Major Tasks in 2019 for Implementing the Framework Agreement on Cooperation between Guangdong and Macao

I. Promoting Adequate Economic Diversification in Macao

The Parties shall:

1. Expedite implementation of policies related to the development of Hengqin as an international leisure travel island, promote two-way mobility of tourism resources, and support Macao's construction of a world tourism and leisure centre; launch a pilot scheme for medical and healthcare policies in Hengqin, support development of the Guangdong-Macao Traditional Chinese Medicine Technology Industrial Park and conduct research on establishing an internationally recognised quality standard for Chinese medicine products;
2. Support development of collaborative projects between Macao and Nansha in Guangzhou, and facilitate construction of the Nansha Guangdong-Macao Portuguese-speaking Countries Industrial Park, to explore an innovative model for cooperation; facilitate construction of the Xiangxue Pharmaceutical Centre for Standardisation, Internationalisation and Innovation Transfer of Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Macau;
3. Facilitate development of the Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Display Zone in Zhongshan, and expedite the establishment of an innovation and cooperation centre for young entrepreneurs;
4. Facilitate development of the Jiangmen Daguang Bay Economic Zone, to explore an innovative model for cooperation;
5. Support cooperation in medical technology between Foshan and the Macau University of Science and Technology, and deepen cooperation between the two Parties in quality control of Chinese medicine products, use of clinical data, talent cultivation, clinical research and public relations;
6. Make the best possible use of the four State Key Laboratories, to strengthen cooperation in areas including microchips, smart city development, Internet of Things, space science and space exploration; and actively strive to establish more State Key Laboratories;
7. Support Macao’s development of specialised financial services and facilitate Macao’s development as a Renminbi clearing centre for Portuguese-speaking countries;
8. Jointly develop multi-destination exquisite tourism routes, conduct joint tourism promotion, and jointly safeguard the orderly operation of the Guangdong-Macao tourism market;
9. Support international registration of Chinese medicine products, joint
research and product development, trade and talent cultivation, and launch a public services platform (Hengqin) for registering Chinese medicine products overseas;

10. Plan to build a Guangdong-Macao Chinese medicine healthcare and disease prevention system to provide preventive treatment services, and set up a state-level regional Chinese medical centre; and

11. Establish the Guangdong-Macao Traditional Chinese Medicine Technology Industrial Park, National Health Technology Park, Mount Luofo Chinese Medicine and Tourism Park, and Zhaoqing Deqing Traditional Chinese Medicine Science and Technology Industrial Park, as pilot schemes for building a pioneering demonstration zone for international healthcare tourism; and seek support for implementing more convenient testing, certification and approval processes.

II. Cross-border Infrastructure Development and Clearance Facilitation

The Parties shall:

12. Support the conversion and extension works of Macau International Airport and promote cooperative development of Zhuhai and Macao’s aviation industries; push ahead with the phase-three development of Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, the Huizhou Airport expansion project and the preliminary work of the Pearl River Delta Hub (new Guangzhou) Airport project;

13. Refine the management and optimise the structure of airspace in the Pearl River Delta in accordance with the country’s plan for airspace reform;

14. Expedite construction of the new Guangdong-Macao border crossing (Qingmau Checkpoint), including construction of infrastructure and inspection of ancillary facilities; and support the relocation of the Lotus Flower Checkpoint;

15. Support the construction of flood prevention and drainage infrastructure at the coast of the Inner Harbour in Macao;

16. Facilitate construction of the fourth Water Supply Pipeline to Macao and the Ping Gang-Guang Chang raw water supply safeguarding project, to enhance the security of Macao’s water supplies;

17. Summarise and optimise the innovative achievements of the inspection mechanism reform at the Zhuhai-Macao Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, and explore an innovative inspection model at border-crossing checkpoints including the Qingmau Checkpoint and new Hengqin Checkpoint (the relocated Lotus Flower Checkpoint);

18. Expedite implementation of the free entry scheme for sailing tourism between Guangdong and Macao, and explore the practice of “joint border-crossing inspection at a single berthing point” at the Guangdong Free Trade Zone (GDFTZ) for Macao yachts;

19. Push ahead with the project to improve Guangdong electronic port platforms and promote connectivity and cooperation under the Single
Window initiative; and implement an innovative model for customs clearance, and promote the implementation of one-stop border posts;

20. Streamline the workflow for approving and filing applications of cross-boundary vehicles travelling between Guangdong and Macao; and

21. Further improve policies and measures regarding motor vehicles with only Macao licences entering and exiting Hengqin, facilitate mutual recognition of driving licences between Macao and mainland China, and implement policies regarding Macao drivers entering mainland China.

