

**Mainland and Hong Kong
Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA)
Specific Commitments on Television Services**

1. Supplement IX to CEPA

Cable television technical service

1.1 At present, all the design and engineering works of cable television network in the Mainland must be carried out by licensed Mainland operators. Under the Supplementary Agreement to CEPA signed on 29 June 2012, Hong Kong companies engaging in the operation of cable television network are permitted to provide professional technical services related to cable television networks in the Mainland after obtaining the approval of the relevant Mainland authorities.

1.2 The implementation details of this specific commitment are as follows :

- (a) With a valid telecommunications licence on cable television network service issued by the Communications Authority or the former Telecommunications Authority of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and a Certificate of Hong Kong Service Supplier issued by the Trade and Industry Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Hong Kong companies may discuss and negotiate with individual cable television network operator(s) in the Mainland for technical service provision.
- (b) Cable television network operator(s) in the Mainland will apply to the corresponding local authorities under the National Radio and Television Administration for approval of the service provision concerned.
- (c) With the approval of the local authorities, Hong Kong companies may provide the professional technical service to the operator(s) in the Mainland.

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2. CEPA II

Jointly-produced television dramas

2.1 According to the Supplementary Agreement to CEPA signed on 27 October 2004, television dramas co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong, after being examined by the relevant Mainland authorities, are permitted to be broadcast and distributed in the same way as Mainland produced television programmes.

2.2 The implementation details of this specific commitment are as follows:

- (a) Hong Kong companies shall observe the rules for Administration of Television Dramas Co-produced by China and Foreign Countries. Decree No. 41 of the National Radio and Television Administration (國家廣播電視總局令第 41 號《中外合作製作電視劇管理規定》). They are not required to apply for a Certificate of Hong Kong Services Supplier from the Trade and Industry Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.
- (b) Mainland companies producing the television dramas in collaboration with Hong Kong companies shall apply to the National Radio and Television Administration for approval of broadcasting and distributing the television co-productions concerned following the same procedures for Mainland produced television dramas.

3. CEPA III

Number of episodes of Jointly-produced television dramas

3.1 According to the Supplementary Agreement to CEPA signed on 18 October 2005, television dramas co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong should be subject to the same standard on the number of episodes as that applicable to Mainland produced television dramas.

4. 2006 Liberalisation Measures

Mainland produced television dramas with Hong Kong participation

4.1 The National Radio and Television Administration has delegated to the provincial radio and television administration the authority of examining the finished tapes of Mainland produced television dramas produced by the production organisation under the provinces, autonomous regions or municipalities and participated by artistes or production crew from Hong Kong.

5. 2007 Liberalisation Measures

Synopsis of jointly-produced television dramas

5.1 For any proposal of television drama to be co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong programme production organisations, the minimum number of words in Chinese contained in the synopsis of each episode is revised to 1500.

5.2 The National Radio and Television Administration and the Ministry of Commerce have promulgated The Supplementary Provisions for the Administration of Chinese-Foreign Cooperation in the Production of Television Dramas to give effect to the new liberalisation measure.

6. 2019 Liberalisation Measures

Jointly-produced television dramas

6.1 The restrictions on the percentage of principal creative personnel (i.e. screenwriters, producers, directors and leading actors and actresses), Mainland-related content, investment proportion, etc. for television dramas co-produced by Hong Kong and the Mainland are relaxed; and the time limit for approval of synopses for any proposal of television drama to be co-produced by Hong Kong and the Mainland is shortened.

Imported television dramas produced by Hong Kong

6.2 The restriction on the number of Hong Kong television dramas imported by Mainland television stations, audiovisual websites and cable television networks is removed. The restriction on the number and time of

broadcast of Hong Kong television dramas is relaxed.

Other television programmes

6.3 Television programmes other than television dramas co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong are allowed to be broadcast and distributed in the same way as those produced by the Mainland after obtaining the approval of the relevant Mainland authorities.

6.4 The restrictions on the number of Hong Kong people participating in the production of Mainland television programmes, television dramas and online audiovisual programmes are removed.

Television animations

6.5 The restriction on the number of Hong Kong produced animation television programmes imported by Mainland television stations, audiovisual websites and cable television networks is removed. The restriction on the number and time of broadcast of Hong Kong produced animation television programmes in the Mainland is relaxed.

6.6 Animation television programmes co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong are allowed to be broadcast and distributed in the same way as those produced by the Mainland after obtaining the approval of the relevant Mainland authorities.

7. 2019 Reserved Restrictive Measures (Negative List)

Radio and television services

7.1 Investment in radio stations, television stations, broadcasting television channels (frequencies), broadcasting television transmission networks (transmitting stations, relay stations, broadcasting television satellites, uplinking satellite stations, satellite transposers, microwave link stations, monitoring stations, cable broadcasting television transmission networks, etc.) at any regional level is not allowed. Engagement in video-on-demand broadcasting television services and installation services of satellite television receiving facilities is not allowed.

7.2 Engagement in the production and operation of radio and television programmes (including importing business) is not allowed.

Others

7.3 Engagement in online audiovisual services is not allowed.

8. 2024 Liberalisation Measures

Jointly-produced television dramas

8.1 Television dramas co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong are permitted to be broadcast and distributed in the same way as Mainland produced television dramas after being examined by the relevant Mainland provincial radio and television administration.

8.2 For any proposal of television drama to be co-produced by the Mainland and Hong Kong programme production organisations, the minimum number of words in Chinese contained in the synopsis of each episode is revised to 800.

8.3 The restriction on the number of Hong Kong people participating as principal creative personnel in online television dramas is removed.

Imported dramas

8.4 Imported dramas produced in Hong Kong are allowed to be broadcast during prime time in television stations in the Mainland after obtaining approval from the National Radio and Television Administration.

Other television programmes

8.5 Terrestrial and satellite television channels in Hong Kong are allowed to obtain the landing right to broadcast within specific areas such as hotels, guesthouses, etc. in the Mainland after obtaining approval from the National Radio and Television Administration.

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For more updated information, please visit
<https://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/index.html>

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