"Macao Convention and Exhibition Commendation Awards 2016"

After going through the fostering start-up stage, Macao MICE industry has acquired considerable progress and is now entering the development stage which has created an economic pulling effect on peripheral industries. As stated clearly in the SAR Government's 2016 Policy Address, the strategic direction will be on "Conference First", "Effective Precise Support", "Strengthen MICE Bidding and One-Stop Service" as well as "Enhancement on fostering of Local Brand Conventions & Exhibitions" to develop the MICE industry healthily in the long run.

In order to unite, recognize and reward the effort and contribution of the industry, Macao Convention & Exhibition Association under the strong support from the SAR Government and related industry organizations and practitioners had organized the first "Macao Convention and Exhibition Commendation Awards 2015" successfully last year with deserved winners. The results were unanimously recognized and commended by the industry and society, manifesting the vitality, strength and potentiality of Macao's MICE industry.

Based on last year experience and achievements, the "Macao Convention and Exhibition Commendation Awards 2016" is going to set sail again this year. There will be a total of five award categories, including the newly established of "Original Convention and Exhibition Award" with 1 to 3 awards per category. The Commendation Awards are open to all Macao MICE industry peers by means of self-nomination and recommendation by others so as to broadly invite local MICE candidates to participate. The judging panel which is comprised of professionals from the MICE industry and scholars will decide the deserving award winners.

It is hoped that this year's Commendation Award will again receive the support from the Government and industry practitioners to encourage more enterprises to participate, making Macao an attractive "International MICE Destination" and assisting Macao's moderate economic diversification.

All members of the MICE industry are cordially invited to participate. Attached please find an overview introduction and entry forms of this event. Interested participants please submit the required information to the Secretariat on or before 10th October. For enquiries, please contact our Secretariat at Tel: (853) 2871 4079, Fax: (853) 2871 7453 or email to secretariat at <u>secretariat@mcea.org.mo</u>

Yours Truly,

Macao Convention and Exhibition Association (MCEA) 26 August 2016