

Immediate Release

**The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers welcomes
the Policy Address 2022**

New initiatives to secure a strong local banking talent pool

19 October 2022, Hong Kong – The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) welcomes the 2022 Policy Address given today by the Hong Kong SAR Government Chief Executive John LEE, in particular, the initiatives to attract investment and talent, including the establishment of the ‘Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises’ (OASES), and the ‘Talents Service Unit’, as well as the launch of the ‘Top Talent Pass Scheme’

The 2022 Policy Address outlines the Government’s commitment to nurture and retain local talent while dialling up efforts to attract talent outside of Hong Kong, such initiatives include setting up ‘Dedicated Teams for Attracting Businesses and Talents’ to strengthen promotion in mainland China and overseas. The Policy Address also announced that the annual quota under the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme (QMAS) will be suspended, in order to attract more world-class talent to relocate to Hong Kong. The Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG) will also be relaxed, by expanding the scope of the arrangements to cover those who graduated from the Greater Bay Area (GBA) campus of a Hong Kong university.

Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive of the HKIB, said, “We welcome the direction in the Policy Address on nurturing local talent, including the launch of the ‘Top Talent Pass Scheme’ and the relaxation on the Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates. These initiatives will bring the top talent around the world to Hong Kong and strengthen talent flow within the GBA. The Institute will support the roll-out of these initiatives, to continue to provide relevant training and professional qualification courses to talents that aspire to join the local banking industry. We will also further strengthen the industry’s collaboration in terms of talent development, to secure a strong banking talent pool, that will enhance the professional level of Hong Kong’s financial services sector.”

The Institute also welcomes the initiative in the Policy Address 2022 to dovetail with national strategies to create a strong impetus for growth, as well as enhance Hong Kong’s competitiveness as an international financial centre. The Chief Executive announced a number of initiatives to strengthen Hong Kong’s advantage as the offshore RMB business centre, enhance mutual market access, develop green and sustainable finance, as well as ongoing efforts to elevate the city’s competitiveness in Fintech. The Institute will offer suitable and timely talent training and support to the industry on relevant development and research.

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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 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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