The Greater Bay Area Cross-Boundary Disputes Mediation Model Rules, endorsed by the fourth Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Legal Departments Joint Conference on December 16, were officially released and came into effect today (December 30).

The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) comprises three different legal systems of the Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao. The mediation models, systems and development are also different among the three places. In synergy with the GBA Mediator Accreditation Standards and the GBA Mediator Code of Conduct Best Practice which were endorsed and came into effect last year, the Mediation Model Rules will have a demonstrative effect for reference and voluntary adoption of the mediation institutions and mediators within the GBA.

The promulgation of various mediation standards will further promote the wider use of mediation within the GBA and is a major milestone in advancing the building of the rule of law in the GBA and Hong Kong's integration into the GBA development. It will also encourage the use of mediation by the business sector and the public in the three places to resolve cross-boundary disputes, creating complementary and win-win solutions.

The English cursory translation of the GBA Cross-Boundary Disputes Mediation Model Rules can be viewed on the Department of Justice's website.

Ends/Friday, December 30, 2022