



3 May 2013

## 2,000 PEOPLE CELEBRATE HANG SENG BANK'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

More than 2,000 people from a cross section of the community attended Hang Seng Bank's 80th anniversary cocktail reception — officiated by Financial Secretary Mr John Tsang — at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre today. The gala event was the highlight of a year-long series of celebratory activities.

Hang Seng originally opened for business on 3 March 1933 in an 800 sq ft premises in Sheung Wan with just 11 employees. From these humble beginnings, Hang Seng Bank is now one of the top 50 listed banks in the world and the 18th largest in Asia in terms of market capitalisation, with nearly 10,000 members of staff, serving more than three million people in Hong Kong.

Financial Secretary Mr Tsang congratulated Hang Seng on its 80th anniversary, saying: "As a home-grown bank and a leading local brand, Hang Seng's development closely mirrors that of Hong Kong. Since its establishment, the Bank has worked hand-in-hand with people in Hong Kong to successfully embrace change and to overcome numerous challenges.

"Hang Seng also remains at the forefront of market innovation. The Bank has been striving to expand renminbi business in support of Hong Kong's strategic position as a leading offshore renminbi centre. Because of its innovative and progressive business approach, Hang Seng has become a world-class financial institution. The Bank has all along been very committed to fulfilling its corporate social responsibilities, providing strong support to initiatives related to the environment, community well-being, sports development, education, culture, and the arts. Hang Seng is very much living up to its standing as a good corporate citizen."

In thanking the Bank's founders, the community, customers, shareholders, and staff, Hang Seng Chairman Dr Raymond Ch'ien said: "Hang Seng is greatly honoured to have served Hong Kong and the community for 80 years, contributing to the economic and social development of our city while growing to become its leading domestic bank. Sharing a common cultural heritage, Hang Seng is committed to playing a role in the further development of the economies of both Hong Kong and mainland China. Leveraging our strengths and strong service capabilities, we will continue to deepen our relationships with Mainland partners to capture the increasing business opportunities arising from closer cross-border economic integration and live up to our name as the ever-growing bank."

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To mark the special occasion, Hang Seng's Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive, Ms Rose Lee, presented Long-term Business Partner Awards to the MTR Corporation and The Hong Kong Jockey Club. The awards were accepted respectively by their Chief Executive Officers, Mr Jay Walder and Mr Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges.

Ms Lee said: "A good partnership is based on two parties sharing the benefits of their relationship. A great partnership, however, is based on two parties also sharing common beliefs. Hang Seng Bank is extremely fortunate to have two great partners in the MTR Corporation and The Hong Kong Jockey Club, who both share our passion for service excellence and community well-being."

More than 30 years ago, Hang Seng opened its first branch in an MTR station at Central. Today, Hang Seng is the only bank offering extensive services across the rail network, with outlets in 72 stations.

In 1999, Hang Seng was enlisted by The Hong Kong Jockey Club to issue its Membership Card, enabling the members of this prestigious Club to settle their Club accounts through the Bank and also enjoy Hang Seng's credit card services and privileges. To date, some 27,000 such cards have been issued.

The 80th anniversary reception also featured an exhibition of major milestones in Hang Seng's development into Hong Kong's leading domestic bank as well as highlighting key initiatives in its comprehensive corporate responsibility programme. Guests were able to take photos with a statue of the popular Chinese God of Wealth, a symbol of good fortune that is iconic of Hang Seng. The statue will also be put on display at several major Hang Seng branches in the coming months.

As part of its anniversary programme, Hang Seng will stage a roving exhibition at three MTR stations, starting with Central on 4 May before moving on to Hung Hom and then Mongkok. Providing a concise history of the Bank, the exhibition includes replicas of the 1940s iron gate and wooden signboard from Hang Seng's former premises on Queen's Road Central.

### **About Hang Seng Bank**

Founded in 1933, Hang Seng Bank operates around 220 service outlets serving both personal and business customers. The Bank also maintains a branch in Shenzhen for foreign currency wholesale business, branches in Macau and Singapore, and a representative office in Taipei.

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HANG SENG BANK



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Established on 28 May 2007, wholly owned subsidiary Hang Seng Bank (China) Limited operates a mainland China network of 46 outlets in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Dongguan, Fuzhou, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Ningbo, Tianjin, Kunming, Foshan, Zhongshan, Huizhou, Xiamen, Zhuhai and Jiangmen.

With total assets of HK\$1,077.1 billion as at the end of 2012, Hang Seng Bank reported a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$19,426 million in 2012. Hang Seng Bank is a principal member of the HSBC Group, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. For further information on Hang Seng Bank, please visit the Bank's website at [www.hangseng.com](http://www.hangseng.com).

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