities has breached relevant laws, regulations or implementation rules of certification and accreditation, CNCA should be notified. Upon investigation, CNCA will decide whether the registration status of the inspector shall be revised and notify the responsible department of the HKSAR Government.

III. The Mainland authorities for administration of certification administer activities conducted within the purview of this implementation guide

The Mainland authorities for administration of certification shall administer activities conducted by relevant certification and testing organisations in the Mainland according to the CEPA Agreement on Trade in Services and this implementation guide.

Appendix 1. Contents relating to certification and accreditation in the Agreement on Trade in Services and its Annexes under CEPA

2. Contact information of relevant units

Appendix 1:

Contents relating to certification and accreditation in the Agreement on Trade in Services and its Annexes under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA)

1. To allow testing organisations in Hong Kong to cooperate with designated Mainland organisations to undertake testing for products for the China Compulsory Certification (CCC) System on all existing products processed in Hong Kong (i.e. the processing facilities are located in Hong Kong) that require CCC. These testing organisations have to be accredited by the accreditation body of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) (i.e. the Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS)) to be competent in performing testing for the relevant products under the CCC System. Cooperation arrangements should comply with relevant requirements in the Regulations on Certification and Accreditation of the People's Republic of China.

2. To allow testing organisations in Hong Kong to cooperate with designated Mainland organisations to undertake testing for products for the China Compulsory Certification (CCC) System. The products are under the "audio and visual apparatus" category of the CCC System, and have to be designed and prototyped in Hong Kong, as well as processed or manufactured in Guangdong Province. These testing organisations have to be accredited by the accreditation body of the Government of the HKSAR (i.e. HKAS) to be competent in performing testing for the relevant products under the CCC System.

3. In the area of voluntary certification, to allow testing organisations in Hong Kong to cooperate with Mainland certification bodies to undertake testing for products manufactured or processed in Hong Kong or in the Mainland. These testing organisations have to be accredited by the accreditation body of the Government of the HKSAR (i.e. HKAS) to be competent in performing testing for the relevant products.

4. To implement, on a pilot basis, a mutual recognition arrangement of certification and relevant testing business among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao in the China (Guangdong) Pilot Free Trade Zone, with a view to carrying out "certified once, tested once, and results accepted by three places".

5. On the basis of mutual trust and mutual benefit, to allow certification and testing organisations in Hong Kong to cooperate with Mainland certification and testing organisations in respect of acceptance of testing data (results). Specific cooperation arrangements are subject to further discussion.

6. To allow contractual service providers employed by Hong Kong service suppliers, in the mode of movement of natural persons, to provide services under this sector or sub-sector in the Mainland.

#### Appendix 2:

### Contact information of relevant units

Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) Department for International Cooperation (國際合作部) Contact person: Liu Zhiwei Email: liuzw@cnca.gov.cn Telephone: (86) 10 82262682 Fax: (86) 10 8226076

Innovation and Technology Commission Hong Kong Accreditation Service Contact person: Chen Kin Wah Email: kwchen@itc.gov.hk Telephone: (852) 2829 4826 Fax: (852) 2824 1302

China Certification and Accreditation Association (CCAA) Certification Personnel Registry (認證人員註冊二部) Contact person: Niu Dongbo Email: niudb@ccaa.org.cn Telephone: (86) 10 65994561 Fax: (86)10 65994572

Guangdong Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau (GDCIQ) Department of Certification (認證處) Contact person: He Tengrui Email: hetr@gdciq.gov.cn Telephone: (86)20 38290501

Administration of Quality and Technology Supervision of Guangdong Province (GDQTS) Department of Certification (認證處) Contact person: Hu Xiaowei Email: 403872797@qq.com Telephone: (86) 20 38835939

Shenzhen Enter-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau (SZCIQ) Division of Certification Supervision (認證監管處) Contact person: Chen Lijun Email: chenlj@szciq.gov.cn Telephone: (86) 755 82532451

Zhuhai Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau (ZHCIQ) Division of Certification Supervision (認證監管處) Contact person: Wu Xiaolun Email: wuxiaolun@zhciq.gov.cn Telephone: (86) 756 3226132

Market and Quality Supervision Commission of Shenzhen Municipality (SZMQS) Division of Metrology (計量處) Contact person: Sun Shihai Email: sunsh@szaic.gov.cn Telephone: (86) 755 83070955