III. Jointly Developing an International Innovation and Technology Hub

The Parties shall:

22. Promote exchanges of technological talents, collaboration in technological breakthrough projects, flow of funding for technological research projects, sharing of information and equipment, and transfer and application of technology;

23. Implement the Guangdong-Macao Cooperation and Exchange Scheme on Technological Innovation, and arrange for implementation of programme to provide joint assistance in technological development in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area;

24. Expedite the development of national innovation and technology bases such as the National Science Data Centre, National Wild Species Germplasm Bank and the National Field Scientific Observation and Research Station; support tertiary institutions and scientific research institutions in Guangdong and Macao in applying to conduct major innovation and technology projects;

25. Expedite the establishment of a cooperation system between the industrial, academic and research and development sectors, to effectively link technological achievements and technological demands from enterprises; promote the development of national demonstration zones on the commercial application of technological achievements in the Pearl River Delta, and develop a batch of technology business incubators targeting Macao; and encourage Macao and Guangdong enterprises in jointly setting up research and development institutes and bases for innovation incubation overseas;

26. Encourage tertiary institutions and scientific research institutions in Macao to apply for research grants from Guangdong Province and set up research and development institutes in Guangdong; promote the gradual opening up of major infrastructure and equipment for technological research in Macao, and support participation in or initiation of major international scientific programmes or projects by developed facilities;

27. Promote the bridging of policies relating to research on medical biotechnology in Macao, converge with the relevant specialised plans issued by the country; enhance the management of cross-boundary use of medical data and bio-samples, which are necessary for research and development cooperation projects, in designated tertiary institutions,
scientific research institutes and laboratories in the Greater Bay Area; and optimise import procedures for research equipment and samples; and

28. Strengthen the interfaces and cooperation in the areas of smart city development planning, mutual recognition of information technology and big data development for city operations; and push ahead with demonstrating and applying 5G technology in smart cities.

IV. Fostering Cooperation in Modern Service Industries

The Parties shall:

29. Under the policy framework of the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), work towards further lowering the entry thresholds and relaxing the restrictions on shareholding ratios; promote the experience and practices of the service sectors in trade liberalisation, and guide the service sectors on how to make the best use of the liberalisation measures; and

30. Explore the relaxation of restrictions on Macao professionals practising in mainland China, to enable professionals and enterprises possessing professional qualifications in fields such as engineering and construction to – upon notifying the relevant governing authorities or regulatory departments – provide professional services for enterprises within specified areas in the Guangdong Pilot Free Trade Zone, and extend these practices to other mainland China places in the Greater Bay Area when conditions mature.

(A) Financial Services

The Parties shall:

31. Explore innovation in cross-boundary Renminbi business in terms of facilitating trade, investment and financing, as well as consumption, and expand the cross-boundary use of Renminbi; support cooperation between credit reference agencies in Guangdong and Macao in providing cross-boundary investment, financing, innovation and business start-up services for relevant enterprises;

32. Plan to establish a green financial platform in Macao, support Guangdong enterprises in issuing Renminbi bonds that are certified and labelled as green products in Macao, to raise funds for the development of green industries and green projects in the Greater Bay Area, and study ways to promote green financing; encourage Macao financial institutions to take part in the development of green financial reform pilot zones in Guangzhou, and explore ways to allow Macao investors to engage in carbon emissions trading in mainland China through the carbon emissions trading platforms in Guangdong;

33. Promote the application of financial technology in Guangdong and Macao,
encourage financial technology innovation, push ahead with high-level financial technology infrastructure development, improve relevant policies, systems and standards, and explore the potential establishment of a mechanism for cross-boundary joint supervision;

34. Strive for the gradual lowering of asset entry thresholds for Macao banks and insurance institutions; and work towards extending the measures that facilitate the operation of the banking and insurance industries in the Guangdong Pilot Free Trade Zone, so these also cover other cities in the Pearl River Delta.

