

#### For Immediate Release

# The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers welcomes the blueprint for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

**19**<sup>th</sup> **February 2019, Hong Kong** The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) welcomes the blueprint for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area ("Greater Bay Area") announced by the Chinese Central Government.

While the national blueprint outlines China's plan to turn the Greater Bay Area into a leading global technology and innovation centre, as well as an international financial hub, it also highlights the importance of developing a quality talent pool by creating a better environment that attracts international talent.

Commenting on the blueprint, Ms Carrie Leung, Chief Executive of the HKIB, said, "Hong Kong, as an established international financial centre, plays an important and unique role in supporting the development of the financial sector within the Greater Bay Area. I believe that financial practitioners in Hong Kong will be able to enjoy more development opportunities in the member cities of the Greater Bay Area as the blueprint is put into action."

"We also expect that the development of the Greater Bay Area will further promote the talent mobility across all member cities through mutual recognition of professional qualifications and related incentive plans." Leung added.

The Greater Bay Area comprises the two Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macao, and the nine municipalities of Guangdong Province. The development of the Greater Bay Area has great significance in China's implementation of innovation-driven development and commitment to reform and opening-up.

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#### Notes to editors:

## **About The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers**

The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) has been serving the local banking community as an independent organisation in the provision of education and professional training since 1963. The Institute also acts as an industry-recognised training and certifying hub for the local banking community. With an objective to maintain and further develop the territory's status as an international financial centre, the Institute works with the support of banks, regulators, financial institutions, academic institutions and various professional bodies to provide local banking practitioners with professional training and development opportunities. In view of the changing landscape of the banking and financial services industry in Hong Kong and Mainland China as well as on global scale, the importance of continuing to enhance the standards of professional development has gained increased attention. HKIB endeavors to provide and enhance its training and development products in order to equip its members with essential knowledge and skills that meet the industry's needs.

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