



EAA Chairman Mr Steven Poon delivers a speech at the signing ceremony.

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EAA Chairman Mr Steven Poon and Head of the Centre Mr Shi Xiaoming signed the agreement in a ceremony on 29 August. The signing was witnessed by Deputy Secretary for Transport & Housing (Housing) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government Miss Mary Chow, Deputy Director General of the Coordination Department of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong SAR Ms Sun Aqing and a number of other guests.

Apart from government officials and trade leaders of Hong Kong and Guangzhou, a number of guests from Macao and Taipei also attended the ceremony. Attending guests included the Permanent Honorary President of the Guangzhou Real Estate Association Professor Chen Zhiquan, President of the Housing Bureau of the Government of the Macao Special Administration Region Dr Chiang Coc-meng, Vice-president of the Macao Trade Association of Property Development Mr Ho Chi-kong, two Vice-presidents of the Macao General Association of Real Estate Mr Lao Ngai-leong and Mr Leong Su-sam, and Chairman of the Taipei Association of Real Estate Brokers Mr Alex Lee.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Poon said the new arrangement would enable those Hong Kong estate agency practitioners who intended to practise estate agency work in Guangzhou to get the required qualification certificate through some relatively simple steps. The signing of the agreement was a manifestation of mutual co-operation of the trade sectors in Hong Kong and the mainland.



Head of the Guangzhou Real Estate Agent Service Administration Centre Mr Shi Xiaoming delivers a speech at the signing ceremony.

Mr Poon said he believed the agreement would foster professional and technical exchange in the estate agency trade between the two cities.

“Hong Kong estate agency has a long history and a well established regulatory system. Through practising in Guangzhou, Hong Kong estate agency practitioners can help their Guangzhou counterparts to understand more about the professional practices and regulated operation of the estate agency trade in Hong Kong, and to learn more from each other,” he said. “With the concerted efforts of both Guangzhou and Hong Kong practitioners, customers in both places will surely be provided with higher quality estate agency services.”

Mr Shi said, “I sincerely hope that both sides will strengthen communication and exchanges with each other. I also expect Hong Kong estate agency practitioners, while developing their careers in Guangzhou, to bring their mature skills and practices to the city to promote competition and the development of the estate agency trade in Guangzhou, while at the same time learning more about the development of the mainland and Guangzhou.”



Over 100 guests and trade representatives attend the signing ceremony.

According to the agreement, a preparatory course and examination will be held in Hong Kong for local estate agency practitioners.

Eligible Hong Kong licensees, after participating in the two- to three-day special course and passing the examination, will be granted a qualification certificate to carry out estate agency work in Guangzhou.

Detailed arrangements for the first course and examination will be announced later.

EAA reminds practitioners to renew licence



The EAA reminds practitioners that under section 23 of the Estate Agents Ordinance and section 13 of the Estate Agents (Licensing) Regulation, an application for the renewal of a licence must be made not more than three months, and not less than one month, prior to the expiration of the licence.

In other words, practitioners whose licence is to expire on 31 December should submit their licence-renewal application between 1 October and 30 November. The EAA recommends that practitioners send in their renewal applications by post to avoid lineups when submitting them in person.