



Announcement

Geographic Use of Apostille issued by Apostille Service Office

The Apostille Service Office issues Apostille under the Apostille Convention¹. Apostille only operates between Contracting Parties to the said Convention.

Notwithstanding that the Mainland has entered into the Apostille Convention since 2023, authentication of public documents as between the Mainland and the HKSAR continues to be governed by their own Arrangement².

Applicant shall ensure that the Apostille will not be used in a way contrary to the Apostille Convention.

Apostille Service Office

January 2025

¹ The HCCH Convention of 5 October 1961 for Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents

² Letter (97) No.19 issued by the Office of the Chinese Senior Representative, Sino-British Joint Liaison Group dated 2 June 1997. Briefly, (1) for public documents sent from the Mainland to the HKSAR, they are to be authenticated by the Department of Consular Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC, and on the other hand, (2) for public documents sent from the HKSAR to the Mainland, they are to be issued by China Appointed Attesting Officer and authenticated/delivered by China Legal Service (Hong Kong) Limited.