



# Govt sets up body to ensure 'smooth' preparations for Macau hosting of 3 national games next year



This file photo shows Sports Bureau (ID) President Pun Weng Kun speaking to local reporters after two separate press conferences about next year's 15<sup>th</sup> National Games, 12<sup>th</sup> National Games for Persons with Disabilities and the 9<sup>th</sup> National Special Olympic Games, at a conference hall of the Zhudao Guest House in Guangzhou in April. — Photo: Yuki Lei

Yuki Lei

The local government has set up a new body tasked with coordinating and organising Macau's ongoing efforts to ensure smooth and continuous preparations for the upcoming 15<sup>th</sup> National Games, the 12<sup>th</sup> National Games for Persons with Disabilities and the 9<sup>th</sup> National Special Olympic Games to be held in Macau, abolishing as of today the Macau Organising Committee for the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games established in 2022.

The Official Gazette (BO) published yesterday Executive Order No 135/2024 on the establishment of the Macau Organising Committee for the Macau Competition Zone of the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games, the 12<sup>th</sup> National Paralympic Games and the 9<sup>th</sup> National Special Olympic Games, under the chairmanship of the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture.

According to a statement by the Macau Government Information Bureau (GCS) yesterday, the changes are due to the fact that the three competitions will take place one after another next year.

The 15<sup>th</sup> National Games, the 12<sup>th</sup> National Games for Persons with

Disabilities and the 9<sup>th</sup> National Special Olympic Games, which will be co-hosted by the governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau for the first time, will be held in the three places on November 9-21, 2025 for 13 days. Macau will host five National Games categories – four competitions (table tennis, 3x3 basketball, men's U18 basketball and women's volleyball) and one modality (karate), as well as the National Games for Persons with Disabilities and National Special Olympic Games with a badminton competition each, i.e., seven different types of events in total.

Scheduled to last until June 30, 2026, the organising committee is composed of 13 members from various public entities, comprising the coordinator and deputy coordinator of the Preparatory Office for the Organisation of the Macau Competition Zone of the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games and the 12<sup>th</sup> National Games for People with Disabilities and the 9<sup>th</sup> National Special Olympic Games as secretary-general and deputy secretary-general respectively; as well as one representative each from the Office of

the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Sports Bureau (ID), Health Bureau (SSM), Government Information Bureau (GCS), Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM), Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO), Unitary Police Services (SPU), Macau Customs Service (SA), Fire Services Bureau (CB), Public Works Bureau (DSOP), and the Transport Bureau (DSAT).

Dated and signed by Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng on Tuesday, the executive order, which takes effect today, noted that the committee's secretary general shall be responsible for liaising with the General Administration of Sport, the China Disabled Persons' Federation, the sports authorities of Guangdong Province and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) as well as the relevant entities to coordinate the organisation of the three national games and to report to the chairperson i.e., the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, in a timely manner, on the plans and implementation of the work required for organising the sports competitions in Macau.

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## WHO declares mpox a global health emergency



Robin Millard

GENEVA – The World Health Organization (WHO) yesterday declared the mpox surge in Africa was now a global public health emergency, sounding its highest possible alarm over the worsening situation.

The WHO called a meeting of experts to study the outbreak and make a recommendation to the UN health agency's director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

"Today, the emergency committee met and advised me that in its view, the situation constitutes a public health emergency of international concern. I have accepted that advice," Tedros told a press conference in Geneva yesterday.

"This is something that should concern us all.

"WHO is committed in the days and weeks ahead to coordinate the global response, working closely with each of the affected countries, and leveraging our on-the-ground presence, to prevent transmission, treat those infected, and save lives."

The decision comes after the African Union's health

watchdog declared its own public health emergency over the growing outbreak.

Mpox has swept through the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where the virus formerly called monkeypox was first discovered in humans in 1970, and spread to other countries.

Tedros said the more than 14,000 cases and 524 deaths reported so far this year in the DRC has already exceeded last year's total.

