

2nd Meeting of Guangdong/HK Expert Group on the Protection of IPR

The Guangdong/Hong Kong Expert Group on the Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (the Expert Group) convened its second meeting in Guangzhou today (June 29).

The Expert Group was set up after the Sixth Plenary of the Guangdong/Hong Kong Cooperation Joint Conference held in August last year. The Expert Group aims to enhance exchanges and cooperation on various aspects of intellectual property, including promotion and education, training, enforcement and information dissemination. The Guangdong delegation is led by Mr. Li Zhong-duo, Director General of Guangdong Provincial Intellectual Property Office, and comprises officials from Administration for Industry and Commerce, the Copyright Bureau, Public Security Bureau, Foreign Trade & Economic Cooperation Department and the Guangdong Customs. The Hong Kong delegation is headed by Mr. Stephen Selby, Director of Intellectual Property, and composed of officials from the Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau and the Customs and Excise Department.

The meeting provided a good forum for various intellectual property administration and enforcement units in Guangdong and Hong Kong to report progress of intellectual property co-operation items and discuss new initiatives for the latter half of the year. “This meeting further reinforces our partnership. We agree to set up a coordination system to deal with cross-border intellectual property infringement cases and extend the launch of “No Fakes” Pledge Scheme in Guangdong Province,” said Mr. Selby at the press conference held after the meeting.

Mr. Li Zhong-duo said: “We are satisfied with the progress and outcomes achieved so far and hope to actively pursue the next stage of our cooperation plan, which includes collaboration between the authorities in the two places to crack down on unlawful and criminal activities involving intellectual property. We will also extend the “No Fakes” pledge to other cities after its successful pilot run in Shenzhen, Shantou, Dongguan etc.”

During the press conference, the Expert Group reported the completed cooperation items and announced new initiatives which include a joint production and broadcast of promotional video on TV channels; enhancing research cooperation on intellectual property issues between two places; and enriching the website content of

the Intellectual Property Database for Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao (the Database). The database can be searched at the website: www.ip-prd.net.

The third meeting of the Expert Group will be held in Hong Kong in December 2004.

End/Tuesday, June 29, 2004

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