

SJ visits Macao to promote legal co-operation and exchanges between two places
(with photos)

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, started his two-day visit to Macao this afternoon (November 29). He met with the Secretary for Administration and Justice of the Macao Special Administrative Region (Macao SAR) Government and senior officials of the Public Prosecutions Office of the Macao SAR. He will also attend the 12th Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao legal seminar to be held by the Department of Justice (DoJ), the China Law Society and the Legal Affairs Bureau of Macao tomorrow (November 30) to promote legal co-operation and exchanges among the three places.

Mr Lam first met with the Secretary for Administration and Justice of the Macao SAR, Mr Cheong Weng Chon, this afternoon to deepen the exchanges and collaboration of both sides and enhance their mutual understanding, with a view to facilitating the interface of legal systems and rules, as well as the nurturing of legal talents in the three places to contribute to the development of the rule of law in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). He took the opportunity to thank the Office of the Secretary for Administration and Justice of Macao for its continuous support to the DoJ, including co-organising a forum during the annual flagship event of the DoJ, Hong Kong Legal Week 2023, to jointly promote legal and dispute resolution services in the GBA. He also introduced the DoJ's preparation work for establishing the Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training Academy, and looked forward to the Macao SAR's active participation and support to jointly contribute to the development of the country's capacity in the rule of law in foreign affairs.

Mr Lam then visited the Public Prosecutions Office of the Macao SAR to meet with its Prosecutor General, Mr Ip Son Sang. They exchanged views on the application of technology in criminal cases to facilitate investigations and prosecution work, and explored strengthening the co-operation on legal assistance between both sides.

Tomorrow morning (November 30), Mr Lam will attend the 12th Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao legal seminar and speak at the opening ceremony. First held in 2009, the seminar is an important platform for the legal sectors in the Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao to exchange views on topics of mutual interest, including law-related hot topics and challenges in the three places.

Accompanying Mr Lam on the visit includes relevant law officers and government counsel.

Mr Lam will return to Hong Kong tomorrow afternoon (November 30). During Mr Lam's absence, the Deputy Secretary for Justice, Mr Cheung Kwok-kwan, is the Acting Secretary for Justice.

Ends/Wednesday, November 29, 2023