"The emergence last year and rapid spread of clade 1b in DRC, which appears to be spreading mainly through sexual networks, and its detection in countries neighbouring DRC is especially concerning, and one of the main reasons for my decision to convene this emergency committee," he said in opening the emergency committee meeting.

"In the past month, about 90 cases of clade 1b have been reported in four countries neighbouring the DRC that have not reported mpox before: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda."

A public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC)

is the highest alarm the WHO can sound.

A PHEIC declaration triggers emergency responses in countries worldwide under the legally binding International Health Regulations.

It is the second PHEIC in succession on mpox – albeit one focused on a different, and more deadly, strain of the virus.

In May 2022, mpox infections surged worldwide, mostly affecting gay and bisexual men, due to the clade 2b subclade.

The WHO declared a public health emergency which lasted from July 2022 to May 2023. The outbreak, which has now largely subsided, caused some 140 deaths out of around 90,000 cases.

The clade 1b subclade, which has been surging in the DRC since September 2023, causes more severe disease than clade 2b, with a higher fatality rate.

Mpox is an infectious disease caused by a virus transmitted to humans by infected animals but can also be passed from human to human through close physical contact. — AFP

### Wang Yi: China opposes external interference in Myanmar

Foreign Minister Wang Yi said in Myanmar's capital Nay Pyi Taw yesterday that China firmly opposes external interference in Myanmar and will continue the support for Myanmar's efforts towards domestic political reconciliation under the constitutional framework. — Story on p. 7

### Young and old charged over riots point to anger in UK society

Far from the madding crowd in a small court room in southern England, a 13-year girl held her mother's hand as she pleaded guilty to participating in Britain's worst riots in over a decade. — Story on p. 11

### Stonehenge mystery deepens as altar traced to Scotland

A central stone of the famous Stonehenge monument in southwest England came from 750 kilometres away in northeast Scotland, surprised scientists said yesterday, solving one mystery but raising another: how did its prehistoric builders move the huge slab so far? — Story on p. 12



# Tickets available for Macao Chinese Orchestra 2024-25 Concert Season



This undated handout photo provided by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) yesterday shows members of the Macao Chinese Orchestra posing for a group photo.

## Rui Pastorin

The Macao Chinese Orchestra 2024-25 Concert Season will be inaugurated on September 1, with concert tickets now available.

A total of 14 concerts are set to be presented in the 2024-25 season, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) said in a statement yesterday.

The concert season, the statement said, will kick off with “Splendor of the Strings” under the baton of Music Director Zhang Lie. This concert, which combines Chinese and Western instruments, will feature percussionists Yin Fei and Liu Heng to present Duo Percussion Concerto “New Century of the Dragon Year” 1st Movement – The Sun, as well as young violinist Lao Li, the statement said.

Other concerts in the season are

“A Full Moon Night at the Ruins of St Paul’s 2024” and “Fiery Trees and Silver Flowers”, which are to be hosted in celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival and the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR).

Meanwhile, other highlights are the “Soulful Elegance” presented by contemporary guqin performer Chen Leiji; “Wind, Bowed-Strings, Plucked-Strings, and Percussion” led by “celebrated performers”; and “Unveiling the Harmonious Voices” presented by Guangdong Cantonese Opera Theatre President Zeng Xiaomin and National Class One Actor Wen Ruqing, according to the statement.

The season will close with “Auspicious Arrival” featuring jinghu\* soloist Wang Caiyun,

yangqin\*\* soloist Liu Yinxuan and soprano Cui Rui.

More details can be found on [www.icm.gov.mo](http://www.icm.gov.mo) and [www.ochm-macau.org](http://www.ochm-macau.org), while ticketing and the concert’s e-booklet are available on [www.macauticket.com](http://www.macauticket.com) as well as by calling 2855 5555. ■

*\*The jinghu is a bowed string instrument in the huqin family primarily used in Beijing opera, according to Wikipedia. A huqin is any of a family of vertical bowed lutes used in Chinese music, according to Wiktionary.*

*\*\*Wikipedia notes that the yangqin is a Chinese hammered dulcimer, which is a “percussion-stringed instrument which consists of strings typically stretched over a trapezoidal resonant sound board”. It is likely derived from the Iranian santur or the European dulcimer.*

# Police nab pickpocket from 3 bus thefts

## William Chan

A pickpocket from the mainland has been arrested for committing three thefts on buses involving valuables worth a total of 11,800 patacas, Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Chan Wun Man said at a special press conference yesterday.

