

**Mainland and Hong Kong
Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA)
Specific Commitments on Television Services**

1. CEPA II

Cable television technical service

1.1 At present, all the design and engineering works of cable television network in the Mainland must be carried out by licensed Mainland operators. Under the Supplementary Agreement to CEPA signed on 27 October 2004, Hong Kong companies engaging in the operation of cable television network are permitted to provide professional technical services related to cable television networks in pilot areas of Guangdong Province after obtaining the approval of the relevant Mainland authorities.

1.2 The implementation details of this specific commitment are as follows :

- (a) With a valid telecommunications licence on cable television network service issued by the Telecommunications Authority of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and a Certificate of Hong Kong Service Supplier issued by the Trade and Industry Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Hong Kong companies may discuss and negotiate with individual cable television network operator(s) in the Guangdong Province for technical service provision.
- (b) Guangdong cable television network operator(s) will apply to the Radio, Film and Television Bureau of Guangdong Province for approval of the service provision concerned.
- (c) With the approval of the Radio, Film and Television Bureau of Guangdong Province, Hong Kong companies may provide the professional technical service to the Guangdong operator(s).

The contact person of the Office of the Telecommunications Authority of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is Mr Chaucer Leung, Senior Telecommunications Engineer (Advisory and Support) (telephone number 2961 6639, fax 2803 5113 and e-mail cyleung@ofta.gov.hk).

Television co-productions

1.3 According to the Supplementary Agreement to CEPA signed on 27 October 2004, television programmes co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong, after being examined by the relevant Mainland authorities, are permitted to be broadcast and distributed in the same way as Mainland domestically-produced television programmes.

1.4 The implementation details of this specific commitment are as follows :

- (a) Hong Kong companies shall observe the rules for Administration of Television Dramas Co-produced by China and Foreign Countries. Decree No. 41 of the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television (國家廣播電影電視總局令第41號«中外合作制作電視劇管理規定»). They are not required to apply for a Certificate of Hong Kong Services Supplier from the Trade and Industry Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.
- (b) Mainland companies producing the television programmes in collaboration with Hong Kong companies shall apply to the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television for approval of broadcasting and distributing the television co-productions concerned following the same procedures for Mainland domestically-produced television programmes.

2. CEPA III

Number of episodes of Jointly-produced television dramas

2.1 According to the Supplementary Agreement to CEPA signed on 18 October 2005, television dramas co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong should be subject to the same standard on the number of

episodes as that applicable to Mainland domestically-produced television dramas.

3. 2006 Liberalization Measures

Mainland television dramas with Hong Kong participation

3.1 According to the liberalization measures under CEPA in 2006, the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television has delegated to the provincial radio and television administration the authority of examining the finished tapes of Mainland television dramas produced by the production organization under the provinces, autonomous regions or municipalities and participated by artistes or production crew from Hong Kong.

4. 2007 Liberalization Measures

Synopsis of jointly-produced television dramas

4.1 According to the liberalization measures under CEPA in 2007, for any proposal of television drama to be co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong programme production organizations, the minimum number of words in Chinese contained in the synopsis of each episode is revised to 1500.

4.2 The State Administration of Radio, Film and Television and the Ministry of Commerce have promulgated The Supplementary Provisions for the Administration of Chinese-Foreign Cooperation in the Production of Television Dramas to give effect to the new liberalization measure.

The contact person of the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is Miss Lida Lam, Principal Entertainment Standards Control Officer (Broadcasting Authority) (telephone number 2594 5731, fax 2507 2219 and e-mail lida_wy_lam@tela.gov.hk).

For more updated information, please visit <http://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/index.html>

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