35. Subject to compliance with laws and regulations as well as regulatory requirements, support insurance institutions in Guangdong and Macao in jointly developing innovative cross-boundary motor vehicle and medical insurance products and providing facilitation services for cross-boundary policy holders in areas such as underwriting, investigation and claims;

36. Work towards relaxing restrictions on shareholding ratios for Macao investors in investing in business involving securities, futures and funds; support Macao financial institutions with setting up joint securities business in Guangdong; support Macao financial and securities companies in providing services such as mainland China and foreign investment, merger and acquisition and financial consultancies in Guangdong; and support Macao with setting up a stock market using Renminbi for denomination and settlements; and

37. Promote electronic payment for public services, application of universal mobile payment such as UnionPay QuickPass in various key settings, and mutual use of UnionPay multiple currency cards in Guangdong and Macao, to facilitate convenient payment services.

(B) Professional Services

The Parties shall:

38. Deepen the implementation of a pilot scheme on partnership associations set up between mainland China and Macao law firms, support greater exchanges between relevant legal institutions in Guangdong and Macao, forge cooperation in trade and maritime arbitration, commercial mediation and tackling trade friction, and build up a cross-jurisdiction platform for dispute resolution; and link the rules of arbitration institutions, share the lists of arbiters, and promote mutual employment and accreditation of arbiters;

39. Promote further reduction of fees for telecommunication and roaming services between Guangdong and Macao; and push ahead with the in-depth application of mutual recognition of electronic signature certificates in the service, trade and financial sectors; and

40. Foster cooperation on social services between Guangdong and Macao, establish a common platform for medical services, and strengthen exchanges on social services such as elderly care; and cooperate with Hengqin in Zhuhai to commence social services.
(C) Cultural Exchange and Cooperation

The Parties shall:

41. Strengthen cultural exchanges and brand building, and proactively develop cooperation platforms for cultural exchanges, such as for performing arts including Cantonese opera; and

42. Enhance cultural exchange cooperation mechanisms, further enhance cultural exchange cooperation in areas such as arts talents, intangible cultural heritage and cultural relics, and push ahead with the development of a cultural heritage trail.

(D) Tourism Services

The Parties shall:

43. Support the development of Hengqin as an international leisure travel island, and facilitate development of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao joint tourism projects; host events such as the Seventh Macao International Travel (Industry) Expo; and step up efforts in studying collaborative tourism development.

V. Pushing Ahead With Exchanges and Cooperation in Education and Talent and Youth Cultivation

The Parties shall:

44. Expedite the development of joint operation of education institutions, push ahead with the preparatory work for establishing the Macau University of Science and Technology, and City University of Macau, in the Pearl River Delta;

45. Encourage higher education institutions of the two places to explore and commence work on the mutual recognition of academic credits of specified courses;

46. Push ahead with efforts to allow children of Macao residents working in Guangdong to receive pre-primary, compulsory and senior secondary education and, in due course, study the regulations regarding Macao students taking university entrance examinations where they live;

47. Support the establishment of a task force on Guangdong and Macao youth innovation and entrepreneurship, coordinate the promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship resources; develop influential youth entrepreneurial bases, jointly confer and list plaques, increase investment of resources and introduce all-round support services with a view to providing greater convenience for Macao youth to develop in the Greater Bay Area;

48. Robustly implement exchange projects such as youth internship schemes
and Macao Service Corps; jointly organise projects such as the Youth Concentric projects, national studies summer camps for Macao youth, courses on Lingnan culture for Guangdong and Macao university students, national defence experience camps for Macao youth, and Guangdong-Macao Sister School (Campus) Scheme; and

49. Organise the Guangdong-Macao Cup football tournament, jointly organise youth basketball and football competitions, and jointly develop a series of international and regional sports events that achieve brand-name recognition.

VI. Developing an Internationalised Business Environment

The Parties shall:

50. Explore setting up an exchange and cooperation mechanism on competition policy and anti-monopoly law enforcement; and

51. Deepen cooperation in intellectual property trading between Guangdong and Macao; strengthen cross-regional intellectual property administrative law enforcement and judicial protection collaboration, and establish a Guangdong-Macao linkage mechanism on notarisation and protection of intellectual property; strengthen discussions and exchanges in the industry, promote intellectual property creation, application, protection and trading of both sides, and facilitate the integrated development of high-end intellectual property services and industries in the region.

