



The EAA celebrates its 15th Anniversary

(26 November 2012) The Estate Agents Authority (EAA) held a ceremony to celebrate its 15th anniversary this afternoon. The ceremony was officiated by the Secretary for Transport and Housing Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung and Chairman of the EAA Ms Vivien Chan. About 300 guests attended.

Guests included current and former EAA Board members and Board-appointed members, members of the Legislative Council, as well as representatives of government departments, estate agency trade associations, public bodies, and tertiary and training institutions. Guests from Macau, Shenzhen and the Mainland also attended the ceremony.

Secretary for Transport and Housing Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, said, “the EAA, established in 1997, has set up a solid regulatory regime which has raised the standards and competence of the trade and therefore enhanced consumers’ protection in property transactions. The EAA’s achievements were widely recognized.”

He added that estate agents’ role of facilitating property transactions was conducive to the healthy development of the real estate market in the long run. Whether property transactions were conducted in a fair and orderly manner would be affected by the service quality of estate agents. He believed that the EAA would continue to join hands with the trade to raise the standards of services of estate agents for the benefits of society at large.

Chairman of the EAA Ms Vivien Chan said, “Since the inception of the EAA, it has strived to be a responsible and impartial regulatory body. It has also strived to ensure that practice of estate agents is in strict compliance as well as promote its healthy development. After 15 years of hard work, the EAA has established a regulatory regime. The practice of the estate agency trade has improved and consumers’ interests have also been safeguarded.”

She continued, “In the years ahead, the EAA will continue to dedicate its efforts to achieving its mission. Through regulation, professional development and education, we will lead the trade to move towards better



professionalism.”

Ms Chan also paid tribute to the EAA Board members and Board-appointed members, past and present, for their contribution to the work of the EAA. She also expressed gratitude to many government departments, estate agency trade associations, various other organizations, the media and the public for their support and assistance.

At the ceremony, EAA’s Chief Executive Officer Mr Augustine Ng exchanged a commemorative certificate with Ms Liu Xiao-rui, the representative of the China Institute of Real Estate Appraisers and Agents. This marked the successful completion of the scheme of mutual recognition of professional qualifications of estate agents in the Mainland and Hong Kong. They also extended their congratulations to the estate agents who have qualified under the scheme.

The use of saleable area in the second-hand residential property market will become effective on 1 January 2013. To promote the adoption of saleable area to the public, a TV Announcement in the Public Interest (API) on the subject was produced and premiered at the ceremony.

The EAA was established under the Estate Agents Ordinance in 1997, and has been regulating the estate agency trade in Hong Kong since then. For the last 15 years, the EAA has been responsible for the licensing of the trade, receiving public complaints against estate agents, carrying out compliance inspections and inquiry hearing, and launching initiatives to facilitate consumers’ understanding of their rights and responsibilities in property transactions.



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EAA Chairman Ms Vivien Chan delivers a welcome speech at the EAA 15th Anniversary ceremony.



Secretary for Transport and Housing Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung delivers a speech at the EAA 15th Anniversary ceremony.



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(From left) EAA Chief Executive Officer Mr Augustine Ng, EAA Vice-chairman Mr William Leung Wing-cheung, Secretary for Transport and Housing Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, EAA Chairman Ms Vivien Chan cut a cake to celebrate the EAA's 15th Anniversary.



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EAA Chairman Ms Vivien Chan (8th from right), Secretary for Transport and Housing Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung (9th from right), Vice-chairman Mr William Leung Wing-cheung (10th from right), EAA members and EAA Chief Executive Officer toast to guests of the 15th Anniversary Ceremony.

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