The male 33-year-old suspect surnamed Zheng told the police that he’s jobless.

According to Chan, the Judiciary Police received reports from three victims – two women and a man – saying that they had their belongings stolen during bus rides in the northern district and the city centre, each reporting the theft of 8,030 patacas, 3,200 patacas and 600 patacas in cash,

respectively, as well as an ATM card and a wallet. Two of the cases occurred in June, while the other one occurred on Monday.

Zheng was identified as the suspect with the help of CCTV footage. He was arrested on Tuesday when he was about to leave Macau via the Barrier Gate checkpoint.

No cash or other loot was found on him. Under questioning, he told the police that he had spent all the stolen money.

Zheng was transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) yesterday, facing aggravated theft charges, Chan noted.

The police urged residents and tourists to take care of their belongings when using public transport. ■



The mainland theft suspect is being transferred to a police vehicle outside the Judiciary Police (PJ) headquarters yesterday. – Photo: William Chan

# Man scammed in illegal currency exchange deal

## William Chan

A man from the mainland, posing as a currency exchange dealer, has been arrested for defrauding another mainlander out of 32,725 yuan, Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Chan Wun Man said at a regular press conference yesterday.

The 38-year-old suspect surnamed Wu told the police that he works as a driver.

According to Chan, on Monday the male victim on WeChat arranged a deal with a stranger who offered a “good exchange rate”. The arrangement stipulated the victim transfer 32,725 yuan to the currency exchange dealer, while the victim would receive HK\$35,000 from the dealer.

Later, Wu, who claimed to represent the dealer, and the victim met in a Cotai hotel lobby. The victim then transferred the money to a bank account provided by Wu, after which Wu told the victim that he did not have the money ready to carry out the currency exchange, leading the victim to report the case to the police.

Wu was arrested at the scene. Under questioning, he claimed that a man had promised to pay him 150 yuan to collect the money from the victim. He told the police that he never received the 150 yuan he had been promised.

Wu has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing a fraud charge. ■

# Health Bureau to issue import permit for human organs & blood products

## Ginnie Liang

The Health Bureau (SSM) said in a statement yesterday that in order to protect public health, the import of glands and organs used in organ transplants, plasma, human blood and animal blood products formulated for the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of diseases must be approved by the bureau with an import permit from today.

According to the bureau, the measure is listed in the government’s Administrative

Regulation No. 28/2003 concerning Macau’s external trade, aiming to improve the monitoring of imported goods and prevent the entry of dangerous and hazardous substances into Macau.

According to the statement, if the trade needs to import the relevant items into Macau, the respective entity should submit an application to the bureau, and have passed the vetting and approval process in order to obtain an import permit.

The applicants are required to state the scope of use, such as medical diagnostics, scientific research, teaching experiments, emergency transplant and transfusion, the organisation that will use the items and the exact location of it, as well as, if required, the plan for disposing of the items, according to the bureau.

The application procedures can be found on the bureau’s website at <https://www.ssm.gov.mo>. ■

# Govt sets up body to ensure ‘smooth’ preparations for Macau hosting of 3 national games next year

## Continued from p.1

Yesterday’s GCS statement noted that “given the importance of the National Games, National Games for Persons with Disabilities and the National Special Olympic Games, which are jointly hosted by the governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau for the first time, the Macau government needs to set up an office in the nature of a project team, with a dedicated

director of office to coordinate the specialised teams to ensure that the preparatory work is carried out smoothly”.

## Pun to head preparatory office, leave Sports Bureau

Meanwhile, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Elise Ao Ieong U signed and published her executive order No. 72/2024 in the Official Gazette yesterday, announcing the appointment of

Sports Bureau (ID) President Pun Weng Kun as the coordinator of the preparatory office for the organisation of the three national games in Macau, with the term of office taking effect from today to June 30, 2026.

