

Joint Press Statement

The 19th EU-Macao Joint Committee

Brussels, 15 July 2014

The 19th EU-Macao Joint Committee meeting was held in Brussels on 15 July 2014, in accordance with Article 16 of the EC-Macao Trade and Co-operation Agreement of 15 December 1992. This was the 13th annual meeting since China's resumption of the exercise of sovereignty over the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR). The previous meeting was held in Macao on 15 November 2013.

The Delegation of the European Union (EU) was headed by Mr. Viorel Isticioaia Budura, Managing Director for Asia and Pacific of the European External Action Service. The Delegation of the Macao SAR was headed by Ms. Florinda da Rosa Silva Chan, Secretary for Administration and Justice.

During the meeting, the parties reviewed the latest developments in their relationship, took stock of ongoing bilateral co-operation activities and explored new areas for further co-operation. Both sides agreed that the annual bilateral meeting offered a key forum to conduct fruitful exchanges on topics of common interest.

The European Union updated Macao on its political and economic priorities, noting that the EU economy had achieved stable growth and on the ongoing efforts in strengthening governance of the financial sector. The EU underlined the importance of EU-China relations with significant potential for further expanding trade and investment.

Macao informed the European Union of recent developments in the Special Administrative Region, including the robust growth of its economy in 2013 and in the first quarter of 2014, the Hengqin project, the implementation of the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement and efforts in diversifying the economy.

The parties noted the increasing role of EU business in the provision of goods, services and investment in Macao. Regular dialogue and direct exchanges between EU business operating in Macao and the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute will be further strengthened.

The European Union appreciated Macao's openness to engage in further exploratory talks with the EU on automatic exchange of tax information in order to join the OECD global standard declared in May 2014. Both sides also exchanged views on other policy areas including public procurement, competition and labour issues.

On EU-Macao co-operation, both sides welcomed the satisfactory implementation of the EU-Macao Legal Co-operation Project, aimed at strengthening Macao's legal system and to enhance public administration and agreed to explore how the EU might continue to be involved. The European Union and Macao will continue to support the activities under the EU Academic Programme, which has been successfully launched and already undertaken a number of activities in Macao.

Finally, the European Union and Macao expressed their shared intention to explore new areas of co-operation, particularly in education, environmental protection and cultural exchanges.

歐盟澳門混合委員會第十九次會議聯合新聞公報

布魯塞爾，2014 年 7 月 15 日

按照一九九二年十二月十五日簽訂的《歐盟澳門貿易和合作協議》第十六條規定，歐盟澳門混合委員會第十九次會議於二零一四年七月十五日在布魯塞爾召開。本次會議是中國對澳門恢復行使主權以來的第十三次會議。前次會議於二零一三年十一月十五日在澳門舉行。

歐盟代表團由歐盟對外事務部亞太區總監維奧雷爾·伊斯蒂奇瓦亞(Viorel Isticioaia Budura)先生率領，澳門代表團由行政法務司司長陳麗敏任團長。

本次會議雙方回顧了彼此關係的最新發展，以及現行的雙邊合作事項，並探討新的合作方向。雙方肯定雙邊年會為彼此就共同關注的課題交換意見提供了重要的平台。

歐盟向澳門闡述了其政治及經濟方面的優先工作，當中提及歐盟經濟已取得穩步增長，並繼續加強對金融體系的管治。歐盟並強調與中國關係的重要性，將為雙方在貿易與投資發展帶來重要的機遇。

澳門向歐盟介紹有關特區近期的發展，包括二零一三年和二零一四年第一季的經濟強勁增長、橫琴項目、《更緊密經貿關係的安排》的執行情況，以及其在經濟多元化上的努力。

雙方注意到歐盟企業在商品提供、服務和投資方面在澳門的作用越來越大。在澳經營的歐盟企業與澳門貿易投資促進局之間的定期對話與直接交流將會進一步加強。

歐盟感謝澳門為參與經濟合作與發展組織於本年五月宣佈的全球標準，而在自動稅務信息交換上作進一步探討所持的開放態度。雙方在其他方面，包括政府採購、競爭政策及勞工政策等議題亦交換了意見。

在歐盟與澳門合作方面，雙方對旨在加強澳門的法律體系及改善公共行政而設立的歐盟—澳門法律合作項目能順利執行表示歡迎，並同意尋求歐盟日後繼續參與的方式；歐盟及澳門將一如既往支持已在澳成功開展和推出多項活動的歐盟學術計劃。

最後，歐盟與澳門表達了對探討其他領域的合作，特別在教育、環境保護及文化交流的共同意向。