sale and leasing of properties, accounting controls and beli

staff administration. The *Checklist* provides practical guidelines to help the estate agency trade to reinforce corporate governance and internal control, and remind practitioners to handle property transactions with integrity so that professional standard of the estate agency trade can be enhanced. Besides, some guidelines in the *Checklist* have made reference to the practice standard and guidance issued by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Thus it can be said that the *Checklist* has matched international standards.

Mrs Rosanna Ure pointed out that the trade can adopt and implement the proposed guidelines in accordance with the company size and practical needs. She believed that if the trade is able to achieve the standards stated in the *Checklist*, the level of professionalism and ethics of the trade will be raised. The trade's image will then be enhanced.

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A continuing professional development seminar was held after the launching ceremony to help the trade understand the *Checklist*. Representatives from the EAA and the ICAC explained in detail the content of the *Checklist* at the seminar and about 200 practitioners attended. The EAA and the ICAC will continue to organize seminars for the trade to help them understand and achieve the standards set in the *Checklist*. The *Checklist* has already been uploaded to the website of EAA for the trade's information.

第一期互認計劃的內地房地產經紀人註冊證書已開始接受申請

內地與香港地產代理專業資格互認計劃的第一期培訓課程及考試已於去年舉行。成功通過考試的香港持牌人須於2012年8月31日或之前,經監管局向中國房地產估價師與房地產經紀人學會(中房學)申請內地房地產經紀人註冊證書。逾期申請或繳費者,其互認資格將會失效,日後如欲獲得有關互認資格,便須重新提出推薦申請、接受遴選、完成課程及通過考試。

中房學審批香港持牌人的申請後,會批出註冊證書,並由監管局代為轉交給持牌人。香港持牌人首次註冊證書有效期為2012年10月1日至2013年12月31日,費用為2,000人民幣。有關詳情,請參閱監管局網頁http://www.eaa.org.hk/licensing/documents/cepa_hk_app_details.pdf

Application for the certificate of registration for practice in the Mainland under the first phase of the mutual recognition scheme

The first training course and examination of the scheme of mutual recognition of professional qualifications of estate agents in the Mainland and Hong Kong were completed last year. Qualified Hong Kong licensees can apply for the certificate of registration for practice in the Mainland, through the EAA, with the China Institute of Real Estate Appraisers and Agents (CIREA) on or before 31 August 2012. The eligibility to apply for the certificate under the scheme will lapse if applications and payments are not made before the above deadline. Disqualified licensees who wish to regain the qualification will have to reapply for nomination, be subject to selection, complete the training course and pass the examination again.

Once CIREA has approved the applications, it will grant the Hong Kong licensees a certificate of registration which will be issued to the licensees through the EAA. The validity period of these certificates is from 1 October 2012 to 31 December 2013 and the fee is RMB2,000. For details, Please refer to the EAA website (only Chinese version is available): http://www.eaa.org.hk/licensing/documents/cepa_hk_app_details.pdf