ID Vice President Luis Gomes will assume the duties of his bureau’s president today, when Pun takes up the post of the preparatory office’s coordinator, according to Ao Ieong’s order. ■

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### Macau Weather

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25°C~30°C

Source: SMG



# Kam Pek Community Centre to become culinary hub: SJM

Yuki Lei

As one of the highlights covered by the government's project on the revitalisation of Macau's old quarters in conjunction with the city's six integrated resort (IR) operators, the Kam Pek Community Centre on Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro will be transformed into the Kam Pek Market – a culinary and cultural hub, after an open tender for 10 food stalls on the building's ground and first floors.

The application period for bids will open tomorrow until 6 p.m. on September 6, SJM Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu Fung said during a briefing of potential bidders for the Kam Pek Market stalls yesterday at the Grand Lisboa casino-hotel. Ho said that "with the commencement of the government's community revitalisation programme, this landmark building [the erstwhile Kam Pek Community Centre] will also undergo a simultaneous transformation demonstrating the spirit of SJM Resorts to be innovative and progressive. The [upcoming] Kam Pek Market will continue to shoulder an important mission with its new positioning of providing global casual dining and the latest dining trends, attracting more tourists and residents alike to this area for leisure and entertainment, and expanding the consumer base of Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro, especially the general public, so as to enable them to experience the mutual cultural development of the city as a whole. We hope to create a favourable business environment



This photo taken yesterday shows the under-renovation Kam Pek Community Centre on Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro.

for the commercial tenants in and around Kam Pek, and to bring benefits to the residents of Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro as well as small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) of different industries, so as to share the fruits of tourism, promote diversified development, and help Macau become a World Centre of Tourism and Leisure, as well as to consolidate its position as a UNESCO City of Gastronomy".

According to Ho, the Kam Pek Market will cover a total area of nearly 13,000 square feet (1,208 square metres) on the ground and first floors, with seating for 270, and it will open 10 of the gourmet stalls on the ground and first floors for bidding by local SMEs in the first stage, while another five gourmet stalls will be reserved for cooperation with special brands.

Details regarding the dry goods and retail stalls on the second floor will be announced in the next stage, Ho said, adding that the market is estimated to start operating between mid-December and the Chinese New Year (January 29) next year.

Speaking to the media after yesterday's briefing, Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro Residents' Mutual



SJM Resorts representatives, including SJM Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu Fung (centre), brief potential bidders about the upcoming Kam Pek Market culinary hub, at the Grand Lisboa casino-hotel yesterday. - Photos: Yuki Lei

Aid Association President Micky Chen Meng Kei pointed out that there's a wide gap in the economy and pedestrian flow between the upper and lower sections of Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro – the city's main thoroughfare known as "San Ma Lou" ("New Road"), adding he hoped that the opening of Kam Pek Market would be able

to "radiate" the pedestrian flow to its neighbouring streets.

Casino Kam Pek ("Golden Jade") originally opened in 1963 on Travessa do Aterro Novo next to Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro.

There is still a casino named Kam Pek – Casino Kam Pek Paradise in San Kin Yip Commercial Centre on Avenida da Amizade. ■

## 2 locals under 30 fall for online love scams

William Chan

A male and a female, both locals under the age of 30, have separately fallen for online scams, Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Chan Wun Man said in a regular press conference yesterday.

In the first case, the male victim came across an online post which claimed to offer men from Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan the chance to meet up with women. The victim followed the instructions, paying an 88 pataca "membership fee", to join the scheme.

On Friday, upon a "customer service" request, the victim transferred around 3,000 patacas as a "gift" to complete a certain task, and the victim later received the refund that he had been promised.

Later, the purported customer service once more asked the victim for a "gift," prompting another transfer of funds. However, the "customer service" alleged an error on the victim's part and demanded more money. In total, the victim transferred 79,300 patacas before finally realising that it was a scam, leading him to report the case to the police.