VII. Developing a Quality Living Circle

The Parties shall:

52. Actively push ahead with introducing policy measures to assist Macao residents studying, working, setting up business and living in the mainland China cities of the Greater Bay Area; study, formulate and promulgate ancillary measures on education and healthcare, to support Macao residents' development in the Pearl River Delta;

53. Strive to further make it more convenient for Macao residents to use the Mainland Travel Permit;

54. Further enable Macao residents who are working in Guangdong to participate in social security and related policies, and fully implement the policies of allowing unemployed Macao residents who hold residence permits in Guangdong to participate in old-age and basic medical social insurance for urban and rural residents;

55. Improve the Guangdong-Macao linkage mechanism for emergency medical rescue services, study the provision of land-based cross-boundary transfer services for non-emergency and non-critically ill patients, push ahead with a pilot cooperation scheme in designated medical institutions, and set up cross-boundary green referral channels; roll out exchanges and cooperation between Macao and Guangdong in
emergency medical rescues and joint action against public health emergencies;
56. Jointly commence exchanges and cooperation in collaborative prevention and control of water pollution, optimal distribution of water resources as well as joint development and use of water resources; and jointly commence cross-boundary river dredging focusing on Canal Dos Patos;
57. Implement the Cooperation Agreement between Guangdong and Macao regarding the Energy-efficiency and Environmental Protection Sector, strengthen cooperation between Guangdong and Macao on energy-efficient technology and services, as well as recycling waste resources; develop cooperation platforms for energy-efficiency technology, equipment and product development projects;
58. Implement the 2017-2020 Cooperation Agreement between Guangdong and Macao on Environmental Protection, and optimise the mechanism for cooperation regarding air pollution control and prevention;
59. Set up collaboration regarding alerts and forecasts on hazardous weather including typhoons, and improve the mechanism for linking meteorological forecasting services in Guangdong and Macao;
60. Jointly establish mechanisms for dissemination of information on food safety, investigations and joint action regarding emergencies, and enhance the system for tracing the origins of food;
61. Strengthen the integration of policing and security resources, exchanging intelligence, investigation of cross-border cases, exchanges on forensic science, and competency of joint operations;
62. Set up sound mechanisms between Guangdong and Macao for commanding and coordinating emergency rescues, and establish a mechanism for coordinating contingency management and joint action; dovetail emergency response plans for contingencies such as security incidents, and conduct emergency drills in a timely fashion;
63. Improve the coordination mechanism for marine search and rescue and conduct joint maritime search and rescue exercises; and
64. Strengthen cooperation between Guangdong and Macao regarding marine investigations, and jointly commence analyses of incidents that have occurred and sharing information on maritime traffic.

VIII. Jointly Participating in “Belt and Road” Development

The Parties shall:

65. Leverage the functions of the headquarters of Cooperation and Development Fund between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries, to provide convenience to Guangdong and Macao enterprises investing in Portuguese-speaking countries, and to encourage enterprises to set up headquarters in Macao for conducting business with Portuguese-speaking countries;
66. Promote organic integration of the International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum (IIICF) with the Forum for Economic and Trade
Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries, China-Portuguese-speaking Countries Cooperation and Development Fund, and specialised financial businesses; strengthen cooperation within the financial market; facilitate construction of infrastructure in Guangdong and Macao; and participate in the “Belt and Road” initiative with related enterprises;

67. Support organising the Macao International Environmental Cooperation Forum (MIECF), jointly facilitate environmental cooperation in the Pan-Pearl River Delta region, and foster matching and cooperation in environmental protection technologies between Guangdong and the European Union;

68. The Macao Foundation will set up a special “Belt and Road” scholarship to continue supporting young people in Guangdong and Macao in pursuing studies in Portuguese-speaking countries and the countries and regions along the Belt and Road;

69. Strengthen cooperation in tourism with countries along the Belt and Road, develop “Belt and Road” tourism products, and design itineraries for Guangdong-Macao multi-destination tours; and

70. Expedite the development of the Guangdong-Macao Traditional Chinese Medicine Technology Industrial Park, strengthen scientific research on Chinese medicine, cultivate talents and transform the research results into traditional Chinese medicine products, and promote Chinese medicine to the markets in Portuguese-speaking countries and countries along the Belt and Road through developing medical healthcare and wellness healthcare industries.

IX. Cooperation Mechanisms

The Parties shall:

71. Develop an overseas mechanism to jointly promote and attract investment, and jointly initiate overseas promotional activities on the investment and business environment in a timely manner; and

72. Encourage think-tanks and academics in the two areas to embark on in-depth research and organise seminars by making good use of the Guangdong-Macao Strategic Development Research Group.