

For Information

Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry

Proposed Technical Amendment to the Import and Export (Electronic Cargo Information) Regulation (Cap. 60L) to tie in with the commissioning of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port

Introduction

This paper sets out for Members' information the Government's proposal to make a technical amendment to the Import and Export (Electronic Cargo Information) Regulation (Cap. 60L) ("the Regulation") to extend its coverage to the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge ("HZMB") Hong Kong Port ("HKP"). It is one of the legislative proposals relating to the commissioning of HZMB HKP¹.

Locations of customs clearance of road cargoes in Hong Kong

2. The Road Cargo System ("ROCARS") is an electronic advance cargo information system implemented since 2010 for customs clearance of road cargoes. Its coverage and operational details are prescribed in the Regulation. Schedule 2 to the Regulation sets out the locations to which the ROCARS applies.

3. At present, since ROCARS is adopted in all locations for customs clearance of road cargoes in Hong Kong, such locations are all listed in Schedule 2 to the Regulation. The locations are the Lok Ma Chau Boundary Control Point ("BCP"), Man Kam To BCP, Sha Tau Kok BCP and the Clearance Area of the Shenzhen Bay Port Hong Kong Port Area.

¹ The other legislative proposals include those under the Transport and Housing Bureau and Security Bureau for matters under their respective purview.

4. The HZMB is the first cross-boundary land link connecting Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. According to the latest works progress, the Highways Department assesses that the Hong Kong projects are targeted to achieve readiness for commissioning by end 2017. With the further consolidated assessment by the Joint Works Committee comprising the governments of the three sides, the three sides strive to complete the entire HZMB project by end 2017 for early simultaneous commissioning subject to factors such as the implementation of cross-boundary transport arrangements.

Proposed Amendment

5. Upon its commissioning, HZMB HKP will be a new location for customs clearance of road cargoes in Hong Kong. To pave way for the commissioning of HZMB HKP, we need to amend the Regulation by including HZMB HKP in its Schedule 2, so as to enable the extension of ROCARS to that location. This amendment will allow the Commissioner of Customs and Excise to designate an area within HZMB HKP as customs clearance point for the purpose of ROCARS operation pursuant to section 13 of the Regulation.

Legislative Timetable

6. We are working on the necessary legislative amendment and aim to table it at the Legislative Council for negative vetting by Q4 2017. The commencement date is to be appointed by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development by notice published in the Gazette.

7. Members are invited to note the content of the paper.

Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau
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