In the second case, the female



Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Chan Wun Man looks on during yesterday's regular press conference. - Photo: William Chan

victim on June 2 met a purportedly US-born Chinese man on an online app and started a virtual "romantic" relationship with him the same day, and soon after the man claimed to be sick and asked the victim for money for medical treatment.

Between that day and earlier this month, the victim transferred a total of 18,000 patacas multiple times to the man. When she requested repayment of the debt last week, the man continuously delayed and asked for more money, leading the victim to report the case to the police. ■

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## Guangdong to issue offshore provincial govt bonds in Macau for 4<sup>th</sup> time

1<sup>st</sup> time bonds promote Hengqin's development

Tony Wong

Guangdong will once again issue offshore provincial government bonds in Macau, scheduled at the end of this month, marking the fourth consecutive year the adjacent province is issuing offshore bonds here, the Macau Monetary Authority (AMCM) announced in a statement yesterday.

The renminbi-denominated bonds to be issued at the end of this month will include those aiming to support the development of major infrastructure projects in the Guangdong-Macau In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, the statement said, adding that it will be the first time that the Guangdong government issues specialised bonds for the zone's development in Macau.

"Renminbi" ("people's currency") is the official name of the nation's legal tender, informally known as "yuan".

### 2.5 billion yuan

Different to the three previous years, the Guangdong Provincial People's Government will issue offshore renminbi-denominated provincial government bonds worth 2.5 billion yuan in Macau this time, in celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Macau's return to the motherland, according to yesterday's AMCM statement.

Guangdong issued offshore provincial government bonds worth 2.2 billion yuan in Macau in 2021, two billion yuan in 2022, and also two billion in 2023.

According to the statement, the bonds to be issued this time will once again include green bonds, after this type of bond was issued by the Guangdong government in Macau for the first time last year.

As in the past three years, the offshore provincial government bonds this year will also only be offered to institutional investors, according to the statement.

The statement underlined that the preparation work for the upcoming issuance has been jointly supported by the Ministry of Finance in Beijing and the Guangdong Provincial People's Government in Guangzhou.

The statement said that Guangdong's upcoming issuance of its government bonds in Macau showed the joint support by the central government and the Guangdong government for the development of Macau's bond market, and was also an important measure to deepen cross-border financial cooperation between Guangdong and Macau.

The statement noted that this year marks the third anniversary of the in-depth cooperation zone's establishment with its first-phase development goals scheduled to be achieved, when the Guangdong government will issue specialised bonds for the zone's development in Macau for the first time, highlighting its great support in promoting the integrated development of Macau and Hengqin.

In addition, the statement said, Guangdong's upcoming issuance of green bonds in Macau will help diversify green financial products in Macau, highlighting Guangdong-Macau cooperation in promoting the green and sustainable development of their financial markets.

The statement pledged that the Macau Monetary Authority will continue to promote local financial institutions' stronger participation in the in-depth cooperation zone's development. ■

## Legislature rejects Coutinho's 2 debate motions



This file photo taken earlier this year shows casino-hotel resorts in Cotai.

— Photo: Tony Wong

Tony Wong

The Legislative Assembly (AL) yesterday rejected two debate motions, both proposed by directly-elected lawmaker José Maria Pereira Coutinho.

This came after the legislature also rejected two debate motions proposed by directly-elected lawmaker Ron Lam U Tou during a plenary session late last month.

In his first debate motion, Coutinho proposed that the government should require gaming operators to upgrade outdated IT equipment because, he said, many casinos in the city were still using outdated IT systems because of which the respective devices were slow when reading gamblers' membership cards, adversely affecting the respective casino workers, he said.

Coutinho's first debate motion also proposed that the government should require gaming operators to raise their casino workers' salary every year with the aim of helping them cope with the city's constantly rising living cost.

In his second debate, Coutinho proposed that the government should roll out effective measures to attract

more foreign visitors by making better use of the local airport.

The 33-member legislature comprises 14 directly-elected seats, 12 indirectly-elected seats and seven government-appointed seats.

During yesterday's plenary session, a total of 21 lawmakers voted against Coutinho's first debate motion, while seven abstained from voting.

A total of 25 lawmakers voted against Coutinho's second debate motion, while three abstained.

