

For Immediate Release

The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers welcomes the Chief Executive's 2021 Policy Address

6 October 2021, Hong Kong – The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) welcomes the 2021 Policy Address given today by the Hong Kong SAR Government Chief Executive Carrie LAM, in particular the initiatives on strengthening local financial services talent training and facilitating talent development in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area).

The 2021 Policy Address outlined how the Government is exploring the establishment of professional qualification standards under the Qualifications Framework for the FinTech sector, which aims to provide a clearer and recognised professional development pathway for employers and practitioners in the industry. The Policy Address also mentioned how the Government is looking at including more finance-related courses in the list of reimbursable courses under the Continuing Education Fund and it highlighted that the Central Authorities would actively consider facilitating the flow of talent in the Greater Bay Area.

Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of the HKIB, said, “We welcome the Hong Kong SAR Government’s initiative to establish a professional qualification benchmark for the FinTech sector as announced today in its 2021 Policy Address. The Institute will continue to support the development of the local banking industry, to facilitate the inclusion of FinTech under the Enhanced Competency Framework (ECF) and to provide the relevant professional training and courses to attract more talent while enhancing the professionalism of the local banking industry.”

LEUNG continued, “As an international finance centre with connectivity to Mainland China’s capital markets, Hong Kong’s strong demand for cross-border financial talent will remain and this will further the need for mutual recognition of professional qualifications in order to promote the cross-border mobility of talent. The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers will continue to support local banking practitioners to obtain professional qualifications recognised by Mainland China and to further the development of talent in the Greater Bay Area.”

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About The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers

The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) has been serving the local banking community in the provision of professional training and certification services since 1963. HKIB is the first not-for-profit institution in Hong Kong to issue banking qualifications and was appointed by the Education Bureau as a Professional Qualifications Assessment Agency in August 2020. 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 a global scale, the importance of continuing to enhance the standards of professional development has gained increased attention. The HKIB endeavours 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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