

For immediate release

The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers Welcomes the 2025-26 Budget

*Bolstering the city's status as an international financial centre and talent hub
Support for the extension of the Pilot Green and Sustainable Finance
Capacity Building Support Scheme*

26 February 2025, Hong Kong – The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) welcomes and stands ready to support the measures announced in the 2025-26 Budget (Budget) delivered by Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, Paul CHAN, to enhance the city's status as an international financial centre and talent hub.

The Budget included initiatives to promote the development of the asset and wealth management industry, attract talent and investment, and strengthen offshore RMB business. HKIB will continue to assess and strengthen its professional training offerings for talent in these areas. HKIB also noted the proposed measures to enhance mutual market access mechanism with the Mainland China and will support through strengthening talent development and connectivity within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, in order to deepen the synergy effect and leverage the overall advantages of the region.

Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of HKIB, said “HKIB welcomes the Budget's emphasis on Hong Kong as an 'International Financial Centre' and 'Talent Hub', especially on 'Attracting Quality Talents and Professionals' to work in the city. The Budget mentions that by the end of 2024, about 180,000 talents have arrived in Hong Kong through various talent admission schemes. HKIB will work closely with the industry and regulators to strengthen support for banking and financial talent arriving in Hong Kong, including bridging courses, professional qualifications examinations, and diverse industry networking activities, so that they can seamlessly integrate into the local banking environment and obtain relevant professional knowledge to unleash their potential.”

Leung added: “HKIB is also pleased to see that the Budget continues to support the training of local green finance talent by extending the Pilot Green and Sustainable Finance Capacity Building Support Scheme to 2028. Currently, the HKIB's Enhanced Competency Framework on Green and Sustainable Finance is eligible for this scheme, and the extension will encourage industry practitioners and talent interested in joining the banking industry to enhance their professional knowledge in this area, while broadening their capabilities for different business functions.”

HKIB pays close attention to various initiatives that promote the development of the local banking and financial markets, such as green and sustainable finance, innovative technologies including artificial intelligence, and the I&T opportunities within the Northern Metropolis. In response to these trends, HKIB will provide relevant training courses for the industry, and continue to review the course syllabi of professional qualifications,

including Certified Banker and the Enhanced Competency Framework to ensure that the material is up to date. Regarding the second “Global Talent Summit • Hong Kong” next year, HKIB believes that the summit will help promote talent exchange and strengthen the understanding of talent looking to come to Hong Kong. HKIB looks forward to learning more details and will fully support the event.

Ends

For further enquiries, please contact:

Paradigm Consulting

Lauren Hui (852) 2251 9990

hkib@paradigmconsulting.com.hk

Notes to editors:

About The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers

Established in 1963, The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (“HKIB”) is the first not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing training and certification services to the banking community in Hong Kong. It is also the first professional body in the city to offer banking qualifications equivalent to a Master’s degree level. For more than six decades, HKIB has been equipping hundreds of thousands of practitioners and young graduates with the essential professional skills and knowledge to succeed as holistic bankers. HKIB supports capacity building and talent development by working closely with the local banking industry to identify training needs, provide a comprehensive range of professional qualifications and collaborate on initiatives to attract, nurture and retain talent.

Official website: <https://www.hkib.org/>

LinkedIn: <https://hk.linkedin.com/company/the-hong-kong-institute-of-bankers>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/thehkib>

Instagram: <http://www.instagram.com/thehkib>