



## **Mainland and Hong Kong** **Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement** **CEPA**

### **Introduction**

The Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) is the first free trade agreement concluded by the Mainland China and Hong Kong. Its main text was signed on 29 June 2003.

CEPA is an open and developing free trade agreement. CEPA adopts a building block approach, with the scope and content of the agreement expanding.

CEPA is a win-win trade agreement, illustrating the mutually beneficial relationship of economic co-operation between the Mainland and Hong Kong. CEPA not only opens up the huge Mainland market for Hong Kong products and services, but also helps enhance the professional standards of Mainland's service industries and contributes to its long term economic development.

### **Zero Import Tariff to the Mainland**

Hong Kong and the Mainland have already agreed on the CEPA rules of origin for over 1,000 products (based on the Mainland tariff classification). The majority follow process-based rules of origin, while others follow either "Change in Tariff Heading", "Value-added content", or rules having regard to the characteristics of products concerned.

The list of products with agreed CEPA rules of origin and corresponding rules are available at CEPA website:

[http://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/tradegoods/trade\\_goods.html](http://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/tradegoods/trade_goods.html)