Only three legislators voted in favour of Coutinho's two debate motions, namely Coutinho himself, Lam and Che Sai Wang. Both Coutinho and Che ran on the same candidacy list three years ago, New Hope.

If a debate motion is passed by lawmakers during a plenary session, the legislature will then request government officials to attend another plenary session in the near future for a formal and public debate between the officials and legislators on the matter raised by the debate motion. Yesterday's rejection of the two debate motions means that the legislature will not schedule any plenary session to debate them.

Several lawmakers who voted

against Coutinho's first debate motion expressed their views saying that while the government has the statutory powers to oversee the operation of the city's gaming operators, the government should not excessively interfere in their daily operations and normal business decision-making, such as their IT equipment and systems as well as human resources management.

Several legislators who voted against Coutinho's second debate motion said that the local government's policy of attracting more foreign visitors should be considered comprehensively by taking Macau's current situation into account, rather than merely rolling out measures aiming to make better use of the airport.

After lawmakers rejected Coutinho's two debate motions, the legislature's president, Kou Hoi In, reminded his fellow legislators that different tools are available to them to monitor the government such as oral interpellations and debate motions but that they should always consider first which way would be the most appropriate for every occasion or topic. ■

## Lawmakers pass anti-drug amendment bill

Ginnie Liang

The Legislative Assembly (AL) yesterday passed a government-initiated amendment bill which adds five additional substances to Macau's anti-drug law, which are also subject to international control.

Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak introduced the bill during yesterday's plenary session in the legislature's hemicycle.

The current anti-drug law was enacted in 2009. It is officially known as the Law on the Prohibition of the Illicit Production, Trafficking and Consumption of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Addressing the legislature's hemicycle before the vote, Wong pointed out that the amendment lists an additional five substances, four of which are opiate analgesics such as 2-methyl-AP-237 (hydrochloride), while one is a synthetic cannabinoid. Wong underlined that the police investigated 17 cases related to synthetic cannabinoid between early 2021 to September 2023.

Wong also said that the bill adds only five more substances to Macau's anti-drug law without changing other articles in the law, with an urgent procedure for the debate and

vote of the amendment law carried out by the legislature, aiming to enable law-enforcement entities to strengthen compliance with the law in combating the drug offences.

Lawmaker Leong Sun Iok raised concerns about e-cigarettes that might contain drugs. Wong said that e-cigarettes are not subject to the anti-drug law, but if the addition of drugs into e-cigarettes becomes a serious matter in the future, the inclusion of e-cigarettes in the anti-drug law could be considered. However, Macau's public security chief was quick to add that this was not necessary for the time being.

In addition, lawmakers Nick Lei Leong Wong and Carmen Lo Choi In expressed their concern about drug abuse by young people. The Social Welfare Bureau's (IAS) Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Department Chief Richard Cheang Io Tat told the lawmakers that the number of young drug users in Macau was relatively small in the past five years, and in the first half of this year, the total number of reported drug users was 96, of which five were young people under the age of 21.

In addition, the bureau



Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak looks on during yesterday's plenary session in the legislature's hemicycle.

— Photo courtesy of TDM

collaborated with non-government organisations in launching a big data network survey last year, which successfully screened 300,000 messages containing keywords related to drugs, in the hope of understanding the situation of hidden drug abuse among young people through online means, Cheang said, adding that thanks to the network 32 young people have so far been identified for their potential drug involvement.

The bill will come into force on the day following its promulgation in the Official Gazette (BO). ■



Poster in Chinese released by the Macau Monetary Authority (AMCM) on its Facebook page yesterday about Guangdong's upcoming issuance of 2.5-billion-yuan bonds in Macau.

## STOCK MARKETS

### Hang Seng Index closes 0.35 pct lower

HONG KONG – The Hong Kong stock market ended lower yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index down 0.35 percent to close at 17,113.36 points.

While the Hang Seng China Enterprises Index dipped 0.4 percent to end at 6,025.16 points, the Hang Seng Tech Index fell 0.99 percent to close at 3,395.7 points. — Xinhua